

Why You Should Port Your Inbound Numbers to TCN

The regulatory landscape is shifting and your numbers need to keep up

Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is intensifying its crackdown on illegal robocalls. In fact, on March 5, 2026, the FCC released a sweeping Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) titled “Combatting Illegal Robocalls Through FCC Numbering Policies (WC Docket No. 26-49)”, signaling the most significant overhaul of telephone numbering policy in decades. These proposed changes will directly affect how your inbound numbers are authenticated and trusted — and whether your calls are answered.

Where your numbers are managed plays a big role in maintaining compliance and ensuring your messages get to your customers. That's why transferring your numbers to be managed through TCN via porting isn't just a platform decision. It's a compliance and call-delivery strategy that positions your business on the right side of a rapidly tightening regulatory environment.

STIR/SHAKEN attestation: The difference between getting answered and getting blocked

STIR/SHAKEN is the FCC-mandated caller ID authentication framework that verifies whether the number displayed on a call actually belongs to the entity making the call. As a result, every Internet Protocol (IP) call now carries an attestation level — a trust signal that downstream carriers and analytics engines use to decide whether to deliver, label or block the call.

There are three attestation levels:

- **Full Attestation (Level A):** The originating carrier verifies the caller's identity and confirms their right to use the specific number. This is the highest level of trust.
- **Partial Attestation (Level B):** The originating carrier verifies the caller's identity but cannot confirm their right to use the specific number.
- **Gateway Attestation (Level C):** The originating carrier can only confirm the point at which the call entered the network.

When your numbers are ported to TCN, your calls receive Full Attestation (Level A). This means that, as the originating carrier, TCN verifies both your identity and your authorized use of the number.

However, when your numbers remain with a third-party provider, your calls typically receive only Partial Attestation (Level B) or, worse, Gateway Attestation (Level C) because the originating carrier cannot fully verify your right to use numbers it doesn't manage.

Thus, when you port your number to TCN, you can reap the benefits of higher call answer rates, fewer spam labels and stronger trust signals on every call you make.

The robocall mitigation database: Why your provider's standing matters

The FCC's Robocall Mitigation Database (RMD) is a critical, often-overlooked piece of the compliance puzzle. The FCC requires all voice service providers to certify in the RMD that they have implemented STIR/SHAKEN and/or are taking specific steps to prevent illegal robocall traffic on their networks. Additionally, FCC rules prohibit voice service providers and intermediate providers from accepting call traffic directly from any provider that does not appear in the RMD.

The consequences of non-compliance are severe. In fact, the FCC can fine providers that fail to file, and as of January 2026, the commission has established a base forfeiture of \$10,000 per violation for submitting false or inaccurate information to the database, plus \$1,000 per day for failure to update changed information within 10 business days. In 2025 alone, the FCC removed over 1,200 non-compliant providers from the database.

What this means for you: If your current number provider falls out of RMD compliance, or if your numbers pass through intermediaries whose RMD status lapses, your call traffic can be refused by downstream carriers. In other words, your calls simply won't connect.

TCN maintains active, current registration with the FCC's RMD. You can verify TCN's filing directly at the [FCC RMD](#). Ultimately, when your numbers are at TCN, you're backed by a provider whose compliance is verifiable, current and transparent.



The FCC is tightening the screws – Here's what's coming

The March 2026 NPRM proposes sweeping changes that will affect any business relying on phone numbers for customer communication, including:

- **Expanded certification requirements** for all providers receiving numbering resources and for resellers of telephone numbers, not just interconnected Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) providers.
- **Restricting the number resale to a single level**, eliminating multi-layered reseller chains that obscure number ownership and enable robocall schemes.
- **Enhanced reporting obligations** with new intermediate number subcategories, forcing transparency into how numbers are distributed and used.
- **Cracking down on number cycling**, which is the practice of rotating through large volumes of numbers to evade call analytics.
- **Empowering state commissions** to withhold numbering resources from non-compliant providers.

The FCC Enforcement Bureau has found that the majority of its robocall investigations involved resold numbers. Numbers that pass through multiple intermediaries, lack a clear chain of custody or cannot achieve Full Attestation will face increasing scrutiny and blocking risk.

Porting your numbers to TCN removes you from this risk chain entirely.



One number, every channel: The power of unified campaigns

Beyond compliance, porting your numbers to TCN also unlocks a major operational advantage: **true unified inbound and outbound communication across every channel on the same numbers.**

When your numbers live at TCN, the same number used for out-pulsing in an outbound dialer or texting campaign is also your inbound number, whether you are communicating via voice callbacks, two-way texting or AI-powered messaging. This creates a seamless, single-number experience across your entire operation, bringing a host of benefits to your contact center:

- **Full visibility into callbacks.** When a consumer calls back a number they saw on their caller ID from your outbound dialer or texting campaign, that call routes directly into your TCN inbound queue. This means no lost callbacks or orphaned return calls to numbers that ring nowhere.
- **Two-way texting on the same numbers.** Send outbound text campaigns and receive replies on the same number – enabling real conversations, not one-way blasts. Consumers can text back to schedule, confirm, pay or ask questions without switching channels.

- **AI-powered texting and voice on a single number.** Deploy TCN's AI capabilities across both texting and voice on the same number, whether you are seeking to automate responses, qualify inbound inquiries or route intelligently.
- **Consistent caller ID across every touchpoint.** Whether you're dialing out, sending a text or receiving an inbound call, the consumer sees the same number. This builds recognition, trust and higher answer rates over time.
- **Unified reporting and analytics.** See the full lifecycle of a contact, including the outbound attempt, text follow-up and inbound callback – all tied to the same number and visible in one place.

When your numbers are split across providers, this unified experience is impossible. Callbacks go to the wrong place, text replies don't connect to campaigns and you lose visibility into the full customer interaction. Porting to TCN eliminates these gaps.

Why TCN is the right home for your numbers

Full STIR/SHAKEN Attestation (Level A) – Every outbound call from your ported numbers carries the highest trust signal.

Active RMD registration – TCN's RMD filing is current, verifiable and compliant with all FCC requirements.

Unified inbound and outbound on every number – Voice, texting, AI-powered automation and callbacks all flow through the same numbers on a single platform.

Comprehensive phone number management – TCN's Operator platform includes number registration, reputation monitoring and integration with the Reassigned Numbers Database.

Compliance-first architecture – From Natural Language Compliance to Telephone Consumer Protection Act (TCPA) safeguards, compliance is built into the platform rather than bolted on.

No long-term contracts – TCN earns your business on value, not lock-in.



Frequently asked questions

Will porting my numbers cause downtime? No. Number ports to TCN are handled seamlessly with no interruption to your inbound call flow. TCN's porting team coordinates the transition so your numbers remain active throughout the process.

How long does the porting process take? Most number ports can be completed in as few as a few days, depending on the releasing carrier. TCN's team manages the process end to end and keeps you informed at every step.

What does it cost to port my numbers to TCN? There are no separate porting fees. Once your numbers are at TCN, you simply pay monthly phone number fees — that's it. There are no hidden charges for the port itself.

Will my numbers automatically get Full Attestation (Level A) after porting? Yes. Once your numbers are hosted at TCN, TCN serves as the originating carrier and can fully attest to your identity and your right to use those numbers, qualifying your calls for Full Attestation (Level A).

How do I verify TCN's RMD status? TCN's RMD filing is publicly accessible. You can view it directly at the [FCC RMD](#).

What if my current provider isn't in the RMD? This is a serious risk. FCC rules prohibit voice service providers from accepting traffic directly from any provider not listed in the RMD. If your current provider's registration lapses or is removed, your calls may stop connecting entirely. Porting to TCN eliminates this risk.

The bottom line

Your calls deserve to be answered. Your business deserves to be trusted. And in a regulatory environment where the FCC is expanding enforcement, tightening numbering policies and holding providers accountable through the RMD, the safest place for your numbers is with a provider that delivers Full Attestation, maintains current RMD compliance and gives you a unified platform where every number works across every channel. Request a demo today to talk with an expert and get started with TCN.