As per 22.919, Electronic Seal Numbers

Protection Against Unauthorized ESN and Firmware Upgrades

The Electronic Serial Number (ESN) bits in this phone are encoded and spread over various nonsequential memory locations in order to prevent detection and modification. Once the factory has programmed the ESN, the mobile firmware cannot overwrite or alter the ESN memory locations. Both the ESN host and operation systems components are permanently mounted to the mobile in order to prevent removal and misuse. Unauthorized attempts to alter the mobile's firmware will cause the unit to become inoperable.

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M2M Comm Development