



Technical Specification

TS040

Enabling Cell Broadcast for National Public Warning System

Version 1.0
1 January 2016

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1. Scope

The Government of the United Arab Emirates is establishing a “Public Warning System” which will use several channels to broadcast public warnings. Such system is required to warn and inform the public in times of crisis and therefore is required to have effective, high quality communication methods and systems to meet this need.

One of the channels is the mobile networks in the UAE through Cell Broadcast technology. The main scope of this specification is to enable Cell Broadcast service in all mobile devices operating in the UAE mobile networks.

2. Definitions

Unless the context requires otherwise, the expressions and wordings appearing in Federal Law by Decree No. (3) of 2003 Regarding the Organisation of the Telecommunications Sector shall have the same meaning ascribed thereto in the above-mentioned Federal Law by Decree, and the following expression and wording shall have the following meanings assigned thereto:

Public Warning System	means the system deployed to provide an advance and instance public warning about emergency cases and disaster situations by utilizing different channels and media’s
Cell Broadcast Service (CBS)	means broadcasting of messages to the mobile phones of a large number of citizens in a specific location within specific time frame. The area can be as small as one cell and as big as the entire network

3. Document History

Version	Date	Comment
Draft, 0.1	11 June 2015	First draft issued to Mobile vendors for comment
Final, 1.0	1 January 2016	Final

4. Technical Requirements

4.1 General

All equipment shall comply with TRA specification TS001 concerning cell broadcast service.

4.2 Specific

The following requirements shall apply:

1. The Handset shall be configured by default to receive all Warning Notifications
2. Messages should be supporting the English and Arabic languages
3. Message should be limited to 1 page maximum.
4. An emergency alert message should be immediately recognizable. (Emergency messages shall be specifically recognizable as being an emergency message that cannot be mistaken for an ordinary message
5. The emergency warning message should stay on the display regardless of the user setting, until the message indication is cancelled by the user. It shall be possible for the user to review the message at a later time
6. Handsets shall only be required to receive and present Warning Notifications in languages as presented by the Warning Notification Provider.
7. It shall be possible for the Warning Notification to be displayed on the handset upon reception and without any user interaction.
8. The alerting indication for a specific Warning Notification shall continue until suppressed by users' manual operation (e.g. by pushing keys). The frequency and duration of the continued alerting indication is mobile device implementation specific. This shall not suppress the alerting indication for subsequent Warning Notifications.
9. The handset shall not support any capabilities to forward received Warning Notifications, to reply to received Warning Notifications, or to copy and paste the content of Warning Notifications.
10. The handset should have the ability to present previously displayed Warning Notifications if requested by the user.
11. The handset shall be able to support concurrent reception of multiple Warning Notification

5. Effective Date

All handsets entering UAE shall be compliant with these specifications effective from 1 January 2016.