



通訊事務管理局
COMMUNICATIONS
AUTHORITY

Withdrawal

of Licensing Exemptions for PHS Radiocommunications Apparatus





MHz Band

1895-1906.1

The licensing exemptions for PHS radiocommunications apparatus operating in the 1895-1906.1 MHz band will be withdrawn in phases from 10 May 2013.

PHS is a short and medium-range mobile radio-communications technology developed in Japan and introduced into Hong Kong in 1997, mainly for use as home cordless telephones. However, PHS apparatus has not been popularly received in Hong Kong and in fact such products are no longer available in the local market. To vacate the valuable radio spectrum for other telecommunications services, the Government has decided to withdraw the licensing exemptions for PHS radiocommunications apparatus.

The withdrawal of licensing exemptions for PHS radio-communications apparatus will not affect cordless telephones of other technical standards. For example, DECT telephones (which are developed in Europe and operate in the 1880-1900 MHz band) as well as cordless telephones operating in the 2.4 GHz or 5 GHz bands may still be used in Hong Kong.

Note: PHS stands for the “Personal Handy Phone System” technology developed in Japan.



After the withdrawal of licensing exemptions for PHS radiocommunications apparatus, members of the public and traders engaged in the sale and marketing of telecommunications apparatus should pay attention to the following:

Import or Sale of PHS Radiocommunications Apparatus

- From 10 May 2013 onwards, no person shall carry PHS radiocommunications apparatus into Hong Kong or sell such apparatus in the local market.
- Illegal import of PHS radiocommunications apparatus is an offence under the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap.106) and any person guilty of it shall be liable to a fine of HK\$25,000 and to imprisonment for 12 months.
- Illegal sale of PHS radiocommunications apparatus is an offence under the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106) and any person guilty of it shall be liable to a fine of HK\$50,000 and to imprisonment for 2 years.

Use of PHS Radiocommunications Apparatus

- For PHS radiocommunications apparatus which are currently in use locally, a three-year grace period, which ends on 9 May 2016, applies.
- After the grace period, no person shall possess or use PHS radiocommunications apparatus. Illegal possession or use of such apparatus is an offence under the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106) and any person guilty of it shall be liable to a fine of HK\$50,000 and to imprisonment for 2 years.

Enquiry

Users who wish to get relevant information or find out whether their cordless telephone or other radiocommunications apparatus is a PHS one may visit the following webpage of the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA):



<http://www.ofca.gov.hk/phs>

For any enquiry, please call OFCA's hotline **2961 6333**.