The Donation Identification Number, which is commonly referred to as the DIN, is the ISBT 128 term used to identify the specific unit number assigned to a particular collection or recovery event.

The DIN is structured in a way that allows each collection or recovery to be globally unique. This prevents hospitals from receiving duplicate unit numbers, originating from multiple locations. The uniqueness of the DIN improves patient safety because each unit can be traced back to the collection center and donor.

The DIN is 13 characters long and is composed of three parts:
1) The Facility Identification Number (FIN) – this is a 5 character identification number assigned to a facility when it is registered with ICCBBA. The center assigning the DIN will incorporate their particular FIN into this section.
2) The year – this is a 2 digit number indicating the year in which the DIN was assigned (+/- 1 month).
3) The sequence number – this is a 6 digit sequence number controlled and maintained by the center assigning the DIN.

Without all three parts, the DIN will not be globally unique.

Example of a DIN:

G1517 15 123456

1) G1517: is the FIN of the center that assigned the DIN. This particular FIN identifies Welsh Blood Services.
2) 15: this indicates that the DIN was assigned in 2015 (+/- 1 month).
3) 123456: this is the particular sequence number given to the donation.

The DIN should not be shortened or referred to as anything other than all of the 13 characters combined.