

RADIO SPECTRUM AND TECHNICAL STANDARDS
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Minutes of the Eighteenth Meeting
held at 2:30 p.m., Wednesday, 29 August 2018
in Conference Room 2020, Wu Chung House, Wan Chai

Present

Mr C K Cheng	Chairman (OFCA staff)
Mr Desmond Chan	Representative of WTT HK Limited
Mr Henry Chan	Representative of Hutchison Telephone Company Limited /Genius Brand Limited
Mr Alex Cheng	Representative of China Mobile Hong Kong Company Limited
Mr K L Cheung	Representative of licensees not providing domestic retail fixed services as a group
Mr Carlson Chu	Representative of PCCW Media Limited / HK Television Entertainment Limited
Mr H M Ho	Ad Personam
Mr H C Hung	Representative of licensees not providing domestic retail fixed services as a group
Mr S H Hung	Representative of amateur radio societies as a group
Mr Dickson Ip	Representative of external FTNS/ fixed carrier licensees/ unified carrier (external fixed services) licensees as a group
Mr Kan Kan	Representative of the Hong Kong Police Force
Mr Allan Kwan	Representative of PCCW Media Limited / HK Television Entertainment Limited
Ir Wilson Kwok	Representative of the Hong Kong Institution of Engineers
Mr Paul Lam	Representative of Hong Kong Commercial Broadcasting Company Limited
Mr Dennis Lau	Representative of SmarTone Communications Limited / SmarTone Mobile Communications Limited
Mr K H Lau	Representative of Civil Aviation Department
Mr Michael Lee	Representative of EU ICT Council in Hong Kong and Macau
Dr Tony Lee	Representative of the Institution of Engineering and Technology Hong Kong
Mr Richard Leung	Representative of Hong Kong Broadband Network Limited / HKBN Enterprise Solutions Limited
Mr M K Li	Representative of local certification bodies as a group
Ms C Y Lo	Representative of Hong Kong Broadband Network Limited / HKBN Enterprise Solutions Limited

Mr George Mak	Representative of Consumer Council
Mr Karson Ng	Representative of licensees not providing domestic retail fixed services as a group
Mr S Y Ngan	Representative of Radio Television Hong Kong
Mr S M Shuen	Representative of Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited / PCCW-HKT Telephone Limited and Hong Kong Telecommunications (HKT) Limited
Ir Angel Wong	Representative of Hong Kong Productivity Council
Ms Vicky Wong	Representative of Asia Satellite Telecommunications Company Limited
Mr Man Yuen	Representative of Television Broadcasts Limited
Ms Rui Zhang	Representative of Asia Satellite Telecommunications Company Limited
Mr Wilson Lee	Secretary (OFCA staff)

Absent with Apologies

Mr Y P Cheung	Representative of the local industry associations as a group
Mr S M Ko	Representative of Metro Broadcast Corporation Limited
Mr Simon Leung	Representative of Hong Kong Mobile Television Network Limited
Mr Michael Shiu	Representative of HGC Global Communications Limited
Mr C T Wong	Representative of services-based operators (MVNO and ETS operators only) as a group
Dr S M Wong	Representative of Independent Commission Against Corruption

In Attendance

Mr P H Ma	OFCA staff
Mr L H Ting	OFCA staff
Mr Warren Kwok	OFCA staff
Mr C H Chan	OFCA staff
Mr Ken Sit	OFCA staff
Mr S Y Yung	OFCA staff

Observer

Mr Y H Chan	Representative of Asia Satellite Telecommunications Company Limited
Mr W L Ho	Representative of amateur radio societies as a group
Ms Christine Iu	Representative of licensees not providing domestic retail fixed services as a group
Mr Patrick Lam	Representative of Hong Kong Cable Television Limited / Fantastic Television Limited

Mr Johnson Li	Representative of Motor Traders Association of Hong Kong
Mr Richard Li	Representative of APT Satellite Company Limited
Mr W K Ng	Representative of licensees not providing domestic retail fixed services as a group
Mr K H Yip	Representative of licensees not providing domestic retail fixed services as a group

Agenda Item 1: Matters Arising from the Previous Meeting

Item 4 of the 17th SSAC Meeting (Proposed Performance Specification for Short Range Devices Operating in the 4.2 – 4.8 GHz and/or 6 – 8.5 GHz Bands Employing Ultra-Wideband Technology)

1. The Secretary reported that, after the last SSAC meeting, no comment was received from Members on the draft HKCA 1080 specification entitled “Performance Specification for Short Range Devices Operating in the 4.2 – 4.8 GHz and/or 6 – 8.5 GHz Bands Employing Ultra-Wideband Technology”. The HKCA 1080 specification was adopted and posted on OFCA’s website on 3 August 2018. The varied Class Licence for Short Range Device was gazetted and took effect on the same day, i.e. 3 August 2018.

Agenda Item 2: Proposed Allocation of the 39.5 – 40.5 GHz Band to the Fixed Service and Mobile Service (SSAC Paper 4/2018)

2. Mr Ken Sit introduced SSAC Paper 4/2018.

3. Ms Rui Zhang expressed concern on the proposed allocation in respect of compatibility between the fixed satellite service (“FSS”) and the mobile service. She asked whether there was a pressing need for the proposed allocation and suggested that the proposed allocation should only be considered after the conclusion of the World Radiocommunication Conference 2019 (“WRC-19”) if the band would be identified for International Mobile Telecommunication service (“IMT”). Mr L H Ting replied that the 37 – 40.5 GHz band was one of the candidate frequency bands identified for IMT to be discussed at the coming WRC-19. Having considered the current utilisation and deployment of the 37 – 39.5 GHz band for fixed link applications in Hong Kong, only the 39.5 – 40.5 GHz band which was currently unplanned in Hong Kong would be considered for the proposed allocation.

4. In response to Mr Carlson Chu's question, Mr L H Ting said that the 37 – 39.5 GHz band was being used in Hong Kong by both private and government users, including mobile network operators, for fixed link applications. Mr S M Shuen asked the rationale of the proposed allocation for both mobile and fixed services. The Chairman responded that 5G services would generally include fixed applications, in addition to mobile applications, such as back-haul and front-haul applications in the 5G networks.

5. Mr Y H Chan noted OFCA's proposals on spectrum supply for 5G services in the 3.5 GHz band, the 26/28 GHz bands and the band currently in discussion and asked what amount of spectrum that 5G services would ultimately require. Nevertheless, as WRC-19 would deliberate on the sharing criteria between FSS and the mobile service in the relevant bands and the results would only be available in late 2019, he considered it premature to consider the proposed allocation. Mr P H Ma responded that OFCA had been closely monitoring the relevant international and regional development on the identification and supply of spectrum for 5G services, including the relevant studies of WRC-19 and the supply of spectrum for 5G services in advanced economies. The supply of spectrum at various bands and timeframes, including the proposed allocation of the 39.5 – 40.5 GHz band, was to ensure that suitable spectrum could be released to the market in a timely manner to support the on-going developments of 5G services.

6. The Chairman invited Members to provide comments on the proposed frequency allocation, if any, by 12 September 2018.

Agenda Item 3: Working Group on Mitigating Measures related to the Use of the 3.4 – 3.6 GHz Band for Public Mobile Services inside the Restriction Zone (SSAC Paper 5/2018)

7. Mr Wilson Lee introduced SSAC Paper 5/2018 and briefed Members that a working group had recently been established to explore feasible technical arrangements for the deployment of mobile base stations operating in the 3.4 – 3.6 GHz band within the restriction zone. The Chairman said that the working group targeted to complete its work by the first quarter of 2019. OFCA would report the results to Members in due course.

8. Mr H C Hung said that Reach Networks Hong Kong Limited had recently reported to OFCA an interference case where the operation of its Stanley satellite earth station was temporarily affected for a few hours by an unknown interference signal at about 3.5 GHz coming from the direction of

Lamma Island. The Chairman responded that OFCA would continue to monitor the situation.

Agenda Item 4: Proposed Revision to HKCA 1075 Performance Specification for Short-Range Radar Operating in the 79 GHz Band (SSAC Paper 6/2018)

9. Mr S Y Yung introduced SSAC Paper 6/2018. He said that, in consultation with the Motor Traders Association of Hong Kong (“MTAHK”), HKCA 1075 specification was issued in 2016 adopting the harmonised standard EN 302 264-2 which was the only relevant standard available at that time. With the availability of two new relevant standards in 2017 – “ARIB STD-T111” of Japan and “47 CFR Part 95 Subpart M” of the United States, MTAHK recently requested OFCA to consider incorporating these standards into the revised HKCA 1075 specification.

10. Mr Johnson Li said that the proposed revision of HKCA 1075 specification would facilitate the use of 79 GHz automotive radars on imported vehicles complying with the applicable standards of Europe, Japan and the United States. He asked whether test reports issued by overseas laboratories would be acceptable for applying type approval of automotive radar equipment in Hong Kong. Mr S Y Yung said that test reports issued by those testing agencies recognised by the CA were acceptable for applying type approval of equipment.

11. Mr Carlson Chu pointed out that the frequency band allocated for short range radar by the Federal Communications Commission (“FCC”) was 76 – 81 GHz band rather than 77 – 81 GHz as in Hong Kong. Mr S Y Yung said that FCC allows manufacturers to select a part of the 76 – 81 GHz band for implementing the short range radar, rather than mandatory use of the whole band. As such, automotive radars imported from the United States for use in Hong Kong shall operate in the 77 – 81 GHz band only as set out in HKCA 1075.

12. The Chairman invited Members to provide comments on the proposed revision to HKCA 1075, if any, by 12 September 2018.

Agenda Item 5: Brief Overview of IEC 62368-1 “Audio/video, information and communication technology equipment – Part 1: safety requirements” (SSAC Paper 7/2018)

13. Mr Warren Kwok introduced SSAC Paper 7/2018 that gave a brief overview of the development of the international safety standard IEC 62368-1, its relevance to Hong Kong and the preparation work of OFCA for the transition. In coping with technology convergence, IEC 62368-1 was developed to replace the current safety standards for information technology equipment (IEC 60950-1) and audio, video and electronic apparatus (IEC 60065). Unlike the prescriptive approach of current safety standards, IEC 62368-1 adopted a new hazard-based principle in addressing safety issues. Fundamentally, IEC 62368-1 required manufacturers to identify potentially hazardous energy sources in their products; classify the energy sources based on the effect on the human body; identify the needed safeguards and finally determine whether the safeguards were effective. A relatively long transition was required for industry stakeholders to acquire the skills and knowledge in order to adapt to the new standard.

14. The Chairman said that IEC 60950-1 would be superseded by IEC 62368-1 on 20 December 2020 globally. OFCA would update HKCA 2001 and other relevant HKCA specifications in due course to line up with IEC 62368-1 implementation. Mr Carlson Chu asked whether existing equipment certified for compliance with IEC 60950-1 would be affected after the transition. Mr Warren Kwok said that as the implementation of IEC 62368-1 had no retrospective effect, such equipment could continue to be used after 20 December 2020.

Agenda Item 6: Any Other Business

15. There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:45 p.m.

**Office of the Communications Authority
October 2018**