



Spectrum Proceedings and Part 15 Waivers



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Note: The views expressed in this presentation are those of the author and may not necessarily represent the views of the Federal Communications Commission



Commission Actions

● Relevant Actions

- Modernizing and Expanding Access to the 70/80/90 GHz Bands
- Expanding Opportunities for Wireless Microphone Use
- Cybersecurity Labeling Program for Smart Products
- Single Network Future: Supplemental Coverage from Space

● Actions of Interest

- Mitigating Orbital Debris to Support Space Innovation
- Space Innovation: Facilitating Capabilities for In-Space Servicing, Assembly, and Manufacturing



Modernizing and Expanding Access to the 70/80/90 GHz Bands

- Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
 - Adopted January 25 (WT Docket No. 20-133)
 - Federal Register Publication Pending
 - <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-updates-rules-708090-ghz-bands-0>
- Report and Order:
 - Point-to-point links to endpoints in motion in the 70 GHz and 80 GHz bands
 - Facilitate use of 70 GHz and 80 GHz bands for backhaul
 - Improve accuracy of link registration database for 70/80/90 GHz bands
- Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:
 - Potential inclusion of FSS earth stations in the third-party database registration regime in the 70 GHz and 80 GHz bands



Expanding Opportunities for Wireless Microphone Use

● Report and Order

- Adopted February 15, 2024 (ET Docket No. 21-115)
- **Federal Register Publication Pending**
- <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-expands-opportunities-wireless-microphone-users-0>

● What it Does:

- Revise part 74 rules for low-power auxiliary station (LPAS) devices
- Allow licensed operation of wireless multi-channel audio system (WMAS) wireless microphones:
 - Broadcast television bands
 - 600 MHz duplex gap
 - Portions of the 900 MHz band; the 1435-1525 MHz band; portions of the 7 GHz band
- Allow WMAS operation under part 15 in TV bands and in 600 MHz duplex gap
- Part 74 and Part 15 technical updates to wireless microphone rules
 - End of post-incentive auction transition
 - Reference updated ETSI wireless microphone standard



Cybersecurity Labeling Program for Internet of Things (IoT) Products

- Report and Order and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
 - Adopted March 14, 2024 (ET Docket No. 21-115)
 - Federal Register Publication Pending
 - <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-adopts-rules-iot-cybersecurity-labeling-program>
- Report and Order:
 - Establishes **voluntary** IoT cybersecurity labeling program based on NIST criteria
 - FCC Label to include:
 - U.S. Cyber Trust Mark and QR code linking to product registry
 - Cybersecurity Labeling Administrators
 - Testing by accredited labs recognized by Lead Administrator
- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:
 - Additional potential disclosure requirements
 - Countries that present national security concerns



Single Network Future: Supplemental Coverage from Space

- Report and Order and Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
 - Adopted March 14, 2024 (GN Docket No. 23-65; IB Docket No. 22-271)
 - **Federal Register Publication Pending**
 - <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-advances-supplemental-coverage-space-framework-0>
- Report and Order:
 - Modifies Allocation Table to authorize bi-directional, secondary mobile-satellite service operations
 - Bands with no primary, non-flexible-use legacy incumbents
 - Terrestrial licensees lease spectrum rights to satellite operator with frequencies on part 25 license
 - New or modified equipment authorization for terrestrial devices
 - Limited waiver of equipment authorization rules
- Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:
 - Develop record on 911 service for SCS connections
 - Procedures related to protection of radio astronomy



Mitigating Orbital Debris to Support Space Innovation

- Order on Reconsideration
 - Adopted January 25, 2024 (IB Docket No. 18-313)
 - Federal Register Publication 89 FR 13276 (February 22, 2024)
 - <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-adopts-guidance-orbital-debris-mitigation-rules-0>
- What it Clarifies:
 - Alignment of Commission rules with U.S. Government Orbital Debris Mitigation Standard Practices and Space Policy Directive-3
 - Disclosure requirements regarding:
 - Satellite maneuverability
 - Use of “free-flying” deployment devices
 - Applicability of large satellite system disposal reliability goal
 - Requirements for assessing and limiting release of persistent liquids in space
 - Rules on non-U.S.-licensed space station compliance with orbital debris mitigation rules
 - Decision not to adopt a maximum orbital variance for NGSO systems or required separation between orbital locations



Space Innovation

Facilitating Capabilities for In-Space Servicing, Assembly, and Manufacturing

- Notice of Proposed Rulemaking
 - Adopted February 15, 2024 (IB Docket Nos. 22-271; 22-272)
 - Federal Register Publication Pending
 - <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-proposes-space-servicing-assembly-manufacturing-licensing-0>
- What it Seeks to Do:
 - Develop record on ISAM activities that could impact Commission licensing and rules
 - Get information on potential to facilitate progress and reduce barriers for ISAM missions
 - Solicit comment on possible spectrum needs for ISAM missions
 - Develop record on potential for orbital debris remediation and removal functions that might improve orbital debris environment
 - Solicit comment on unique regulatory issues presented by ISAM activities beyond Earth's orbit



OET Actions

- OET Delegated Authority Actions
 - 6 GHz Band Automated Frequency Coordination (AFC) Systems for Commercial Operations
- Part 15 Waivers
 - BlueWind Medical (§ 15.223(a))
 - Continental (§ 15.231(e))
 - GPR Modification (Ultra-Wideband Devices)



Part 15 Waivers

- BlueWind Medical

- <https://www.fcc.gov/document/oet-grants-bluewind-medical-ltd-request-waiver>
- Waives section 15.223(a) - Operations in the 1.705-10 MHz band

- Continental – Tire Pressure Monitoring System

- <https://www.fcc.gov/document/continentals-request-waiver-part-15-rules-granted>
- Waives section 15.231(e) – Periodic timing and duration requirements

- GPR Modification (Ultra-Wideband Devices)

- <https://www.fcc.gov/document/modification-november-2-2023-gpr-inc-order-waiver>
- Removes condition 6 from November 2, 2023, Waiver Order:
 - The GPR device must cease operation when the vehicle comes to a stop



Questions?



6 GHz Band Automated Frequency Coordination Systems for Commercial Operation

- Approval of Seven 6 GHz Band AFC Systems
 - Released February 23, 2024 (ET Docket No. 21-352)
 - <https://www.fcc.gov/document/fcc-approves-wi-fi-management-systems-operate-6-ghz-band>
- Approves Applications of:
 - Qualcomm
 - Federated Wireless
 - Sony
 - Comsearch
 - Wi-Fi Alliance
 - Wireless Broadband Alliance
 - Broadcom
- Seeks Comment on Application of:
 - C3Spectra