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OF ITU

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

International operation – Numbering plan of the
international telephone service

**Criteria and procedures for the reservation,
assignment and reclamation of E.164 country
codes and associated identification codes (ICs)**

ITU-T Recommendation E.164.1

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ITU-T Recommendation E.164.1

Criteria and procedures for the reservation, assignment and reclamation of E.164 country codes and associated identification codes (ICs)

Summary

ITU-T Rec. E.164 describes the international public telecommunication numbering plan. ITU-T Rec. E.190 describes the general principles to be utilized in the assignment of ITU-T E-series international numbering resources. This Recommendation describes the procedures and criteria for the reservation, assignment and reclamation of E.164 country codes and associated Identification Code (IC) assignments. The criteria and procedures are provided as a basis for the effective and efficient utilization of the available E.164 numbering resources. Such assignments require a collaborative effort between the TSB and the appropriate ITU-T Study Group to endeavour to ensure that the assignments meet the needs of the telecommunication community. The development of these criteria and procedures are in accordance with the principles contained in ITU-T Rec. E.190 and the numbering plan formats detailed in ITU-T Rec. E.164. While processing E.164 resource applications, any conflicts between these Recommendations that are identified will be resolved by the following: Those statements contained in ITU-T Rec. E.190 take precedence over ITU-T Rec. E.164, and those statements contained in ITU-T Rec. E.164 take precedence over this Recommendation.

The TSB assigns and reclaims E.164 country codes for geographic areas, global services and for Networks. It is also responsible for the assignment and reclamation of Identification Codes (ICs) for Networks. The assignment of subsequent digits are normally not the purview of the ITU-T, but are the purview of the assignee. However, there may be unique circumstances by which it is jointly agreed by the TSB and the appropriate ITU-T Study Group that subsequent digits are to be centrally administered, e.g., UIFNs.

Source

ITU-T Recommendation E.164.1 was approved on 11 May 2006 by ITU-T Study Group 2 (2005-2008) under the Resolution 1 approval process.

FOREWORD

The International Telecommunication Union (ITU) is the United Nations specialized agency in the field of telecommunications. The ITU Telecommunication Standardization Sector (ITU-T) is a permanent organ of ITU. ITU-T is responsible for studying technical, operating and tariff questions and issuing Recommendations on them with a view to standardizing telecommunications on a worldwide basis.

The World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA), which meets every four years, establishes the topics for study by the ITU-T study groups which, in turn, produce Recommendations on these topics.

The approval of ITU-T Recommendations is covered by the procedure laid down in WTSA Resolution 1.

In some areas of information technology which fall within ITU-T's purview, the necessary standards are prepared on a collaborative basis with ISO and IEC.

NOTE

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

Compliance with this Recommendation is voluntary. However, the Recommendation may contain certain mandatory provisions (to ensure e.g. interoperability or applicability) and compliance with the Recommendation is achieved when all of these mandatory provisions are met. The words "shall" or some other obligatory language such as "must" and the negative equivalents are used to express requirements. The use of such words does not suggest that compliance with the Recommendation is required of any party.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

ITU draws attention to the possibility that the practice or implementation of this Recommendation may involve the use of a claimed Intellectual Property Right. ITU takes no position concerning the evidence, validity or applicability of claimed Intellectual Property Rights, whether asserted by ITU members or others outside of the Recommendation development process.

As of the date of approval of this Recommendation, ITU had not received notice of intellectual property, protected by patents, which may be required to implement this Recommendation. However, implementors are cautioned that this may not represent the latest information and are therefore strongly urged to consult the TSB patent database.

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Introduction

ITU-T Rec. E.164 describes the international public telecommunication numbering plan. ITU-T Rec. E.190 describes the general principles to be utilized in the assignment of ITU-T E-series international numbering resources. This Recommendation describes the procedures and criteria for the reservation, assignment, and reclamation of E.164 country codes and associated Identification Code (IC) assignments. The criteria and procedures are provided as a basis for the effective and efficient utilization of the available E.164 numbering resources. Such assignments require a collaborative effort between the TSB and the appropriate ITU-T Study Group to endeavour to ensure that the assignments meet the needs of the telecommunication community. (See WTSA-04 Resolution 20) The development of these criteria and procedures are in accordance with the principles contained in ITU-T Rec. E.190 and the numbering plan formats detailed in ITU-T Rec. E.164. While processing E.164 resource applications, any conflicts between these Recommendations that are identified will be resolved by the following: Those provisions contained in ITU-T Rec. E.190 take precedence over ITU-T Rec. E.164, and those provisions contained in ITU-T Rec. E.164 take precedence over this Recommendation.

The TSB assigns and reclaims E.164 country codes for geographic areas, global services and for Networks. It is also responsible for the assignment and reclamation of Identification Codes (ICs) for Networks¹. The assignment of subsequent digits is normally not the purview of the ITU-T, but are the purview of the assignee. However, there may be unique circumstances by which it is jointly agreed by the TSB and the appropriate ITU-T Study Group that subsequent digits are to be administered by the TSB, e.g., UIFNs.

¹ Internationally interconnected physical nodes and operational systems operated and maintained by one or more Recognized Operating Agencies (ROAs) to provide public telecommunication services. Private networks are not included in this definition. Note that the use of capital "N" in Networks indicates that this definition applies.

ITU-T Recommendation E.164.1

Criteria and procedures for the reservation, assignment and reclamation of E.164 country codes and associated identification codes (ICs)

1 Scope

This Recommendation provides criteria and procedures for the reservation, assignment, and reclamation of E.164 country codes for geographic areas, global services, and Networks. Additional criteria and procedures for the assignment of Identification Codes (ICs) are also provided with respect to Networks.

2 References

The following ITU-T Recommendations and other references contain provisions which, through reference in this text, constitute provisions of this Recommendation. At the time of publication, the editions indicated were valid. All Recommendations and other references are subject to revision; users of this Recommendation are therefore encouraged to investigate the possibility of applying the most recent edition of the Recommendations and other references listed below. A list of the currently valid ITU-T Recommendations is regularly published. The reference to a document within this Recommendation does not give it, as a stand-alone document, the status of a Recommendation.

- ITU-T Recommendation E.164 (2005), *The international public telecommunication numbering plan*.
- ITU-T Recommendation E.168 (2002), *Application of E.164 numbering plan for UPT*.
- ITU-T Recommendation E.168.1 (2005), *Assignment procedures for universal personal telecommunications (UPT) numbers in the provisioning of the international UPT service*.
- ITU-T Recommendation E.169 (2002), *Application of Recommendation E.164 numbering plan for universal international numbers for international telecommunications services using country codes for global services*.
- ITU-T Recommendation E.169.1 (2001), *Application of Recommendation E.164 numbering plan for universal international freephone numbers for international freephone service*.
- ITU-T Recommendation E.169.2 (2000), *Application of Recommendation E.164 numbering plan for universal international premium rate numbers for the international premium rate service*.
- ITU-T Recommendation E.169.3 (2000), *Application of Recommendation E.164 numbering plan for universal international shared cost numbers for international shared cost service*.
- ITU-T Recommendation E.190 (1997), *Principles and responsibilities for the management, assignment and reclamation of E-series international numbering resources*.
- ITU-T Recommendation E.191 (2000), *B-ISDN addressing*.
- ITU-T Recommendation E.191.1 (2001), *Criteria and procedures for the allocation of ITU-T International Network Designator addresses*.

3 Terms and definitions

All terms and definitions related to this Recommendation are contained in ITU-T Recs E.164 and E.190.

4 General section

4.1 Assignment of an E.164 resource by the TSB to an eligible applicant is made with the understanding that the applicant does and will comply with all relevant national and international telecommunication regulatory and legal requirements.

4.2 In view of the evolutionary nature of telecommunication services and networks, the country codes, the ICs, and the format of the subsequent digits following the IC should provide adequate capacity to accommodate current and future requirements.

4.3 All newly assigned country codes will be three digits in length, the maximum allowable under the existing numbering plan structure, as defined in ITU-T Rec. E.164.

4.4 Country codes should first be assigned from decade blocks with country codes already assigned until all codes in such decades are exhausted, e.g., reserved or assigned.

4.5 The TSB will wait for a period of at least two years before reassigning a previously assigned country code unless a shorter time interval is mutually agreed by the previous code holder, the applicant, the TSB and so advised by the appropriate ITU-T Study Group.

4.6 Although there may be exceptions, the assignment of E.164 country codes in any one of the following categories is not intended to supplement assignments made in another of these categories:

- i) geographic areas;
- ii) global services;
- iii) Networks.

4.7 The application process normally will have two sequential stages:

- a) reservation;
- b) assignment.

4.8 Applications for the reservation and assignment of E.164 country codes and Network ICs will be considered on an individual basis and on their own merits.

4.9 The TSB and the relevant ITU-T Study Group maintains the right, at any time during the application process, to request from the applicant additional information considered necessary to validate an application.

4.10 The TSB reserves the right to audit:

4.10.1 the information provided in the application;

4.10.2 the use of existing numbering resources if and when applying for supplementary resources;

4.10.3 the reserved or assigned numbering resources if it is suspected that they are not being utilized in conformance with the application.

4.11 All numbering resources that are assigned will be in conformance with the format and function of ITU-T Rec. E.164, and with the principles in ITU-T Rec. E.190.

4.12 The assignee must inform the TSB when any of the conditions under which the assignment or reservation was made are no longer applicable or have changed.

4.13 Reserved or assigned numbering resources are subject to reclamation if not utilized in conformance with the reservation and assignment criteria.