



PUBLIC NOTICE

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Commercial Wireless Division Seeks Comments on its Proposed Guidelines for Cellular SID Administrators

By Public Notice on November 7, 2002, the FCC announced that it was beginning the process of transitioning the administration of Cellular System Identification Numbers (SIDs) from the FCC to the private sector.¹ In that Public Notice, the Commercial Wireless Division (Division) asked parties interested in performing this service to notify the Division of their interest. Nine (9) parties expressed an initial interest. By letter, the Division asked these nine organizations to provide their input on the responsibilities of a SID Administrator and their suggested guidelines for the process.² Based on the Division's experience administering Cellular SIDs, and the information provided by the interested parties, the Division has drafted general guidelines, *Guidelines for Cellular SID Administrators*, to be used by all parties who are recognized as a Cellular SID Administrator.

By this Public Notice, the Division is seeking industry comments on the proposed general guidelines (see Attachment A). Based on comments received in response to this Public Notice, the Division will publicize final guidelines and ask parties who wish to serve as an administrator to come forward and sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Commission. Once the general guidelines are finalized, and the SID Administrators identified, the Division will ask the Administrators to jointly develop the specific guidelines to be used in assigning Cellular SIDs in a multi-administrator environment. Upon review and concurrence with the specific guidelines, the Division will incorporate them into its document, *Guidelines for Cellular SID Administrators*, under Section 7.0. An internet site has been developed to keep the public informed of the transition process, <http://wireless.fcc.gov/services/cellular/licensing/sids.html>.

Parties interested in providing comments on the general guidelines for the administration of Cellular SIDs by the private sector should file their comments no later than **April 24, 2003**. All filings should refer to WT Docket No. 00-239 and reference *Guidelines for Cellular SID Administrators*. Comments may be filed electronically via the Commission's Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) or by paper, as explained below.

- **If filed by ECFS**, comments shall be sent as an electronic file via the Internet to

¹ See FCC Begins the Process of Privatizing the Administration of System Identification Numbers for Cellular Systems, *Public Notice* DA 02-2953, rel November 7, 2002.

² See Letter from Roger S. Noel, Federal Communications Commission, to Michael Altschul, Cellular Telecommunications and Internet Association et al., *Letter* DA 02-3493 (WTB rel. December 19, 2002.)

<http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs/>. Only one copy of an electronic submission must be filed through ECFS. In completing the transmittal screen, commenters should include their full name, Postal Service mailing address, and the applicable docket number, WT 00-239. Parties may also submit an electronic comment by Internet e-mail. To get filing instructions for e-mail comments, commenters should send an e-mail to ecfs@fcc.gov, and should include the following words in the body of the message, "get form." A sample form and directions will be sent in reply.

- **If filed by paper**, an original and four copies of each filing must be filed by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail.³ The Commission's contractor, Vistrionix, Inc., will receive hand-delivered or messenger-delivered paper filings for the Commission's Secretary at 236 Massachusetts Avenue, N.E., Suite 110, Washington, D.C. 20002.⁴ The filing hours at this location are 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. All hand deliveries must be held together with rubber bands or fasteners. Any envelopes must be disposed of before entering the building. Commercial overnight mail (other than U.S. Postal Service Express Mail and Priority Mail) must be sent to 9300 East Hampton Drive, Capitol Heights, MD 20743. U.S. Postal Service first-class mail, Express Mail, and Priority Mail should be addressed to 445 12th Street, SW, Washington, D.C. 20554. All filings must be addressed to the Commission's Secretary, Office of the Secretary, Federal Communications Commission.

One copy of each filings must be delivered electronically, by e-mail or facsimile, or if delivered as paper copy, by hand or messenger delivery, by commercial overnight courier, or by first-class or overnight U.S. Postal Service mail (according to the procedures set forth above for paper filings) to: (1) the Commission's duplicating contractor, Qualex International, at qualexint@aol.com or (202) 863-2898 (facsimile); and (2) Denise Walter, Commercial Wireless Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, at denise.walter@fcc.gov.

Comments to the *Guidelines for Cellular SID Administrators* are available for public inspection and copying in the FCC's Reference Center, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-A257, Washington, DC 20554. Copies of the comments may also be obtained from the Commission's duplicating contractor, Qualex International, Portals II, 445 12th Street, SW, Room CY-B402, Washington, DC, 20554, telephone (202) 863-2893, facsimile (202) 863-2898, or e-mail at qualexint@aol.com. The request is also available electronically through ECFS, which may be accessed on the Commission's Internet website at <http://www.fcc.gov/e-file/ecfs.html> by entering the Docket Number of this proceeding, WT Docket No. 00-239.

For further information, contact Denise Walter, Commercial Wireless Division, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, at 202-418-0620 or denise.walter@fcc.gov.

³ Please note that we continue to experience delays in receiving U.S. Postal Service mail.

⁴ See FCC Announces a New Filing Location for Paper Documents and a New Fax Number for General Correspondence, *Public Notice*, 16 FCC Rcd 22,165 (2001).

ATTACHMENT A

Guidelines for Cellular SID Administrators

1.0 PURPOSE AND SCOPE

This document contains guidelines for the FCC-recognized Administrators for Cellular System Identifier Numbers (SIDs) within the United States.

- 1.1 Since the early 1980's, Cellular SIDs have been assigned by the FCC and have been a required element of the FCC authorization.
- 1.2 In August 2002, the Commission adopted an Order to eliminate SIDs from being a required element of the license and to transition the administration of SIDs to the private sector.

2.0 CELLULAR SID FUNCTION

- 2.1 System Identification Numbers, or SIDs, are numeric identifiers assigned to cellular systems. SIDs are transmitted by the cellular system so that the cellular mobile stations can determine whether the system through which they are communicating is a system to which they subscribe, or whether they are considered by the system to be roamers.

3.0 ASSUMPTIONS AND CONSTRAINTS

These guidelines are based on the following assumptions and constraints:

- 3.1 These guidelines should provide the greatest latitude to those providing cellular services while permitting the effective and efficient management of a finite resource.
- 3.2 The Cellular SID Administrators initially recognized by the FCC are responsible for developing an efficient process for administering Cellular SIDs in a multiple Administrator environment. The process will be reviewed by the FCC and then incorporated in these Guidelines under Section 7.0.
- 3.3 A Cellular Carrier can request a SID from any one of the FCC-recognized Cellular SID Administrators.
- 3.4 New Cellular SID Administrators can be recognized by the FCC by filing a letter of intent and certifying they will comply with the guidelines and then signing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau.

4.0 ASSIGNMENT PRINCIPLES

The assignment principles defined below allow cellular systems the greatest possible latitude in providing seamless roaming capabilities.

- 4.1 Information requested from applicants for Cellular SID numbers will be kept uniform and kept to a minimum.
- 4.2 Maintain the current practice of assigning odd number SIDs to Channel Block “A” licensees and even number SIDs to Channel Block “B” licensees.
- 4.3 The assignment of a Cellular SID number does not imply ownership of the Cellular SID number.
- 4.4 If a license experiences a transfer of control or assignment of authorization, the authorized use of the Cellular SID remains with the license.
- 4.5 A request to use a SID assigned to another carrier must be accompanied by a notice stating that the authorized SID user concurs with the request

5.0 RESPONSIBILITIES OF CELLULAR SID ADMINISTRATORS

These general guidelines will be used by the Cellular SID Administrators in reviewing and processing requests for a SID. A Cellular SID Administrator will:

- 5.1 Assign a Cellular SID number to any FCC licensed cellular carrier who submits the appropriate request for a SID assignment.
- 5.2 Assign SID numbers in a fair, timely and impartial manner to any applicant that meets the criteria for assignment (see 5.1).
- 5.3 Assign SID numbers on a first come, first served basis from the available pool.
- 5.4 Request the minimum information necessary to make a SID assignment.
- 5.5 Assign the number of SIDs requested based on industry practices.
- 5.6 Treat sensitive information received from applicants as proprietary and confidential, and not to be shared with non-administrator personnel.
- 5.7 Charge a reasonable fee, based on current practice, for the service rendered. It is noted that the Commission charges a fee of \$85 (February 2003).
- 5.8 Provide the Public with access to a complete listing of assigned SIDs updated annually.

6.0 RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF CELLULAR SID APPLICANTS AND ASSIGNEES

Entities requesting a Cellular SID assignment shall:

- 6.1 Keep administrative information current with an Administrator.

- 6.2 Have the right to request a SID from any one of the recognized Cellular SID Administrators
- 6.3 Comply with all applicable regulations.

7.0 CELLULAR SID ASSIGNMENT PROCEDURES

- 7.1 [Reserved for the SID assignment procedures, including the coordination of SID assignments in a multi-administrator environment. Procedures will be developed by the initial FCC-recognized SID Administrators.]

8.0 MAINTENANCE OF GUIDELINES

- 8.1 The Cellular SID Administrator Guidelines can be changed upon agreement between the FCC and the recognized Cellular SID Administrators.