

RADIO SPECTRUM AND TECHNICAL STANDARDS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

**Proposed Performance Specification for
Radio Equipment Operating in the 920 – 925 MHz Band
for the Provision of Public Telecommunications Services**

Purpose

This paper proposes the adoption of the following new HKCA specification:

HKCA 1078 Issue 1	Performance Specification for Radio Equipment Operating in the 920 – 925 MHz Band for the Provision of Public Telecommunications Services
----------------------	--

Background

2. The 920 – 925 MHz band is, among other frequency bands, covered in the Telecommunications (Telecommunications Apparatus) (Exemption from Licensing) Order (Cap. 106Z) (“the Exemption Order”). Under the Exemption Order, a person using equipment operating in this band is exempted from licensing if the relevant conditions and technical criteria specified under the Exemption Order are satisfied, including compliance with the relevant standards or specifications and certification requirements as may be prescribed by the Communications Authority under the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106) and that the person does not use the equipment to provide a public telecommunications service. At present, radio frequency identification (“RFID”) equipment which comply with HKCA Specification 1049¹ and operating in the 920 – 925 MHz band are covered under the Exemption Order

¹ [HKCA 1049 entitled “Performance Specification for Radio Frequency Identification \(RFID\) Equipment Operating in the 865 – 868 MHz and/or 920 – 925 MHz Bands”](#)

subject to the relevant conditions and technical criteria specified therein.

3. Recently, the Office of the Communications Authority (“OFCA”) has received applications for providing public telecommunications services using radio equipment operating in the 920 – 925 MHz band. The services proposed in these applications involve the establishment of radiocommunications installations to connect sensors or user devices in the territory through wireless means. As the concerned frequency band 920 – 925 MHz has been proposed to be used for the provision of such services, OFCA is preparing a licensing framework to enable the operation of a public telecommunications network in that frequency band. However, the use of the 920 – 925 MHz band by the concerned radio equipment will be on a non-exclusive basis and will also be shared with the existing licence-exempted RFID equipment. To facilitate the service roll-out and compatible operation of the concerned radio equipment, there is a need to develop a new HKCA 1078 specification for radio equipment operating in the 920 – 925 MHz band for the provision of public telecommunications services.

Proposed HKCA 1078 Specification

4. Having considered the technical requirements of the proposed public telecommunications services, it is proposed that the technical requirements in “Code of Federal Regulations (USA); Title 47 Telecommunication; Chapter 1 - Federal Communications Commission, Part 15 Radio Frequency Devices; Section 15.247” (“47 CFR Part 15.247”) specific to frequency hopping spread spectrum modulation be adopted in the proposed HKCA 1078 for radio equipment operating in 920 – 925 MHz band for providing public telecommunications services. Copy of the proposed HKCA 1078 specification is given in Annex.

Certification Requirement

5. In line with the arrangement of certification of RFID equipment covered by the reference standard 47 CFR Part 15.247, it is proposed that radio equipment operating in the 920 – 925 MHz band for providing public telecommunications services be classified under the Voluntary Certification

Scheme of the Hong Kong Telecommunications Equipment Evaluation and Certification Scheme. For the avoidance of doubts, suppliers, manufacturers and dealers shall ensure that their equipment comply with HKCA 1078 specification, irrespective of whether they would apply for the voluntary certification.

WTO Notification

6. As the proposed HKCA 1078 is based on open standards, notification to the World Trade Organisation (“WTO”) is not required.

Recommendation

7. It is recommended that the proposed HKCA 1078 as given in Annex be submitted to the CA for adoption.

Advice Sought

8. Members are invited to give their comments on the recommendation above.

Office of the Communications Authority
March 2017