

Tri-Tel Telecommunications
SMS via SMTP

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Introduction:

Tri-Tel Telecommunications allows you to send SMS through its gateways by simply sending an email (SMTP) formatted in the correct manner. The following section describes how this is done.

Usage:

When sending an SMS via email you must take into consideration the following important factors:

- I. Authentication
- II. Number formatting
- III. SMS content location
- IV. Surplus information
- V. Programmable option: Begin_SMS / End_SMS

I) Authentication

Authentication of the incoming SMS via email and the permissions of that user is done by looking at the “from” email address. The from email address must be either the main email address entered at time of registration, or a supplementary email address added later in the “fax options” section of the web messaging account belonging to the user.

To add and authorize more “from” email addresses allowed to send through the account, you must log into your web-account, then click on the link “my account” followed by “fax options” and then click on “Manage faxing email addresses”.

If the email address is not found as an authorized address in the system, then the SMS will not be sent and a rejection notice will be returned to the user as an SMTP report. Not all senders will be able to see the failure notice.

In addition to the above, Tri-Tel Telecommunications has recently introduced another level of security by requesting the user to include the password of the account in the content of the destination cell phone/mobile number.

Instead of having the number by itself, the password will need to be added. The new format is as follows:

61408123123.password@ttsms.com.au

The above password requirement is a new addition and will be a firm requirement in the near future. It's best that developers take this into consideration and add this requirement now to safeguard against future changes.

II) Number formatting

The destination number must be formatted in the following manner:

61408123123@ttsms.com.au

Where 61 = Australia (or any other country for that matter), 408123123 = the destination mobile number “without the leading zero” and finally @ttsms.com.au which is Tri-Tel’s SMS domain name.

Failure to follow the above format may result in an undelivered SMS or an SMS that ends up in another country.

III) SMS content location

The content of the SMS can be located in either the “subject” of the email, the “body” of the email or in both.

If “hello” is included in the subject and “how are you” in the body of the email, the resulting SMS will be displayed as “hello how are you” in the receiver’s handset.

As per the example above, you will notice that the subject is the first thing that our gateway looks at; however, we recommend that the content be placed on the email’s body.

IV) Surplus information

ANY content included in the email’s body will be taken by our gateway and sent as many SMS as required. The GSM standard allows for each SMS to be a maximum length of 160 characters. Anything more than 160 characters will result in multiple SMS. 319 or 320 characters will result in two SMS being sent by the system, likewise an email containing above 320 characters but less than 480 will result in a 3 part SMS.

Note that it’s important that emails do not contain disclaimers or signatures or anything else that the user does not wish to have sent as an SMS.

A very useful feature that Tri-Tel makes available is the ability to “limit” the number of SMS sent regardless of the amount of characters found in the email body. By setting the “SMTP Limit” to 1 SMS, you are ensuring that only the first 160 characters found in the email are actually sent – the rest will be ignored.

The SMTP Limit feature can be located in your web-account by going to “my account” followed by “SMS Options” and then clicking on “SMS Via Email”.

V) Programmable option: Begin_SMS / End_SMS

If your email client or provider adds unwanted text to your email body or subject line, it is possible to specify, within the email's body, where the SMS message begins and ends. Simply add begin_sms on a line by itself to indicate the beginning of your SMS message, and end_sms to indicate the end. For example

```
Hello!  
begin_sms  
How are you?  
end_sms  
This email is confidential...
```

'How are you?' will be sent to the handset, the rest will be discarded.