

24 November 2006

Dear Licensee,

Re: VHF Co-ordinated Assignments (211 – 217 MHz) – Changes to assignments from 1 January 2008

As a Band III licensee, you should be aware that there are forthcoming changes to the way that Ofcom licenses this spectrum, particularly Sub-Band III, 209.169 MHz to 217.696 MHz. Both JFMG and Ofcom have been providing updated communications on this subject regularly since 2004.

As a result of international negotiations on spectrum usage at the Regional Radio Conference (RRC) in June 2006, the spectrum from 210.880 MHz – 217.696 MHz will be cleared for T-DAB (Terrestrial - Digital Audio Broadcasting) in the UK, and the spectrum from 209.169 MHz to 217.696 MHz has been cleared for DVB-T (Digital Video Broadcasting – Terrestrial) use in Europe.

As you may know the original plans for DAB in the UK involved the whole of Sub Band 3. However, as a result of the RRC negotiations and bilateral agreements, Ofcom has successfully managed to secure Block 10A (209.168MHz – 210.704MHz) for PMSE use. This will not be used for T-DAB in the UK and so will become available for PMSE use for wireless microphones.

In addition, JFMG and Ofcom have undertaken extensive technical testing and planning work since the end of the RRC and are now in a position to announce the new channel plan for Block 10A, which will come into force from 1 January 2008.

The new co-ordinated assignments for wireless microphones will be:

- 209.4 MHz
- 210.0 MHz.

They will replace the two co-ordinated channels currently in use which will no longer be available after 31 December 2007. The co-ordinated channels that will be removed are:

- 216.3 MHz
- 217.0 MHz

The table below illustrates Band III coordinated wireless microphone allocations before and after 31 December 2007.

Now	1 January 2008	Comments
176.400	176.400	No change
177.000	177.000	No change
184.600	184.600	No change

184.800	184.800	No change
185.000	185.000	No change
191.700	191.700	No change
192.100	192.100	No change
192.300	192.300	No change
192.600	192.600	No change
200.100	200.100	No change
207.700	207.700	No change
207.900	207.900	No change
208.100	208.100	No change
208.800	208.800	No change
216.300	209.400	Replaced
217.000	210.000	Replaced

What you need to do?

Other than familiarising yourself with the frequency changes so that you understand how your use will be altered, you do not necessarily need to do anything just yet.

If you will continue to require a coordinated frequency after the 31 December 2007 please contact JFMG to be allocated a replacement assignment in one of the two co-ordinated channels. Ofcom will permit all licensees to continue to use their current assignments until 31 December 2007.

This will apply to both co-ordinated and shared users for the duration of 2007 but please note, those shared and co-ordinated assignments that are in affected spectrum will disappear from your licences from 1 December 2008 and licences will no longer be able to use them.

Should you have any questions regarding this issue please contact JFMG on admin@ifmg.co.uk or Claire Lyons on claire.lyons@ofcom.org.uk

Yours sincerely



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