TruOps Common Language

Equipment Information Services with CLEI Codes

Network assets, including both hardware and software, represent one of the most significant investments a Communications Service Providers (CSPs) can make. These assets are essential for providing services to customers and are of interest to the entire enterprise and stakeholders. Network assets are referenced and managed in the warehouse, the field, Planning, Provisioning and Finance.

Having multiple perspectives on the same asset requires significant alignment of efforts to ensure that all the stakeholders' needs are met. This is a major task and, as each department pursues its own objectives, they may fail to appreciate the needs of others.

Various teams working independently on the same assets, without being able to effectively communicate their activities with other interested parties, eventually leads to inefficiencies in the life cycle of an asset. A typical example is Finance not being able to track an asset's status. With network assets representing a major investment for CSPs, any inefficiencies in their management are reflected in the company's bottom line.

TruOps® Common Language® CLEI™ Codes and the supporting CLEI Code records enable an enterprise to unite around a single data infrastructure representing an asset. Through identifying the smallest orderable part to revision level, the 10-character, intelligent CLEI Codes may be used to reference the network equipment type by anyone in the organization and ensure that all references are to the same asset type.

Network equipment is a major investment

- A single, consistent equipment asset definition saves time and money
- Finance can accurately track an asset's lifecycle across the enterprise
- Scan the CLEI barcode from a mobile device to see network equipment attributes or capture CLEI Code and Serial number for tracking inventory

By having vendors CLEI Code their equipment and packaging, CSPs can be assured that:

- The data infrastructure supporting the asset has been completed in a consistent manner before the equipment has been delivered to the customer site;
- Finance can benefit from a standard asset categorization, including its use and technology type;
- Engineering and Planning can understand the asset's capabilities and characteristics;
- The warehouse can scan a CLEI Code and receive data associated with a product's asset, which will help with stocking assets and includes intelligence to help pool assets by product interchangeability;
- The field staff will be able to scan and read the CLEI Code label and identify deployed assets that are in service and/or spares that are deployed in the field right from the Common Language App on their mobile device.

Standard Financial Asset Classification

When CLEI coding a network element, equipment is classified in four different ways:

Main account - FCC Main account code is applied

FRC -Field Reporting Code describes the type of equipment and where the equipment is used (e.g., central office, outside plant, etc.). By using the FRC, Finance can report on the value of assets according to categories defining where in the network the material is used.

ECN -Equipment Category Number describes the technology in detail, enabling Finance to identify material costs by material technology.

CPR -Continuing Property Record enables the finance department to apply consistent depreciation models, tax models, etc. to each equipment type, for the life of the network equipment asset. There are 220,000+ CPR classifications.

Centralized, Standard Data Infrastructure

Along with providing the CLEI coding process, Common Language provides a centralized point of asset information management, i.e., the data infrastructure has an owner. It does not matter if the equipment is delivered to the warehouse or straight to site, the characterization of the data will be in the same form, to the same detail, completed by the same team. The CLEI coding process captures information such as voltage, amps, physical weight, physical size, operating temperatures, humidity ranges, number of ports and more. Setting up a centralized, standard process for vendors requires precision and detailed attention. CLEI Codes are a standard across the industry, used by some of the world's largest CSPs, including 1,300+ vendors identifying over 600,000 equipment types.

Standard Labeling

The CLEI requirements define the size of the label, its position on the equipment and the information contained on it. It is required to be visible on the equipment s packaging for the duration it is in service -removing the need to extract plug-in cards in order to work out which label defines the product ID. CLEI labeling is consistent across all vendors, removing any doubt as to which label is to be used to identify the equipment type. This labeling is in line with ATIS-0300038, which supports product barcode labeling, and ATIS-0300006, which supports barcode standards for product packaging.

Auto-Discovery

Where available the CLEI Code is required to be stored in the Management Information Base (MIB), enabling auto-discovery.

Cost Savings

- Prevents errors due to incorrect equipment being ordered/delivered
- Save time characterizing equipment assets
- Simplifies the financial modeling of network assets
- Reduces spares inventory
- Enables auto-discovery
- Replaces equipment scanners with the use of the Common Language App

Resources Available with a Subscription

- CLEI Codes
- Common Language App
- REST API access to CLEI data
- Procurement assistance
- CLEI InQuiry equipment database
- XML
- Local Data Repository
- Support from our CLEI Subject Matter Experts
- Industry forums for CSPs to meet and discuss the evolution and best practice of implementing Common Language with other CSPs
- Policy management of key data elements, ensuring consistency in the data
- Training

CLEI Codes provide a single data infrastructure for network equipment assets. It identifies the smallest orderable part to revision level. The labels are visible while the equipment is in service. CLEI Code data is recorded before the asset arrives on site.

CLEI Code	CLEI Record
10-character unique standardized code to represent the equipment type store in the MIB	Standard data describing alternate equipment types
Identifies equipment to revision level and the smallest orderable part	Includes a wide range of characteristics
Defines interchangeability and classifies asset type, manufacturer and technology	Standardized financial classification
Used as a key in a database of 600,000 equipment types	Identifies compatibility between equipment

Find out how TNS can help you with a wide range of telecom solutions:

solutions@tnsi.com

tnsi.com

USA	+1 703 453 8300
Europe	+44 (0)114 292 0200
Asia Pacific	+61 2 9959 0800