



## The GSMA represents the interests of mobile operators worldwide



The GSMA was founded in

1987

12 Offices worldwide:



London



Dubai



Atlanta







Hong

Kong



Brasilia



**Buenos** 

Aires



Sao

Paulo



Nairobi





New Shanghai Delhi



The GSMA represents the interests of mobile operators worldwide



800 mobile operators



With
300+
companies
in the broader
mobile
ecosystem

Brussels Barcelona



200,000+
delegates from across the global annually

#### The GSMA

works to deliver a regulatory environment that creates value for consumers by engaging regularly with:



Ministries of Telecoms



Telecoms regulatory authorities



International & non-governmental organisations



24,000+

industry Experts
Exclusively for GSMA
Members, InfoCentre<sup>2</sup> is your
place to connect with a global
community of industry experts

gsma Working Groups provide frameworks and standards in commercial, operational and technical matters that help maintain and advance mobile industry ecosystems



Eight
billion+
Mobile
connections

worldwide



## **GSMA** provide the following IMEI services

#### **TAC Allocations**



Device type identity numbers (Whitelist)

#### **Device Database**



Catalogue of global devices by TAC code

### **Device Blacklisting**



Exchange stolen device IMEIs between operators for blocking

#### **Device Check**



Reported stolen phone look up service by IMEI



### **Device Crime and Fraud**



#### **Counterfeit Devices**

Manufacturer loss \$
Poor performance
Safety concerns
No warrantee





### **Illegal Import**

Government taxation loss \$ Un-level playing field for legitimate device providers





#### **Device Theft**

Consumer loss \$
Personal injury
Buying stolen goods
Insurance claims
Insurance fraud





## **Subscription Fraud**

Operator loss \$



## Counterfeiting requires an international strategic response











**Prevention at Source** 

Enforce bona-fide manufacturing practice

Boarder Protection
Enforce legal export
and import

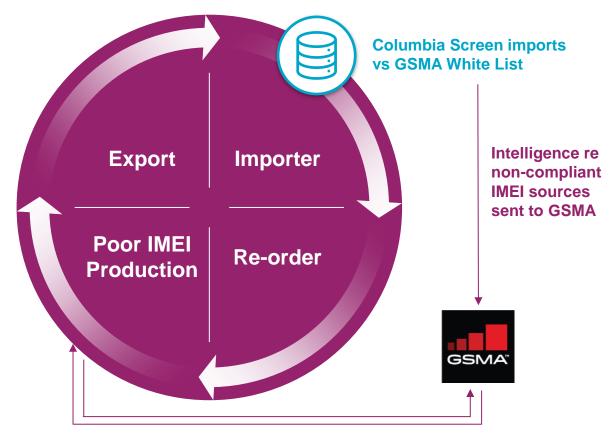
Local protection
Implement local
counter measures



### **IMEI Misuse Correction**

- The GSMA have strict legal terms and conditions governing IMEI production
- Illicit organisations seek to evade any identity system
- The GSMA is successful in remedy when provided information

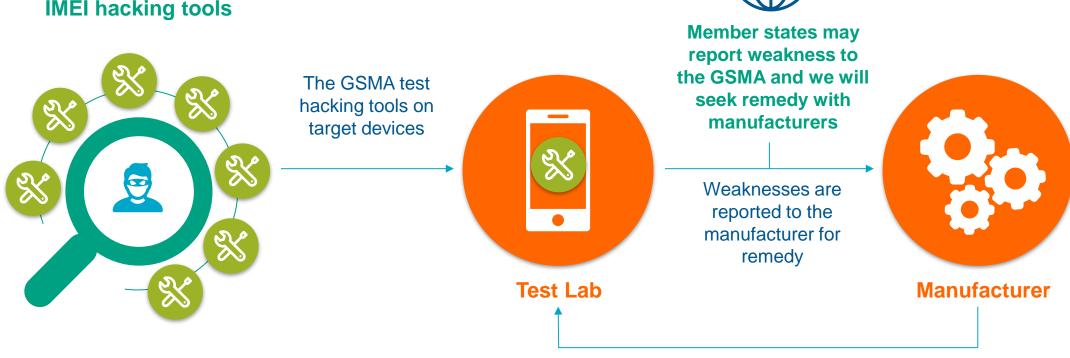
The GSMA requests countries provide information on IMEI misuse



Successful remedy with manufacturer

# IMEI Reprograming GSMA IMEI Security Testing

## The GSMA is now monitoring IMEI hacking tools

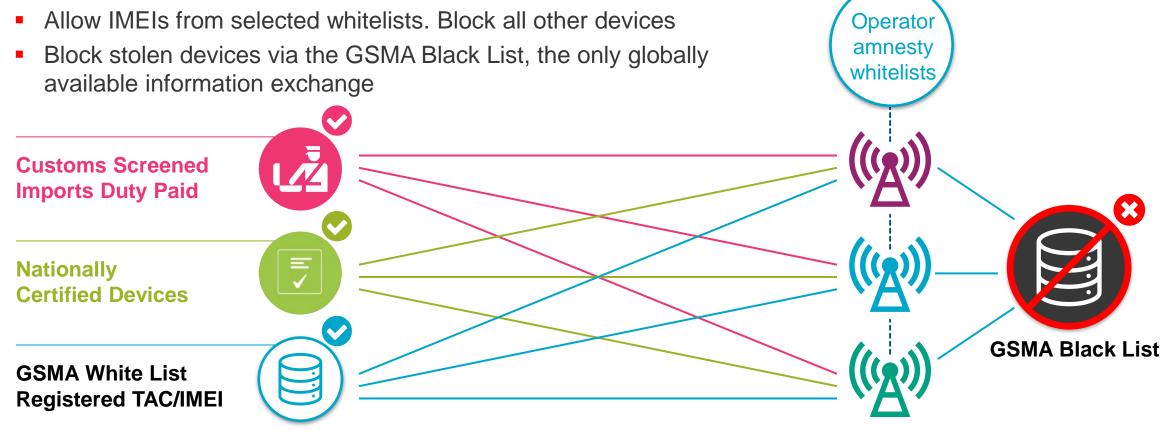


Improved devices re-tested to verify fix



## Local blocking options

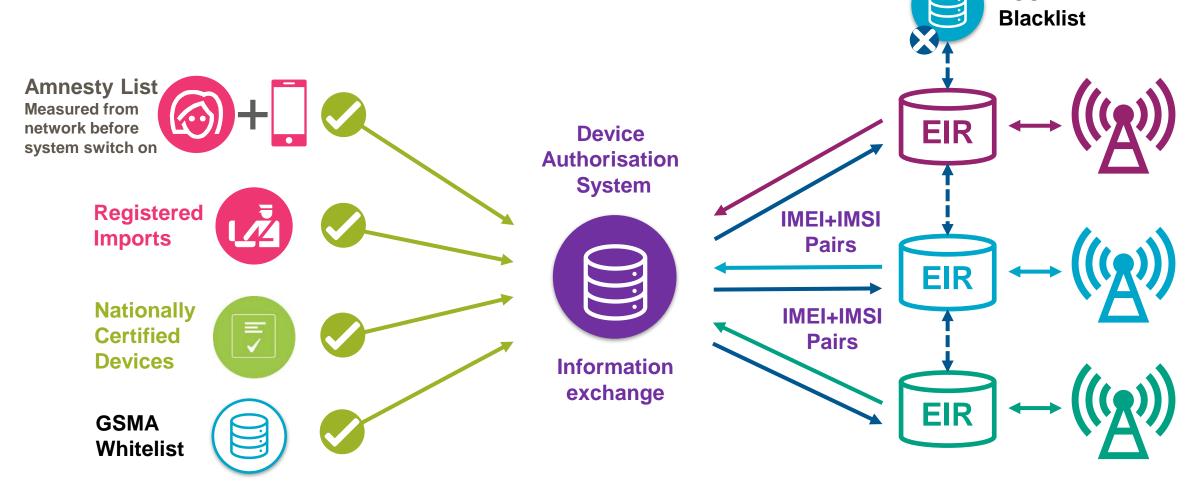
Each operator runs pre-regulation amnesty whitelist



Operator access screening



## Addressing counterfeits, smuggling, performance, safety and theft

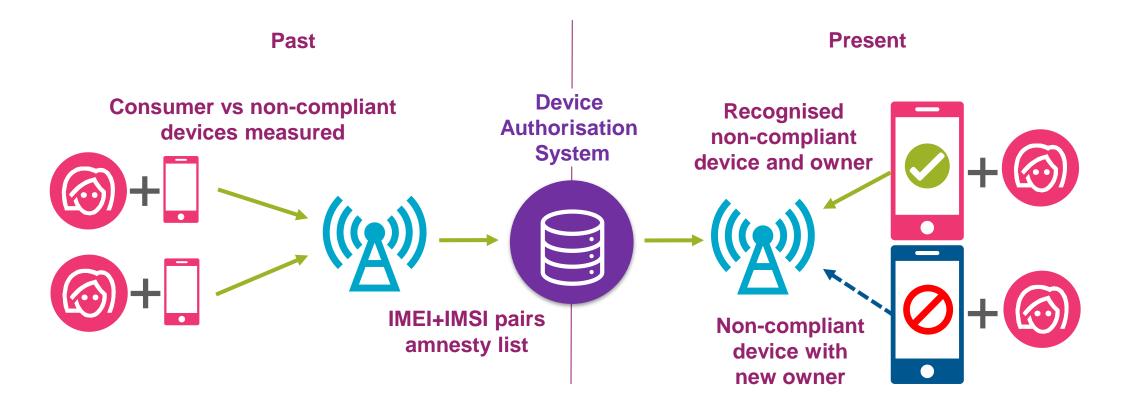


**GSMA** 

Conceptual system elements for conformant devices with stolen phones blocked



## Handling historical non-compliant devices - Amnesty list



Owners with historical non-compliant devices are allowed to maintain access Non-compliant devices cannot be used by new owners and eventually retire



#### The Role of Law Enforcement

- The law defines the crime / fraud and the basis for action
- It is vital to enforce anti-counterfeiting laws
- It is vital to enforce tax / duty evasion laws
- Introduce law and penalties for sales of devices where duty is unpaid
- Introduce law concerning IMEI
  - Outlaw IMEI reprogramming
  - Outlaw duplicate IMEI
  - Outlaw mal-formed or unauthorized IMEI
- Certification considerations could include testing devices against existing GCF global test standards
- Share Intelligence by participating GSMA Black List database and submit law enforcement black list



## Existing global best practise tells us to successfully halt the growth of counterfeit devices

- Prosecution of sources and removal of profit eliminates the problem
- Blocking at consumer end allows fraudsters to operate freely in different territories
- Create appropriate law underpinning enforcement
- Conduct public information campaigns
- Share information internationally between enforcement agencies to eliminate sources and distribution
- Use and participate existing global GSMA White List and Black List information tools
- Send detailed information of IMEI misuse and security issues to the GSMA
- Keep local measures simple, in-expensive, non-punitive to consumers; focus your efforts at the source, the early stage of the supply chain



## In conclusion, dealing with device crime requires national and international cooperation



