



## 1. Contents

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1.	Contents .....	1
2.	Change History .....	2
3.	Overview.....	2
4.	Introduction.....	2
5.	Getting started .....	3
5.1	Step 1- register for a free Clickatell account .....	3
5.2	Step 2- integrate outbound (MT) messaging.....	3
5.3	Step 3 – apply for MT billing in the country that you require it (if available).....	3
5.4	Step 4 – integrate inbound (MO) messaging.....	3
5.5	Step 5 – integrate the billing api into your application or system .....	3
6.	Terminology .....	4
7.	Transaction process flow.....	5
8.	Commands .....	5
8.1	Send a billable message with a predefined service.....	5
8.2	Send a billable message with an unknown service .....	7
9.	Setting up services.....	7
9.1	Service ID.....	7
10.	Message examples .....	8
10.1	Example with pre-defined service.....	8
10.2	Example with unknown service .....	8
11.	Appendix A: MT billing error codes.....	9
12.	Appendix B: Message status .....	10
13.	Appendix C: Content types.....	11
14.	Contact details.....	12

## 2. Change History

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Approximately six (6) months of changes are reflected.

Version	Date	Section	Changes to Documentation
1.0	12/02/22007		First Version
1.1	13/04/2007	All	Revised document branding

## 3. Overview

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This document is intended for those users that wish to rate and bill subscribers who make use of their content services. It provides an interface that will allow uniform access to a variety of disparate billing platforms across multiple operators. This document must be read in conjunction with the Clickatell HTTP API specification document. This document must be read first.

Currently there is one method of gaining access to the MT Billing platform:

- HTTP / HTTPS - submitting either a POST or GET to the API server.

Additional methods will be made available in the future:

- XML – Posting to our gateway using XML over HTTP.
- COM Object – for Windows based development.
- SMPP – Customers requiring a high throughput binary socket connection.

## 4. Introduction

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The MT billing API is implemented as a new command called *sendbillmsg* which adds an extra set of parameters to the standard *sendmsg* command available in the HTTP API. It is recommended for security that HTTPS is used.

In order to reduce testing costs, Clickatell offers a test number range. Use the number 279991xxxxx where “xxxxx” represents any numeric string. Random billing statuses will be returned.

**Note: It is important that the ENTIRE document is read before contacting support. Parameters are case-sensitive. All examples shown use HTTP GET.**

## 5. Getting started

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### 5.1 Step 1- register for a free Clickatell account

In order to use the MT Billing API you need to have a Clickatell account and a registered connection with the Clickatell gateway. Please see the “Getting Started” section in the HTTP API specification document available or consult the Clickatell.com website.

### 5.2 Step 2- integrate outbound (MT) messaging

- Become familiar with the HTTP API technical specification.
- Test outbound messaging and make sure it is working correctly.

### 5.3 Step 3 – apply for MT billing in the country that you require it (if available)

- Download the “Getting Started Guide” for Premium rate messaging in the country you wish to offer Premium services.
- Follow the steps there in.

### 5.4 Step 4 – integrate inbound (MO) messaging

- Become familiar with the Two-Way Technical Guide for the country in which you are receiving messages.
- Test inbound messaging and make sure it is working correctly.

### 5.5 Step 5 – integrate the billing api into your application or system

- Become familiar with this document.
- Integrate the Clickatell billing API into your system.

## 6. Terminology

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- **Mobile originated (MO):** A message sent (originating) from a mobile handset to an application via Clickatell.
- **Mobile terminated (MT):** A message sent from an application to (terminating on) a mobile handset via Clickatell.
- **Premium rated message (MO):** A mobile user is charged a premium for the message that they send to a particular number.
- **Premium rated message (MT):** A mobile user is charged a premium for a message that they receive from a particular number.
- **Revenue share:** This refers to the portion of the increased cost associated with a premium rated message, which is passed on to the content provider.
- **Content provider:** This is the Clickatell customer who is offering one or more services that are usually premium rated SMS system.
- **Customer:** A registered Clickatell customer utilising the Clickatell API for message delivery and receipt.
- **Sender ID:** The “from” address that appears on the user’s handset. Also known as the originating number, MSISDN or originator ID.
- **Destination address:** This is the number to which the mobile user sent the message.
- **Source address:** The number of the handset to which the message must be delivered.
- **Shortcode:** A short number which is common across all the operators for a specific region.
- **Subscriber:** The handset that will be paying for the premium rate MT service.
- **Upstream gateway:** A network operator, third party or our own short message service centre (SMSC)

## 7. Transaction process flow

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The following represent the process flow for sending a billable message:

- 1) Send a SMS to the subscriber requesting permission to bill them. This should be sent using a standard rated number, and contain a description of the service, the amount to be billed and contact information of the content provider. If it is recurring MT billing then the message should contain information on how to unsubscribe by means of a stop command (note we will be implementing an automatic stop command in the near future).
- 2) An acceptance message is received from the subscriber.
- 3) If an acceptance message is received then the *sendbillmsg* command can be called. This will contain the content (text message, ringtone, wap push etc), service details, amount etc.
- 4) The billing engine will attempt to bill the subscriber. Should they be successful the content will be delivered. If unsuccessful the billable message will fail and you will be notified either by push (using the callback url) or by the pull (using the query message command).
- 5) If the billable message fails you may resubmit it up to four times after which it will fail.

## 8. Commands

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Before reading this section make sure you have read the “Basic Command” section of the HTTP API and have a thorough understanding of how to send a message and obtain subsequent message status. It is strongly suggested that you have tested sending and receiving messages through Clickatell before integrating the Clickatell Billing API.

### 8.1 Send a billable message with a predefined service

In order to send a billable message you should have obtained prior authorisation from Clickatell and the relevant authorities for the services you are offering. Information about the services is provided by you and a unique Service ID is allocated for each service. This service id is required when sending a billable message. See the Service ID (**stdServiceID**) parameter for more detail.

To facilitate billing and sending a SMS with a single command, we have included the ability to post **api\_id**, **user** and **password** variables in the *sendbillmsg* command. This is only required if you do not authenticate yourself using the authentication command (*auth*). Using a Session ID is preferred to authenticating each time.

Each message returns a unique identifier in the form of an API Message ID. This can be used to track and monitor any given message. The API Message ID (**apiMsgid**) is returned after each post.

The following parameters are unique to the *sendbillmsg* command. All parameters of the *sendmsg* command are also applicable to the *sendbillmsg* command.

Name	Parameter Name	Short Description	Default Value	Restricted Values
Service ID	stdServiceID	The service id associated with the service you are running. A service is setup under products.		
Billing amount	tarriffClass	This is the amount that you wish to bill the user in <b>cents</b> .		Only those stipulated for a specific country.
Request Message ID	reqMsgID	This is message id of the message you sent to the handset requesting that you bill them. This is not always required.	N/A	Must be either a client message ID (cliMsgID) or 32 char API message ID (apiMsgID).
Acceptance Message ID	acptMsgID	The is the MO message ID that represents the acceptance of the billable amount	N/A	Must be a 32 char MO message ID (moMsgID).
Content Type ID	contentTypeID	Each service must have a certain content type. See appendix C.	ContentTypeID linked to the service (Only if one content type linked to a service).	Predefined list of content types. Only required if multiple content types are linked to a service. See appendix C.
Content Description	contentDesc	A description of the content submitted.		

Note: As indicated above you request authorisation from the subscriber to bill them and obtain an acceptance message in return before sending a billable message. Without these message ID's your billable message may fail (depending on operator). The request and acceptance messages must use a non-premium rated number so that the subscriber is not billed for these messages above their standard rate. Using the same message ID's for a different billable message will cause the message to fail.

Command:

[http://api.clickatell.com/http/sendbillmsg?session\\_id=xxx&to=27721234567&from=31647&text=xxxxxxx&stdServiceID=356&billAmount=EUR500&reqMsgID=eca188850cc2f459509f5b8484df61e9&acptMsgID=05dd9ad086b18be8a14b62ab8d11888a&contentTypeID=017&contentDesc="Madonna:Like a prayer"](http://api.clickatell.com/http/sendbillmsg?session_id=xxx&to=27721234567&from=31647&text=xxxxxxx&stdServiceID=356&billAmount=EUR500&reqMsgID=eca188850cc2f459509f5b8484df61e9&acptMsgID=05dd9ad086b18be8a14b62ab8d11888a&contentTypeID=017&contentDesc=)

Response Single Message:

ID: apimsgid

Or

Response Single Message:

ERR: Error number

## 8.2 Send a billable message with an unknown service

In some instances you will be able to send a billable message without obtaining prior authorisation for your service. In this case you will have to provide information about your service when calling the *sendbillmsg* command.

The following additional parameters are then required. Note that the Service ID will no longer be required.

Name	Parameter Name	Short Description	Default Value	Restricted Values
Service Name	serviceName	This is the name of your service.		Max 50 characters.
Service Description	serviceDesc	This is a brief description including the content type of your service.		Max 160 characters, only alpha-numeric.
Content Type ID	contentTypeID	Each service must have a certain content type. See appendix C.		Predefined list of content types. See appendix C.
Content Description	contentDesc	A description of the content submitted.		Max 160 characters, only alpha-numeric.

Command:

[http://api.clickatell.com/http/sendbillmsg?session\\_id=xxx&to=27721234567&from=37647&text=xxxxxxx  
xxxxxx&billAmount=EUR500&reqMsgID=9830023809983&acctMsgID=79873270293324&serviceName=  
=joes%20Horoscopes&serviceDesc=SMS%20text%20of%20daily%20Horoscope&contentTypeID=9](http://api.clickatell.com/http/sendbillmsg?session_id=xxx&to=27721234567&from=37647&text=xxxxxxx&xxxxxx&billAmount=EUR500&reqMsgID=9830023809983&acctMsgID=79873270293324&serviceName=joes%20Horoscopes&serviceDesc=SMS%20text%20of%20daily%20Horoscope&contentTypeID=9)

Response Single Message:

ID: apimsgid

Or

Response Single Message:

ERR: Error number

## 9. Setting up services

Each service requires a unique service ID which is allocated to it by Clickatell. Below lists the parameters with a detailed explanation of each:

### 9.1 Service ID

In order to send a billable message it must be linked to a service. Each service is linked to one or more Shortcodes and the information for each service is supplied on application for premium rate billing.

Note: Additional services required prior approval before allocation of a unique Service ID. Information about each service can be modified on request only.

Information	Description.
Service Name	The name of the service.
Short Service Description	A brief description of the service of a max of 160 characters.
Opt out Message	A message sent to user from time to time on how to opt out.
Content Types	The content type of the Service as described by Clickatell. One or more content types may be linked to a service. See appendix C.

### 9.1.1 Callback URL (callback)

Final or intermediary statuses are passed back by the API depending on the **callback** value set in the original post. This is done by means of an HTTP GET. The callback URL is set in the preferences section of the particular API product within your client account, after logging in online. The URL must begin with either *http://* (un-secure) or *https://* (secure).

More information on the callback URL is available in the HTTP documentation. For the billing API additional message statuses are made available. See appendix B.

## 10. Message examples

Here are some example URLs that demonstrate how to use the API. All values in these examples should be replaced by your own values.

### 10.1 Example with pre-defined service

Note: Prior authorisation is required for each service. Each service is allocated a unique service id by Clickatell.

[http://api.clickatell.com/http/sendbillmsg?session\\_id=xxx&to=27721234567&from=37647&text=xxxxxxxx&stdServiceID=356&billAmount=EUR500&reqMsgID=9830023809983&acptMsgID=79873270293324](http://api.clickatell.com/http/sendbillmsg?session_id=xxx&to=27721234567&from=37647&text=xxxxxxxx&stdServiceID=356&billAmount=EUR500&reqMsgID=9830023809983&acptMsgID=79873270293324)

### 10.2 Example with unknown service

Note: Only available for certain countries where services do not require prior authorisation.

[http://api.clickatell.com/http/sendbillmsg?session\\_id=xxx&to=27721234567&from=37647&text=xxxxxxxxxxxx&billAmount=EUR500&reqMsgID=9830023809983&acptMsgID=79873270293324&serviceName=joes%20Horoscopes&serviceDesc=SMS%20text%20of%20daily%20Horoscope&contentTypeID=9](http://api.clickatell.com/http/sendbillmsg?session_id=xxx&to=27721234567&from=37647&text=xxxxxxxxxxxx&billAmount=EUR500&reqMsgID=9830023809983&acptMsgID=79873270293324&serviceName=joes%20Horoscopes&serviceDesc=SMS%20text%20of%20daily%20Horoscope&contentTypeID=9)

## 11. Appendix A: MT billing error codes

The following list of error messages are generated by our gateway specifically for MT Billing. There will be no message charge if these errors are generated when sending a message. These error codes are an extension of the standard error codes found in the HTTP API specification document.

Number	Description	Detail
651	Invalid Currency Specified	Invalid currency defined.
652	Invalid Amount Specified	The amount does not match the defined amount as defined by the price bands or max & min amounts.
653	Invalid acptMsgID ID Specified	The acceptance message ID is incorrect or has already been used when billing the user.
654	Invalid reqMsgID ID Specified	The request message ID is invalid or has already been used.
655	Invalid Destination Address for reqMsgID	Invalid destination address for the required message id is specified
656	Invalid Content Type ID Specified	
657	Invalid Service ID Specified	The service ID has either not been submitted or the Service ID is not correct for the account being used or the service parameters have not been filled in.
658	Insufficient funds	The subscriber has insufficient funds.
659	Invalid price	The price specified is invalid for the country, or for the service.
660	Invalid service	Invalid service.
661	Subscriber blocked	The subscriber has been blocked from receiving content either by Clickatell or by the network operator.
662	Max retries exceeded	The maximum times you are allowed to attempt to bill the user has been exceeded.
	Max daily limit for user reached	The subscriber's maximum daily limit for premium rated content has been reached.
663	Notification messages invalid	Delivery of a billable message is subject to a notification and/or confirmation message and you have not supplied these message ids.
664	Subscriber unknown	The subscriber does not exist on the network.
665	Undefined error	

## 12. Appendix B: Message status

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The following list of message statuses is generated by our gateway specifically for MT Billing. These message statuses are an extension of the standard message status's found in the HTTP API specification document.

Number	Description	Detail
0	Authorisation pending	Authorisation still pending. You may not resubmit until a final status is achieved.
1	Transaction successful	
2	Transaction failed	The transaction failed. You may re-attempt depending on the rules governing PR-MT for the operator you are re-submitting to.

### 13. Appendix C: Content types

Content Type	Content Type Code
Monophonic once off	001
Polyphonic once off	002
True Tones once off	003
Full Track (Full Music track) once off	004
Streaming Track once off	005
Logos once off	006
Java Games once off	007
SMS (standard) once off	008
SMS (long text) once off	009
MMS once off	010
Wallpaper once off	011
Video once off	012
Streaming video once off	013
WAP content access once off	014
Content Bundle once off	015
Monophonic subscription	016
Polyphonic subscription	017
True Tones subscription	018
Full Track (Full Music track) subscription	019
Streaming Track subscription	020
Logos subscription	021
Java Games subscription	022
SMS (standard) subscription	023
Editorial content (SMS long text) subscription	024
MMS subscription	025
Wallpapers subscription	026
Video subscription	027
Streaming video subscription	028
WAP content subscription	029
Content Bundle subscription	030
CallerTunez	033

## 14. Contact details

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Website: [www.clickatell.com](http://www.clickatell.com)  
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Support: [support@clickatell.com](mailto:support@clickatell.com)  
Sales: [sales@clickatell.com](mailto:sales@clickatell.com)

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