



## **SAR Information**

The Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) is a unit of measurement for the amount of radio frequency (RF) energy absorbed by the body when using a mobile phone. National and international standards have been established to specify the maximum SAR that is applicable for RF devices such as mobile phones.

In late 2001, manufacturers within the MMF decided to begin the voluntary reporting of standardized SAR values on a global basis. The commitments that were, and remain, at the heart of the public reporting program, can be summarized as follows:

- To provide standardized SAR information for all models of mobile phone entering the market.
- To provide information in the user guide or product documentation as well as on company web sites.
- To provide information in a form that explains what SAR is and what the maximum value for the particular phone is when tested under laboratory conditions.

This initiative was made possible by the adoption of an internationally harmonized testing standard<sup>1</sup>.

Recently the issue of what the SAR value is when a device is used against the body rather than the head has arisen in the media.

While there is currently no international standard for testing in this position, a standard is under development by the International Electrotechnical Commission. In the meantime, manufacturers have adopted the best practice model of testing according to the specifications and procedures established by the United States Federal Communications Commission (FCC). This method utilizes a 'separation distance' that is provided to reflect the distance that a phone will be away from the body due to clothing or the use of a clip or holding case or the like. Manufacturers also test the product as it is intended to be used. Information on the separation distance and how the product is intended to be used is included in the user manual for the benefit of users.

It is important to note that all phones are designed and tested for compliance against the exposure standards and are regarded as being equally safe.

*April 2008*

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<sup>1</sup> IEC IS 62209-1: Human exposure to radio frequency fields from hand-held and body-mounted wireless communication devices - Human models, instrumentation, and procedures - Part 1: Procedure to determine the Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) for hand-held devices used in close proximity of the ear (frequency range of 300 MHz to 3 GHz).