# **Spectrum Management at the Federal Communications Commission**



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# Background



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# **Wireless Broadband Spectrum Demands**



Public Safety

Smart Grid

# **Wireless Broadband Spectrum Supply**

Forecasted mobile data traffic in North America 50X 📃 Cisco Systems 📃 Coda Research 🔳 Yankee Group 45X 40X Traffic relative to 2009 35X 30X 25X 20X 15X 10X 5X OX 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014

#### Mobile broadband spectrum pipeline



Spectrum Licenses Suitable for Mobile Broadband

Need to transform spectrum policy to meet wireless broadband demands

\*In 2004 MDS/ITFS was rebanded to create the EBS/BRS band

# **Spectrum Demand Among Services**



# **Spectrum is a Shared Resource**

₭Large amount of spectrum is co-allocated in the U.S. for federal and non-federal purposes
△93.8% between 9 kHz and 300 GHz
△54.2% of the spectrum below 3 GHz is shared,
△14.1% is federal exclusive and 31.7% is non-Federal exclusive

# **Spectrum Management Functions**

Four major functions in managing radio spectrum
 <u>Allocate Spectrum</u> to various radio services
 <u>Develop Service Rules</u> to provide administrative

- procedures, technical standards, and other operational requirements for shared intra- and inter-service use of the spectrum
- Assign Frequencies to individual systems or authorize specific equipment use, assignments coordinated domestically and internationally
- △<u>Enforce Rules</u> to ensure compliance of radio equipment and systems and resolve interference

# **Principal Spectrum Management Models**

# Dedicated Service Model (sometimes called commandand-control)

Spectrum uses are limited and conform to detailed service rules (AM and FM Radio, TV broadcasting, public safety)

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- ➢Flexible use rights for specified spectrum within defined geographic area (Cellular, PCS , AWS, BRS)
- △Rights governed by technical rules to protect against interference

# Commons Model

- △Spectrum is shared with multiple users (TVBDs, UNII, Wi-Fi, Cordless phone, UWB)
- ☐ Technical and operational rules to protect licensed services
- No right to protection from interference received from licensed services

Allocations ITU Radio Regulations			Federal government use controlled by NTIA		nt use Na FIA (	Non-Government Use controlled by FCC	
			941-14	30 MHz (UHF)		Page 41	
International Table				United States Table		FCC Rule Part(s)	
Region 1	Region 2	Region 3		Federal Government	Non-Federal Government		
See previous page for 942-960 FIXED MORILE except	890-942 MHz 942-960 FIXED	942-960 FIXED		941-944 FIXED US268 US301 US302 G2	941-944 FIXED US268 US301 US3 NG120	Public Mobile (22) Fixed Microwave 02 (101)	
aeronautical mobile 5.317A BROADCASTING 5.322 5.323	obile 5.317A ROADCASTING 322 323		3	944-960	944-960 FIXED NG120	Public Mobile (22) Auxiliary Broadcast (74) Fixed Microwave (101)	
960-1215 AERONAUTICAL RADIONAVIGATION 5.328 5.328A				960-1215 AERONAUTICAL RADIONAVIGATION 5.328 US224		Aviation (87)	
1215-1240 EARTH EXPLORATION-SATELLITE (active) RADIOLOCATION RADIONAVIGATION-SATELLITE (space-to-Earth) (space-to-space) 5.329 5.329A SPACE RESEARCH (active) 5.330 5.331 5.332			329	1215-1240 RADIOLOCATION 5.333 G56 RADIONAVIGATION- SATELLITE (space-to- Earth)	1215-1240 5.333	Rule Explanations	
1300-1350 AERONAUTICAL RADIONAVIGATION 5.337 RADIOLOCATION RADIONAVIGATION-SATELLITE (Earth-to-space) 5.149 5.337A			1300-1350 AERONAUTICAL RADIO- NAVIGATION 5.337 Radiolocation G2 5.149	1300-1350 AERONAUTICAL RADIO- NAVIGATION 5.33 5.149	Aviation (87)		

Table of Frequency Allocations, 47 C.F.R. §2.106, Sample, ref.: http://www.fcc.gov/oet/spectrum/table/fcctable.pdf

# **Service Rules**

## **H**Promote spectrum efficiency by

- Increasing information throughput in channels already authorized (by promoting higher order modulation, coding and signal processing)
- Exploiting frequency reuse (small cells, antenna directivity, satellite spot-beams)
- Promote State of the Art Technologies (use of dynamic frequency sensing and automatic transmitter power control)
- → Re-purpose spectrum (transitioning from incumbent technologies to broadband technologies)



# **Service Rules**

ℜPromote Intra-service and inter-service spectrum
sharing where risk of interference is minimal

- Co-coverage, frequency separation (manage in-band and out-of-band interference)
- Co-frequency, geographic separation (exclusion or coordination zones)
- └─Co-frequency, co-coverage sharing
  - ☑Time sharing (automated, real-time database access, sensing)
  - ⊠Low power, NIB uses in non-restricted bands

# **Frequency Assignments, Authorizations**

#First-received, First-licensed

**H**Market oriented approach to licensing

△Exclusive licensees receive interference protection

△ Have flexibility to offer new applications

#### **#**Licensed-exempt use in non-restricted bands

<sup>△</sup>No protection from interference

△Low cost barrier to entry

<sup>₭</sup>Hybrid licenses

Capitalize on benefits non-exclusive, nationwide licenses

△Licensees cooperate to avoid mutual interference

# **Frequency Assignments, Authorizations**

Special Temporary Authority (STAs)

Case-by-case, extraordinary circumstances, limited time duration

**#**Waivers

Case-by-case, rules may not yet be established, granted when risk of interference is low

**H**Equipment Authorizations

△Including License-exempt devices

Experimental Authorizations, Part 5

 $\square$ Non-interference basis only (Section 5.85(c))

△to test and demonstrate equipment

# **National Broadband Plan**

Horizontal Broadband Plan recommends that the FCC:

- △ of which 300 MHz of spectrum between 225 MHz and 3.7 GHz should be made newly available for mobile use within five years

# **National Broadband Plan Implementation**

Service	Frequencies (MHz)	Amount (Megahertz)
WCS	2305-2320, 2345-2360	30
MSS (L-band)	1525-1559, 1626.5-1660.5	40
MSS (L/S-band)	1610-1626.5, 2483.5-2500	10
MSS (S-band)	2000-2020, 2180-2200	40
Broadcast TV	572-698	120
AWS 3	2155-2175	20
AWS 2 (J-Block)	2020-2025, 2175-2180	10
AWS 2 (H-Block)	1915-1920, 1995-2000	10
D-Block	758-763, 788-793	10





"The Dynamic Regulatory Environment" 16



# **Decision Making Process**

Haws such as the Communications Act and Administrative Procedures Act govern FCC's interactions with the public and the management of public resources (e.g. Spectrum)

**K** Notice to Public

Public Notices (PN), Notice of Inquiry (NOI), Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM or Further NPRM), Federal Register Publication

#### Hecision based on Public Comment

Report and Order (R&O), Memorandum Opinion and Order (MO&O)

**#** Authorization Orders issued with operating conditions



# **Useful Websites and Addresses**

#### 🔀 Main FCC Website

www.fcc.gov

#### **#** FCC Online Table

http://www.fcc.gov/oet/spectrum/table/fcctable.pdf

- Electronic Documents Management Site For finding Rulemakings, public notices and news release information <a href="http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\_public/SilverStream/Pages/edocs.html">http://hraunfoss.fcc.gov/edocs\_public/SilverStream/Pages/edocs.html</a>
- % Experimental Licensing System

https://apps.fcc.gov/oetcf/els/reports/GenericSearch.cfm

**#** Equipment Authorization Database

http://www.fcc.gov/oet/ea/fccid/

Title 47 of the Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) – GPO http://ecfr.gpoaccess.gov/cgi/t/text/text-idx?c=ecfr&tpl=%2Findex.tpl 19