

## Accessibility information: Compliance and new developments

The ACMA has released the final report of its assessment of compliance by equipment suppliers with the Communications Alliance ACIF C625:2005 *Information Accessibility Features for Telephone Equipment* (the Code). The ACMA completed assessments of 17 providers in May 2009 and the report findings show that all of those still operating as equipment suppliers are now compliant with the provisions of the Code.



"I'd call the HELP service, but I can't see the keys" Oslo Davis

The Code requires equipment suppliers to provide information to consumers and carriage service providers about the accessibility features of the customer equipment they import into or manufacture in Australia. It also requires equipment suppliers to provide contact details for information on their products to carriage service providers and consumers.

In a parallel action to this audit, the Communications Alliance is undertaking a revision of the Code, including

to determine the required accessibility features for a mobile phone and the range of models which meet those requirements across all suppliers who are MMF members. Current members include Nokia, Motorola, Sony Ericsson and Samsung.

'As a result of these developments, customers with particular accessibility needs for telephone equipment can now confidently contact any equipment supplier and obtain standardised information about the features of the product they require,' said Chris Chapman, ACMA Chair.

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a significant proposal to improve access to and comparability of information about mobile phones using a website developed by the Mobile Manufacturers Forum (MMF). The MMF is an international association of telecommunications equipment manufacturers with an interest in mobile or wireless communications. See below for the website details.

Disability groups have been strong advocates of a centralised information portal for accessibility information. In recognition of the large numbers of consumers with accessibility needs, the MMF developed the Global Accessibility Reporting Initiative (GARI) project as a central information source for consumers to learn about accessibility in mobile devices. The GARI is a searchable database which allows consumers

The revised Code reflects the international nature of telecommunications equipment manufacture and offers tangible compliance benefits for MMF members as well as consumers in many jurisdictions. The GARI is an innovative industry-led solution that significantly enhances the functionality of the Code for consumers. 🗣️

The report *Compliance with ACIF C625:2005 Information Accessibility Features for Telephone Equipment* is available on the ACMA website [www.acma.gov.au](http://www.acma.gov.au) (go to For licensees & industry: Licensing & regulation > Telecommunications: Telecommunications regulation > Network regulation: Codes information > Register of codes).

Visit the MMF website [www.mobileaccessibility.info](http://www.mobileaccessibility.info).