29910 Murrieta Hot Springs Road, Suite G-221, Murrieta, CA 92563

Phone: (866) 935-5551 Fax: (661) 885-4106 E-mail: Robert@CTFDataPro.com
www.CTFDataPro.com
Lic. PI22653

Glossary of Terms Used in Cell Phone Forensics

3G	**Third Generation**	
	Allowed for increasing amount of mobile users. Designed to allow for more data intensive services like video conferencing, streaming video and receiving large files.	
4G	**Fourth Generation**	
	High capacity networks. Data rates reaching 100 Mbps. Global roaming. Interoperability with existing wireless networks.	
BSC	**Base Station Controller**	
	Brains behind the cell tower. Manages the calls going through a cell tower, manages handoff between cell towers	
BTS	**Base Transceiver Station**	
	Otherwise known as Cell Tower	
CDMA	**Code Division Multiple Access**	
	Uses paired number sequence to decode conversations on a frequency. Many calls can use the same frequency at the same time.	
DAS	**Distributed Antenna System**	
	A network of spatially separated antenna nodes connected to a common source via a transport medium that provides wireless service within a geographic area or structure"	
ESN	**Electronic Serial Number**	
	Found in mobile phone that do not use a SIM card (CDMA phones). A 32 bit number programmed into the phone when it is manufactured. Located in label under the battery. These numbers are being depleted and many newer phones now come with MEID	
EXIF	**Exchangeable Image File Format**	
	Contains details of photos such as date/time taken, GPS coordinates and other data about the photo.	
GPRS	**General Packet Radio Services**	
	Used in EDGE & 3G – packet driven	
GSM	**Global System for Mobile Communication**	
	Most widely used cellular network in the world. Over 212 countries use GSM. Requires a SIM card. Became popular due to its open standard.	
HLR	**Home Location Register**	
	Database about subscribers who are authorized to use a particular network	
ICCID	**Integrated Circuit Card Identifier**	
	Identifies a SIM card	
iDEN	**Integrated Digital Enhanced Network**	
	Developed by Motorola and used in Nextel type phones that support "push to talk" along with standard cellular services. Modern iDEN phones use SIM card for authentication.	
IMEI	**International Mobile Equipment Identity**	
	15 or 17 digit number assigned to a mobile phone when it is manufactured.	
IMSI	**International Mobile Subscriber Identity**	
	Used in GSM phones – 15 digit number used to identify an individual subscriber on a	

	cellular network. Stored in SIM card. Consists of three parts – MCC, MNC and MSIN
LAC/CID	**Location Area Code / Cell Identification** Used by carriers like AT&T to identify specific cell tower/antennas
MDN	**Mobile Directory Number** Assigned by the cellular carrier to each phone that it sells. A 10 digit number that the phone uses to identify itself to the system (Phone number assigned to a particular phone)
MEID	**Mobile Equipment Identifier** Taking the place of ESN within a CDMA network. It is 56 bits long. Made up of 8 bit regional code, 24 bit manufacturers code and 24 bit serial number assigned by manufacturer
MIN	**Mobile ID Number (Might be same as MDN, unless number was ported)** Assigned by the cellular carrier to each phone that it sells. A 10 digit number that the phone uses to identify itself to the system (Phone number assigned to a particular phone)
MSC	**Mobile Switching Center** Primary delivery arm for a GSM network. Responsible for handling voice calls, SMS, MMS, etc. Each MSC consists of the following: HLR, VLR, AUC, Ki, EIR
MSIN	**Mobile Subscriber Identify Number** Part of the IMSI code used in SIM cards
MSISDN	**Mobile Subscriber Integrated Services Digital Network Number** It is the number dialed to call a phone within a GSM network
NELOS	**Network Event LOcation System** AT&T - provides approximate GPS coordinates for the location of the phone
PCMD	**Per Call Measurement Data** Sprint-Provides GPS coordinates for location of cell phones during calls
PSTN	**Public Switched Telephone Network**
PUK	**PIN Unlock Code** Needed to unlock a locked SIM card. Usually obtained from carrier.
RSSI	**Received Signal Strength Indicator**
RTD	**Round Trip Delay**
RTT	**Real Time Tool** Verizon - provides approximate GPS coordinates for the location of the phone
RF Map	**Radio Frequency Propagation Maps** Cell carrier maps that provide area of coverage for each sector on a cell tower
SIM	**Subscriber Identity Module**