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SERIES E: OVERALL NETWORK OPERATION, TELEPHONE SERVICE, SERVICE OPERATION AND HUMAN FACTORS

Operation, numbering, routing and mobile service – International operation – Numbering plan of the international telephone service

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Definitions relating to national and international numbering plans

Reedition of CCITT Recommendation E.160 published in the Blue Book, Fascicle II.2 (1988)

NOTES

1 CCITT Recommendation E.160 was published in Fascicle II.2 of the *Blue Book*. This file is an extract from the *Blue Book*. While the presentation and layout of the text might be slightly different from the *Blue Book* version, the contents of the file are identical to the *Blue Book* version and copyright conditions remain unchanged (see below).

2 In this Recommendation, the expression "Administration" is used for conciseness to indicate both a telecommunication administration and a recognized operating agency.

Recommendation E.160

DEFINITIONS RELATING TO NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL NUMBERING PLANS

1 prefix

F: préfixe

S: prefijo

A prefix is an indicator consisting of one or more digits, that allows the selection of different types of number formats (e.g., local, national or international), transit networks and/or the service.

Prefixes are not part of the number and are not signalled over internetwork or international boundaries.

Note – When prefixes are used, they are always entered by the user or automatic calling equipment.

2 international prefix

F: préfixe international

S: prefijo internacional

The combination of digits to be dialled by a calling subscriber making a call to a subscriber in another country to obtain access to the automatic outgoing international equipment.

Example:

00 in Switzerland.

Note 1 – In some countries two or more international prefixes may be used:

– to reach different groups of countries;

– to obtain different classes of call (e.g., station call or personal call).

In the first case the use of two or more international prefixes allows the use of different groups of switching equipment and the use of *abbreviated* dialling (i.e., shorter country codes) for the calls to a defined group of countries (see the definition, *country code* in § 5).

Note 2 – Where several countries are included in one integrated numbering plan, the international prefix is not used on a call from one of these countries to another.

3 national (trunk) prefix

F: préfixe (interurbain) national

S: prefijo (interurbano) nacional

A digit or combination of digits to be dialled by a calling subscriber, making a call to a subscriber in his own country but outside his own numbering area. It provides access to the automatic outgoing trunk equipment.

Examples:

0 in Belgium, Italy, Japan, Netherlands, Switzerland, United Kingdom;

1 and 0 in Canada and in the USA;

9 in Finland and Spain;

16 in France.

Note – In the case where several countries are included in one integrated numbering plan, the national (trunk) prefix is also used for calls from one of these countries to another.

4 escape code

F: code d'échappement

S: código de escape

An escape code is an indicator consisting of one or more digits which is defined in a given numbering plan and is used to indicate that the digits that follow are from a specific numbering plan which is different from the given numbering plan.

For example, escape codes are currently used within the X.121 numbering plan to interwork with E.164 (ISDN) and F.69 (Telex) numbering plans.

An escape code can be carried forward through the originating network and can be carried across internetwork and international boundaries. Therefore the digits used for escape codes should be standardized.

5 country code

F: indicatif de pays

S: indicativo de país

The combination of one, two or three digits characterizing the called country.

Examples:

7 USSR;

54 Argentina;

591 Bolivia.

Note 1 – In the case where a country uses different international prefixes, abbreviated dialling can be used. In this case, for calls to one country of a defined group of countries, a regional country code, composed of fewer digits than the normal country code, may be used.

Examples:

For traffic between Latin American countries, the following regional country codes might be used:

1 Argentina;

2 Brazil;

3 Chile, etc.

Note 2 – In the case where several countries are included in one integrated numbering plan, no country code need be dialled for the traffic from one of these countries to another. For access by other countries, these countries:

– may be included under one common country code, or

– may have separate country codes,

always keeping in mind the necessity to avoid exceeding the recommended maximum number of digits in the international number.

6 trunk code

F: indicatif interurbain

S: indicativo interurbano

A digit or combination of digits [not including the national (trunk) prefix] characterizing the called numbering area within a country (or group of countries included in one integrated numbering plan).

The trunk code has to be dialled before the called subscriber's number where the calling and called subscribers are in different numbering areas.

The trunk code varies from one country to another and is composed of:

a) Either a *regional code* indicating the geographical zone to which the called subscriber belongs and within which subscribers can call one another by their subscriber numbers.

Examples:

In France:

Paris area (Departments of Seine, Yvelines, Seine-et-Marne, Oise, etc.): trunk code 1,

Nice area (Department of Alpes-Maritimes): trunk code 93;

In Belgium:

Bruxelles area: trunk code 2,

Namur area: trunk code 81;

In the Federal Republic of Germany and the Netherlands:

the geographical area defined above corresponds in general to the local network:

Düsseldorf local network: trunk code 211,

Amsterdam local network: trunk code 20;

In the United Kingdom:

this definition applies to certain networks such as that of London, for which the trunk code is 1;

In Canada and the USA:

the geographical area defined above corresponds to a *Numbering Plan Area* (NPA):

Montréal area: NPA code 514,

New York City area: NPA code 212;

b) Or a *numbering area code* followed by an exchange code when the directory entry of the called subscriber does not include the exchange code;

Examples:

In certain areas of the United Kingdom:

Truro (group centre): trunk code 872,

Perranporth (in the Truro group): trunk code 872 57.

7 subscriber number [1)]

F: numéro d'abonné

S: número de abonado

The number to be dialled or called to reach a subscriber in the same local network or numbering area.

This number is the one usually listed in the directory against the name of the subscriber.

8 national (significant) number

F: numéro national (significatif)

S: número nacional (significativo)

The number to be dialled following the national (trunk) prefix to obtain a subscriber in the same country (or group of countries included in one integrated numbering plan) but outside the same local network or numbering area.

The national (significant) number consists of the trunk code followed by the subscriber number.

It should be noted that, in some countries, it is customary to consider *for national purposes* that the national (trunk) prefix is included in the national number [which is then not the national (significant) number]. A careful distinction must therefore be made between such national definition or practice and the CCITT definition, which is internationally valid. In order to avoid misunderstanding, the CCITT definition includes the word "significant" between brackets, reading as follows: "national (significant) number".

Examples:

Subscriber			*National (significant) number*
123 45 67	in	Bruxelles	2 123 45 67
12 34 56	in	Düsseldorf	211 12 34 56
870 12 34	in	Montréal	514 870 12 34
12 34	in	Perranporth	872 57 12 34
248 45 67	in	London	1 248 45 67

Note – Where several countries are included in one integrated numbering plan, only the national (significant) number is to be dialled after the national (trunk) prefix on calls from one of these countries to another.

9 international number

F: numéro international

S: número internacional

The number to be dialled following the international prefix to obtain a subscriber in another country.

The international number consists of the country code of the required country followed by the national (significant) number of the called subscriber.

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1) Care should be taken not to use the term "local number" instead of "subscriber number".

Examples:

Subscriber			*International number*
123 45 67	in	Bruxelles	32 2 123 45 67
12 34 56	in	Düsseldorf	49 211 12 34 56
870 12 34	in	Montréal	1 514 870 12 34
12 34	in	Perranporth	44 872 57 12 34
248 45 67	in	London	44 1 248 45 67

Note – Where several countries are included in one integrated numbering plan, the international number is not used on calls from one of these countries to another. (See the note to Definition No. 8.)

10 national destination code (NDC)

F: indicatif national de destination (IND)

S: indicativo nacional de destino (IND)

A code field, within the E.164 numbering plan, which combined with the subscriber's number (SN) will constitute the national (significant) number of the international ISDN number. The NDC will have a network and/or trunk code selection function.

The NDC can be a decimal digit or a combination of decimal digits (not including any prefix) characterizing a numbering area within a country (or group of countries included in one integrated numbering plan).

The NDC has to be inserted before the called subscriber's number when the calling and called parties are located in different number areas.

NDC assignments are a national responsibility and therefore the NDC structure varies from one country to another. It may take a trunk code format or serve for selection of a destination network.

The NDC can in some instances, provide a combination of both the above functions.

11 destination network (DN) code

F: indicatif de réseau de destination (RD)

S: indicativo de red de destino (RD)

An optional code field within the E.164 numbering plan which identifies the destination network serving the destination subscriber. It performs the destination network selection function of the NDC. In some instances it can be combined with a trunk code to form the NDC. The DN code can be a decimal digit or a combination of decimal digits (not including any prefix).

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