

Regulation 15 on collective frequencies for licence-exempt radio transmitters and on their use

Background and the legal basis of the regulation

Regulation 15 exempts radio transmitters from licensing and lays down the terms of use of licence-exempt radio transmitters.

This Regulation is issued under the Act on Electronic Communications Services (917/2014).

Regulation 15 is updated annually with regard to changes to the use of frequencies, licence exemptions for new equipment groups, and international standards and recommendations on the use of frequencies (for example, Commission spectrum decisions).

Other related regulations and statutes

Traficom Regulation 4 (Radio Frequency Regulation) also applies to the use of radio transmitter frequencies. Regulations 4 and 15 are updated simultaneously.

Objective of the Regulation

Exempting radio transmitters from licensing makes the adoption of radio equipment easier for enterprises and consumers. Radio equipment which do not require user-specific frequency planning or radio licence in order to prevent harmful interference are usually exempted from licensing.

Drafting process

The stakeholder consultation took place during September and October 2020 via Lausuntopalvelu.fi. Traficom will inform of the request for comments on its website and via e-mail to stakeholders.

Comments received through consultation

Traficom received an opinion to the Regulation from Telia Finland Oyj. The opinion regards the use of terminal equipment on board airborne aircraft on the 24,250 - 27,500 GHz band for public authorities' duties. Telia Finland Oyj does not support the use of terminal equipment on board airborne aircraft in this frequency band for public authorities' duties. The opinion also concerned the way of indicating this frequency band in the Regulation.

In its reply to Telia Finland Oyj, Traficom stated that the Regulation will be updated so that it is no longer allowed to use mobile terminal equipment on board airborne aircraft on the 24,250 - 27,500 GHz band. As regards the way to indicate the frequency band, Traficom stated that the frequency band is divided into two parts so that the national and local frequency bands for mobile networks are given separately.

Changes and impact assessment

The regulation is written on the new Traficom template and it has a new structure.

This version of the Regulation will implement frequency bands specified in the Recommendation ERC/REC 70-03 of the Electronic Communications Committee (ECC) relating to the use of Short Range Devices in Finland. Frequency bands 870-874.4 MHz and 915-919.4 MHz will be available for Short Range Data Network devices, which will be exempted from licensing. The new frequency bands and licence exemptions improve new opportunities to use radio equipment for the benefit of industry and consumers.

Inductive equipment on the frequency band 100 Hz-30 MHz were added to the Regulation in accordance with the European recommendation ERC/REC 70-03. The use of inductive equipment

complying with the requirements of the recommendation ERC/REC 70-03 was not restricted before, either.

Terminals for digital mobile networks and terrestrial systems capable of providing electronic communications services on the frequency bands 2300-2320 MHz and 24,250-25,100 GHz will be exempted from licensing.

Terminal equipment for fixed wireless access networks on the frequency bands 10.500-10.590 GHz and 10.150-10.240 GHz are removed from the Regulation. These systems have no users.

Schedule/entry into force

The updated Regulations enters into force on 5 February 2021.