

Provisional Rules for the Allocation of National Signalling Point Codes (NSPCs) for the Intermediate Signalling Network

German version published under Administrative Order No 22/1997 in BMPT Official Gazette No 2/1997 as of 22 January 2006

Amended by Administrative Order No 33/2003 in Reg TP Official Gazette No 14/2003 as of 16 July 2003

1. Scope

These Rules apply to the allocation of National Signalling Point Codes ("NSPCs") for the intermediate signalling network.

Signalling Point Codes ("SPCs") are used to address signalling points in signalling networks based on ITU-T Signalling System No 7 ("SS No 7"). A Network Indicator ("NI") is used to distinguish between the different types of address for signalling points.

NSPCs are addresses for the intermediate signalling network. The intermediate signalling network is characterised by NI = 11 (binary notation) (nat 1), which is reserved for national use according to 14.2.2 of ITU-T Recommendation Q.704.

NSPCs are required by all operators of telecommunications systems as defined in section 3 subparagraph 17 of the Telecommunications Act ("TKG") who intend to maintain SS No 7 signalling relations with other telecommunications system operators in the intermediate signalling network.

These Rules do not apply to the code range NI = 10 (binary notation) (nat 0), which can be used freely by all operators without prior allocation.

2. Number range

NSPCs are valid only in the national intermediate signalling network defined by NI = 11 (binary notation).

NSPCs consist of 14 bits. There are therefore $2^{14} = 16,384$ NSPCs.

NSPCs are represented by the digit string a-b-c-d, where a and c are each equal to a value between 0 and 15, and b and d to a value between 0 and 7.

a (4 bits)	b (3 bits)	c (4 bits)	d (3 bits)
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3. Basis for Allocation

NSPCs are allocated as provided for by section 43 of the TKG of 25 July 1996 (Federal Law Gazette I p1120) in accordance with these Rules.

The Federal Network Agency for Electricity, Gas, Telecommunications, Post and Railway (the Agency) may amend these Rules, should this prove necessary.

The allocation of an NSPC constitutes a right of use as provided for by the TKG and these Rules.

4. Criteria for the Eligibility of Applicants

Eligible to apply is any party who

- intends to operate, or has already set up and operates, a public telecommunications network or a telecommunications system with a switching or switching-supporting function, and
- intends to maintain signalling relations with other eligible parties in the intermediate signalling network within the territory of Germany.

To prove their eligibility, applicants are required to submit the following documents:

- a description of the relevant public telecommunications network as defined in Section 3 no 12 of the Telecommunications Act (or the implementation concept for the public telecommunications network to be operated, including commercial, technical and operational planning aspects);
- proof of functions control of the network as defined in Section 3 no 2 of the Telecommunications Act;
- proof of intention of establishing SS No 7 signalling relations.

5. Application Procedure

5.1 Applying for NSPCs

Applications for allocation of an NSPC should be sent to the following address:

Bundesnetzagentur für Elektrizität, Gas,
Telekommunikation, Post und Eisenbahnen
Nummernverwaltung /Referat 118
Canisiusstraße 21
D-55122 Mainz
Germany

or

Bundesnetzagentur für Elektrizität, Gas,
Telekommunikation, Post und Eisenbahnen
Nummernverwaltung /Referat 118
Postfach 8001
D-55003 Mainz
Germany.

The application form (Application for Allocation of an NSPC) is to be used.

Applications may not be made more than 180 calendar days prior to the planned in-service date.

5.2 Considering Applications

Applications are processed in order of receipt (as stamped by the Agency upon receipt).

Only one NSPC is allocated for each SS No 7 signalling point. Only one SS No 7 signalling point at each location is generally allocated an NSPC. An appropriate number of additional NSPCs can be allocated for testing purposes.

Incomplete applications are refused.

5.3 Timescale for Handling Applications

NSPCs are generally allocated within a period of 14 calendar days following receipt of an application.

6. Conditions

6.1 Using the NSPC

- a) The holder of the allocation shall use the NSPC allocated solely to address the signalling point specified in his application.
- b) The holder of the allocation may not transfer to a third party the NSPC allocated to him.
- c) An allocated NSPC shall be used within a period of 180 calendar days following the allocation in-service date through establishment of the signalling relations specified in the application.

6.2 Providing Information

- a) The holder of the allocation shall give the Agency advance written notice of any change in the location of a signalling point addressed with an NSPC.
- b) The holder of the allocation shall, upon request, provide to the Agency written information on the use of the NSPC.

6.3 Returning the NSPC

The holder of the allocation shall immediately return the NSPC, should he no longer require it.

7. Number Changes

Section 43(4) of the TKG regulates changes to numbers.

8. Withdrawing Allocations

The Agency may withdraw an NSPC allocation if the conditions as set out in section 6 are violated. The Agency will consult with the holder of the allocation prior to making a planned withdrawal.

9. Reusing Recovered NSPCs

NSPCs recovered through return, changes or withdrawal can generally be reallocated by the Agency no earlier than six months following recovery.

10. Fees

The allocation of an NSPC is subject to a fee charged on the basis of the Fees Ordinance.