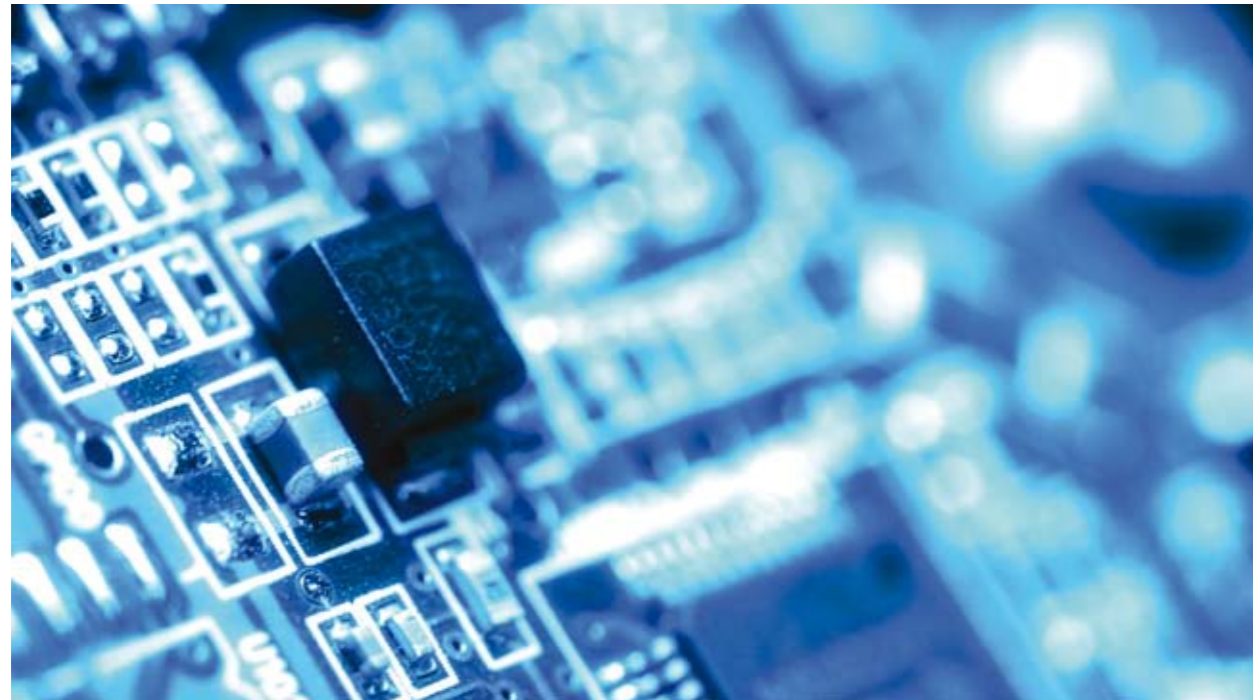




Publication of Radiointerfaces by EETT and their Role in the Use of the Spectrum



1. Regulation of Radioequipment and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment Market

The industry sector of Radioequipment and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment (RTTE) comprises all products using the radio spectrum (e.g. mobile telephones, remote control systems, CB's, etc.), as well as equipment connected to public telecommunications networks (e.g. telephones, ADSL modems, etc.). Directive 99/5/EC, which was transferred to the Hellenic legislation by Presidential Decree PD 44/2002, regulates the above market through a framework of free circulation of the products among the member states of the EU, ensuring that these are safe and do not cause harmful interference to radiocommunications services and the operation of other equipment. Other issues regulated by the Directive include requirements concerning the operational safety

of the equipment, potential effects on human health from mobile telephony, anti-theft specifications for mobile telephones and theft prevention methods, interoperability for 3rd generation mobile telephony equipment, as well as accessibility to radiocommunications services for the disabled and the elderly.

2. The Role of Radiointerfaces

The radio spectrum is not fully harmonized in the member states of the Community. Therefore, equipment manufacturers must be informed as regards the differences in the allocation and use of the spectrum in each country, in order to be able to manufacture and put on the market, equipment that is suitable for use in the Community. Article 4.1 of Directive 99/5/EC (Article 4.1 of PD 44/2002) specifies that member states are under obligation to publish their requirements for putting into service of radio equipment, thus allowing manufacturers to develop products that will be addressed to

as great a part of the market as possible.

In addition, the use of radio equipment is only possible following the issuance of the pertinent right of use of frequency (unless a specific exemption is provided for in the legislation). These rights are issued on condition that specific terms and conditions are met. Compliance of the equipment with Directive 99/5/EC and the respective radiointerface also signifies compliance with the requirements of the right to use the frequency, as regards the radio equipment. In case of exemption from licensing of specific frequency bands, use may only be made by equipment complying with directive 99/5/EC and the corresponding radiointerface.

Compliance with Directive 99/5/EC and radiointerfaces ensures that radio equipment may be used with very low probability of causing significant interference to other users.



3. Elements included in Radiointerfaces

Radiointerfaces must include sufficient information regarding spectrum allocation for the frequency band of operation of the radio equipment and the main technical characteristics of the equipment. A radiointerface comprises of two parts: The regulatory, which is the mandatory part of the radiointerface, and the informative, which is of informative nature and is not mandatory. The elements included in the regulatory part are: Frequency bands and respective services and applications according to the National Frequency Allocation Regulation, licensing status, channel spacing and class of emission, maximum power, duty cycle, etc. The informative part comprises references to harmonized standards, ECC decisions/ recommendations, etc.

4. Radiointerfaces Publication Procedure

Radiointerfaces constitute technical regulations and are thus included in the scope of Directive 98/34/EC (which was transferred to the Hellenic legislation by PD 39/2001), pursuant to which member states are under obligation, among others, to communicate to the Commission any draft technical regulation they intend to approve.

Upon communication of such a new radiointerface draft, the Commission forwards all the information communicated to all member states, so that they are able to participate fully to the reviewing procedure that is established by the Directive. Also, the Commission publishes the communicated drafts and their translation on its website (ec.europa.eu/enterprise/tris/), allowing all financial organizations of the internal market to express their view. Three months after the communication, the Commission may rule that no barriers are created to the free transfer of equipment by the publication of the Regulation, or address comments –detailed opinion to the member state, or decide the “blockage” of the Regulation.

The member state may publish the radiointerface text as it is, or modified according to the comments and remarks that may have been received, accordingly.

5. Radiointerfaces published by EETT

EETT has published radiointerfaces for many categories of radioequipment including, among others, various types of short range devices (e.g. wireless LAN's at 2.4 GHz, remote control devices, radio frequency identification devices RFID's, etc.), maritime radio equipment, wide band audio links, equipment used for fixed links, etc. All standing radiointerfaces are published on EETT's website.

