# SMS / Texting Virtual Number Options for Deployment 

Comparison \&
recommendation of options for deploying SMS campaigns

## Overview

SMS / 2-Way Texting - Virtual Number Options \& Process
A virtual number is a phone number used to send and receive SMS text messages to and from mobile phones.

What are the types of virtual numbers available for deployment?
Below are types of virtual numbers. Each of these has different procedures for procurement, costs, and throughputs associated.

1. Registered Toll-Free Number - 10 digit number toll-free number in area codes $800,888,877,866,855,844$, and 833
2. 10 Digit Long Code [10 DLC] - Localized Phone Numbers is a sanctioned business text message using a local number.
3. Short-Code - Shortcode is a sanctioned business text message using a 5-6 digit number

## Option Comparison [USA]

|  | $\begin{gathered} \text { Toll-Free } \\ 18008322223 \end{gathered}$ | $\begin{aligned} & \text { Local } 10 \text { DLC } \\ & \text { 232-223-3322 } \end{aligned}$ | Short Code 730-22 |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Volume Limits | ~25 to 150 Messages Per Second | 4 to 100 Messages Per Second (brand reputation) | >100 Messages Per Second |
| Registration Type | Toll-Free verification | Via The Campaign Registry <br> (TCR) | Direct Carrier Campaign Registration |
| Voice Enabled | Yes | Yes | No |
| MMS | Yes | Yes | Yes |
| Carrier Surcharges | Yes* | Yes (A2P) I No (P2P) | Yes |
| Opt-In/Opt-Out | Set by carrier | Control Opt-In \& Opt-Out Messaging | Control Opt-In \& Opt-Out Messaging |
| Additional Notes | Custom Number: <br> Based on availability <br> Subscribers will be charged for texts (not toll-free) <br> Carrier might block the message | Custom Number: <br> Based on availability <br> Supports phone number localization <br> *Option to pre-provision for faster deployment | FTEU (Free to end-user option <br> available at $\$ 0.10 / \mathrm{msg}$ ) <br> Vanity Options available |
| Time to Market | 2 to 4 Weeks | 4 to 5 Weeks | 8 to 12+ Weeks |
| Cost | \$ | \$ | \$\$ |

## Recommended Deployment Options

1. Fastest Deployment Option: Customers can start with Toll-Free if they have a campaign that starts in 2-3 weeks, then upgrade to 10 DLC or Short Code in the future.
2. Ideal Deployment Options for Solution Packs: 10 Digit Long Code [10 DLC]. Option to preprovision for prospects during the contract/negotiation phase for faster deployment.
3. Platform Sales: Procure 10 Digit Long Code \& Shortcode in parallel. Start deployments with 10 DLC until the shortcode becomes available.
