

LTRT Working Group

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TISA Guideline: Terms for Certification of TMC Location Tables

Terms for the Certification of TMC Location Tables

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Terms for the Certification of TMC Location Tables – March 2013

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1 Preamble

The ALERT-C protocol, commonly referred to as Traffic Message Channel (TMC), is defined in the ISO standard documents [1], [2] and [3]. The technical specifications are maintained by TISA, the corresponding standards are published by ISO.

Document [3] describes the location referencing for TMC, which relies on pre-defined lists that are stored both at the service provider for a given service area (a country or a clearly defined region within a country) and in each receiver. A given location is then identified by transmitting a reference to the corresponding table entry via TMC to the receiver, which then retrieves the corresponding location from the location table stored locally. For pinpointing locations on the service provider's map using the TMC location referencing method while ensuring that any receiver can then correctly match this location on its own map, these location tables have to be constructed following strict rules applied consistently to all such tables.

1.1 Roles with respect to this document

In the following Section 2, a number of roles and relations with respect to TMC location tables will be referenced. These roles are defined in the following Table 1 and they will always be *Capitalized* for distinguishing these defined terms from the general terms.

Table 1: Role definitions used in this document

Owner	The creator of a given location table
Area	The geographical region for which location points are encoded in a given table
Owner Proxy Host	An entity, which holds a public or private location table in escrow on behalf of the Owner and to whom the Owner may delegate the distribution of a this location table, whether it is in a physical format (CD, DVD, etc.) or in downloadable format (file on a server accessible via the internet)
User	Any third party that intends to use a given location table
TISA	The Traveler Information Services Association
TISA Proxy Host	An entity, which holds a public location table in escrow on behalf of TISA and to whom TISA may delegate the distribution of a this location table, whether it is in a physical format (CD, DVD, etc.) or in downloadable format (file on a server accessible via the internet)
Public Table	A TMC location table with the characteristics as defined in Table 2 under the column "Public Table"
Private Table	A TMC location table with the characteristics as defined in Table 2 under the column "Private Table"
Package of Tables	A complete set of locations tables for one country, or several countries. ¹

¹ One country may be partitioned into a number of separate location tables. Alternatively, location tables of several countries may be combined into one package.

2 Process and rules for the certification of TMC location tables

To ensure compatibility across service provider maps and receiver maps, all TMC location tables shall be certified. Fair and non-discriminatory access for all parties to the certification process is provided through a set of rules that has been developed by TISA and is published at [4].

The certification is performed by a team of TISA internal or external specialists through carrying out a number of pre-defined checks on each table. Certification thus incurs costs to cover the work of the experts as well as for development and maintenance of tools required to carry out the checks. The cost for a TMC location table certification depends on whether it is a public or a private table. Currently applicable costs are published in [4].

2.1 TMC location table types

TMC locations tables can either be a **Public Table** or a **Private Table**. Packages of Tables can either be **Packages of Public Tables** or **Packages of Private Tables**. The following Table 2 defines the properties for both location table types.

Table 2: Characteristics of public and private TMC location tables

TMC location table type	Public Tables and Packages of Public Tables	Private Tables and Packages of Private Tables
Use by a User	Normally unrestricted ²	Restricted and subject to specific conditions set by the Owner
Distribution to Users	Under fair and non-discriminatory conditions. Distribution may be delegated to an Owner Proxy Host.	At the discretion of the Owner. Distribution may be delegated to an Owner Proxy Host.
Costs for use by the User	None	Usage fees as defined by the Owner may apply
Costs for the distribution to the User	Handling fees and distribution costs may apply for delivery of the TMC location table ³	Handling and distribution fees as defined by the owner
Encryption of table for distribution	Not permitted	Permitted, but not required
Redistribution by a User to other Users	Normally permitted ^{2, 4}	The Owner defines the terms and conditions for redistribution. Typically, redistribution of a Private Table is not permitted.
Change of table type	Not permitted. <i>Note that this restriction also applies to all subsequent updates or releases of a Public Table.</i>	Not permitted. <i>Note that this restriction also applies to all subsequent updates or releases of a Private Table.</i>

² For some Public Tables, specific license agreements with additional conditions may apply.

³ Such handling fees and distribution costs shall be reasonable and not contain any profit margins, reflecting the actual efforts that the Owner or the Owner Proxy Host spends with dispatching and shipping the Public Table.

⁴ Redistribution to other Users may be restricted by additional conditions for Public Tables (cf. footnote 2).

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TMC location table type	Public Tables and Packages of Public Tables	Private Tables and Packages of Private Tables
Package of tables	A number of Public Tables of a given region assembled into a single package and treated as a single entity in the distribution to Users. The special conditions of Section 2.2 apply.	A number of Private Tables of a given region assembled into a single package and treated as a single entity in the distribution to Users. The special conditions of Section 2.2 apply.

Note: Public tables may be used by service providers in any service, including limited-access or encrypted services.

2.2 Special conditions for Packages of Tables

The following conditions apply to Packages of Tables in the same way for Public Tables and Private Tables.

- i. A Package of Tables may only contain tables of the same type. This means that a Package of Public Tables may only contain Public Tables and no Private Tables, whereas a Package of Private Tables may only contain Private Tables and no Public Tables.
- ii. A Package of Tables must cover a complete region and may not include any exclusions or holes.
- iii. A Package of Tables must comprise of all necessary TMC coded locations in an entire country as needed for a competitive service.
- iv. No TMC-coded locations in a country may be excluded from the Package of Tables where such locations are in use by any competitive service which are using (also) this Package of Tables
- v. Packages of Tables may not be combined into a larger Package
- vi. A Package of Tables may not be subdivided into smaller Packages or disassembled into individual location tables

2.3 Change of ownership

The type of a location table or a Package of Tables cannot be changed if the Owner changes. This applies regardless of the reason for the owner change. This means that a Public Table has to be maintained as a Public Table by the new Owner and a Private Table has to be maintained as a Private Table by the new Owner.

2.4 Special arrangements for Public Tables

Note: For the sake of simplicity, the term “Public Table” will be used in the following sections, representing both individual Public Tables as well as Packages of Public Tables.

In cases where access to a Public Table is not granted under fair and non-discriminatory conditions, TISA reserves the right to make this Public Table accessible to any User requesting access. TISA may delegate this task to a TISA Proxy Host. Unfair and discriminatory means in this context that:

- A) the Owner does not respond to requests from a User within 4 weeks (the User is responsible for keeping proof of evidence that such a request has been sent to the Owner);

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- B) the shipment of a Public Table to one User is unduly delayed while shipments to other Users are executed promptly;
- C) handling and distribution fees vary between different Users by significant amounts, with differences being larger than what can be justified by different shipment methods (e.g. “standard vs. express” or “national vs. overseas”).

Upon notification of the requesting User that one or several of the violations A) to C) have occurred, TISA will send a registered letter to the corresponding Owner of that Public Table. The Owner has 2 weeks time to respond and deliver the Public Table under fair and non-discriminatory conditions to the requesting User.

As a result of such a violation, the Public Table concerned will be treated by TISA as a Private Table, even if the Owner maintains it as a Public Table and in the future distributes it under fair and non-discriminatory conditions to other Users. Further, the re-certification counter is reset and the next re-certification of that table is considered to be a new certification, including related charges for a new certification of a Private Table. To the requesting User, TISA will charge handling and shipment fees as published in [4].

2.5 Procedures for the filing of location table certifications

During the preparation for the initial certification of a new location table, the type is defined in the corresponding application form (see Annex A). Once the first certification is performed, it is no longer possible to change the type of a location table during its entire lifetime (i.e. including all subsequent updates or new releases of that location table). The location table type as declared on the first application form (cf. Annex A) is fixed and binding.

3 References

[1]	Traffic and traveller Information (TTI) - TTI Messages via traffic message coding - Part 1: Coding protocol for Radio Data System - Traffic Message Channel (RDS-TMC), EN ISO 14819-1:2002.
[2]	Traffic and traveller Information (TTI) - TTI Messages via traffic message coding - Part 2: Event and information codes for Radio Data System - Traffic Message Channel (RDS-TMC), EN ISO 14819-2:2002.
[3]	Traffic and traveller Information (TTI) - TTI Messages via traffic message coding - Part 3: Location Referencing for ALERT-C, EN ISO 14819-3:2003
[4]	www.tisa.org/about-tisa/services/tmc-location-request/procedure-tmc-location-table-certification/

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Authorisation form for distributing TMC Public Location Tables		

TISA is the registrar of all TMC Location Tables numbers worldwide and is responsible for the maintenance. Any location table owner should fully understand the principle of a public table:

unrestricted use,

free of distribution restrictions or charges.

As a location table owner, (organisation name), grants permission to TISA to distribute the following TMC public location tables to any requesting organisations:

Country	Coverage	Location Table Number

Responsible Person name	
Representing the organization	
E-mail	
Responsible person for distribution the LT (name, e-mail, tel)	
Address	
Date and Signature	