

REGISTERING PREPAID SIM CARDS IN SWITZERLAND

As of 1 August 2004, telecommunication service providers in Switzerland must record the personal data of their prepaid SIM card customers upon presentation of a valid travel document and photo. The information must be kept by service providers for at least two years.

In addition, telecommunication service providers must also, before 31 October 2004, record all prepaid SIM card customers that activated their card after 1 November 2002. Service providers will lock the use of prepaid cards in the event the customer fails to provide the requested data.

OFCOM has explained that this measure aims at helping penal authorities to fight more effectively against drug trafficking and international terrorism.

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Adapted from: Federal Office of Communications (OFCOM)

(<http://www.ofcom.ch/en/index.html>) (Available only in French, German and Italian)

(5 August 2004)