Electronic Communications Committee (ECC)
within the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT)

REVISED ERC/RECOMMENDATION 01-07 (Bonn 1995, Helsinki 2000, Mainz 2004)

HARMONISED REGIME FOR EXEMPTION FROM INDIVIDUAL LICENSING FOR THE USE OF RADIO SPECTRUM

Recommendation adopted by the Working Group "Regulatory Affairs" (WGRA)

INTRODUCTION

In some instancies licensing is an appropriate tool for administrations to regulate the efficient use of the radio spectrum. However administrations and especially users will benefit from a more deregulated system of authorising the use of radio spectrum.

There is a general agreement that when the efficient use of the radio spectrum is not at risk and as long as harmful interference is unlikely, the use of radio frequencies can be exempted from a licence.

In general the CEPT administrations apply similar systems of licensing and exemption from individual licensing. However, different criteria are used to decide whether radio frequencies should be licensed or exempted from an individual licence.

The effective management and use of radio spectrum and the provision of Pan European wide services will be greatly assisted when all CEPT administrations would exempt the same frequency-bands from licensing and apply -to achieve that- the same criteria.

This Recommendation lists harmonised criteria for the administrations to decide whether an exemption of individual licensing should be applied.

When a frequency-band is subject to an exemption from individual licensing, anyone can use the radio spectrum without any prior permission from the Administration.

"The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations,

considering

- a) that within the CEPT administrations there is a growing awareness of a need for harmonisation of licensing regimes in order to facilitate the efficient management of radio spectrum as well as the free circulation and use of radio equipment.
- b) that it therefore would be desirable for CEPT administrations to have a common regulatory approach in order to facilitate the use of radio spectrum;
- that national licensing regimes should be as simple as possible, in order to minimise the burden upon the administrations and users of the radio spectrum;
- that administrations should work towards the exemption of relevant frequency-bands from individual licensing based on harmonised criteria;

recommends

- 1. that CEPT administrations implement a regime for exemption from individual licensing for the use of frequency-bands which meet the following criteria:
 - a) the radio equipment needed for the use of the radio frequencies fulfils the technical requirements of the CEPT Administration in question;
 - b) individual frequency assignment is not needed;
 - there is a high degree of certainty that the use of the frequency-band in question will not change for a long period;
 - d) there is no need to establish individual provisions for each user;
 - e) there is no need for the Administration to register individual users;
 - f) there is little risk of harmful interference being caused."

Note:

Please check the Office web site (http://:www.ero.dk) for the up to date position on the implementation of this and other ERC/ECC recommendations.