

RADIO FREQUENCY REGULATION 4

Background and legal basis of the regulation

The Regulation concerns the use of radio frequencies. Its objective is to guarantee a fair availability of radio frequencies and efficient, appropriate and sufficiently interference-free use of frequencies.

The Regulation is issued under section 96, sub-section 1 and section 97, sub-section 2 of the Act on Electronic Communications Services (917/2014).

The Radio Frequency Regulation concerns the radio frequency spectrum 100 Hz – 400 GHz. The Frequency Allocation Table annexed to the Regulation contains provisions on the allocation of different radio frequencies, frequency bands and sub-bands for different purposes of use. The Table also contains the requirements for transmitting and receiving frequencies and the used channel spacing. The Table also contains provisions on radio transmitters' bandwidth of transmission, duplex separation, transmitted powers and other corresponding radio characteristics. The Frequency Allocation Table annexed to the Regulation also applies to electrical equipment that are used for scientific, industrial, medical or other similar purposes and designated to generate radio frequency energy (ISM equipment).

The Frequency Allocation Table also takes into consideration the Radio Regulations of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), which have been implemented in Finland by Decree 12/2000.

The Regulation requires regular updates, which are based on international frequency rules and recommendations as well as currently planned changes to the utilisation of frequency bands.

Other related regulations and statutes

The use of radio transmitter frequencies is also subject to the provisions of the Finnish Transport and Communications Agency's Regulation 15 on collective frequencies for licence-exempt radio transmitters and their use. Regulations 4 and 15 are updated simultaneously.

Objectives of the Regulation

The objective of the Radio Frequency Regulation and the radio frequency utilisation plan is to safeguard the efficient use of the radio frequency spectrum. The radio frequency utilisation plan is published with the aim of supplying equipment manufacturers and users with information on the use of radio frequencies and on the protection against interference provided for radio networks by means of frequency planning. In addition to equipment design applications, manufacturers need this

information in order to fulfil their obligations under Article 10 of Directive 2014/53/EU regarding the information to be included in user instruction manuals.

Drafting process

Stakeholder consultations will take place during autumn 2024 via Lausuntopalvelu.fi. Information on the request for comments will be provided on the Agency's website and via email to stakeholders.

After the national consultation process, the Ministry of Economic Affairs and Employment will notify the European Commission of the Regulation in autumn 2024 (3 months) in accordance with Directive (EU) 2015/1535.

Comments received through consultation

The comments received during stakeholder consultation are available (in Finnish) on the website Lausuntopalvelu.fi.

Changes and impact assessment

The amendments being now made to the Regulation update conditions for the use of frequencies and implement European frequency decisions.

The new Regulation, 4 AF/2025M, includes, for example, the following amendments:

Fixed services

Radio link antenna class requirements have been harmonised, allowing better use of antennas available on the market for all frequency bands.

Mobile service

The transmitter power and bandwidth are no longer limited in the sub-bands used for business voice communications (PMR/DMR/dPMR).

Modified fixed station transmission and radiation power data in the 'Control, alarm, telemetry, telecommand, data transmission' sub-bands.

Maritime mobile

The Appendix 4 'Maritime HF Channel Tables' of the Frequency Allocation Table contains updated frequency and usage information for the HF frequency band channels of vessels and coast radio stations.

Satellite service

Opened in the frequency band 8500–10000 MHz the sub-bands 9200–9300 MHz and 9900–10000 MHz for the primary earth exploration satellite service.

Additionally, added to the frequency band 8500–10000 MHz a new secondary earth exploration satellite service and opened the sub-band 9800–9900 MHz.

Added to the frequency band 10.000–10.450 GHz a new primary earth exploration satellite service and opened the sub-band 10.000–10.400 GHz.

Added a note to all the above-mentioned sub-bands referring to the provisions (footnotes) of the ITU Radio Regulations in that sub-band.

Amateur radio

Added 25 kHz wide radio repeater station channels to the sub-band 433.075–433.150 MHz / 438.075–438.150 MHz.

Short Range Devices

Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2024/1467 on ultra-wideband (UWB) technology and Commission Implementing Decision (EU) 2025/105 on short range devices (SRD) are hereby implemented.

Military use

Added a note to the sub-band 1350–1375 MHz: 'Including military use in Inari area.'

All amendments are listed in a separate annex to the Radio Frequency Regulation.

Entry into force

The amended Regulation enters into force in 31 March 2025.