

Wireless Policies



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TIA's Spectrum Policy Principles

- Spectrum policy should maximize public benefits from spectrum use by minimizing harmful interference, fostering competition, encouraging efficient use of spectrum and eliminating artificial spectrum scarcity, thereby stimulating the deployment of innovative services and technologies.
- Responsible governmental agencies should work together in a coordinated manner to assure that additional spectrum in frequency bands appropriate for the provision of advanced services is made available in a timely manner, for example, through prompt implementation of the decisions at WRC-2000 with respect to IMT-2000.
- Global harmonization and coordination of spectrum allocations should be a priority, in order to ensure that businesses and consumers receive the benefits of economies of scale, interoperability among carriers and seamless roaming across national borders.
- Spectrum allocations and assignments should be made by open and transparent processes that are market-driven and provide for government and industry consultation. Spectrum licensing should allow for the evolution of technologies and services by allowing implementation flexibility consistent with applicable technical rules.

Benefits of Spectrum Harmonization:

Spectrum increases greatly in value and utility to the service providers if it is harmonized with spectrum allocated for similar use in other countries.

- Consumers can have access to terminals that are less expensive, smaller, have lower power consumption, longer usage times, more functionality and better serve the needs of the customer.
- Service providers can provide national, international and/or global roaming more cost effectively.
- New products and services can be faster to market, and can be offered in greater variety.
- The terrestrial wireless and satellite market can grow larger and more quickly.

TIA Positions on Spectrum Auctions:

- Auctions are not appropriate for all types of services;
- The objective of auctions should be to ensure that the entity obtaining the spectrum will put the public spectrum resource to its best and highest value use;

- Auctions may be an effective license assignment tool, but they are not a substitute for sound spectrum allocation decisions;
- Prospective bidders should be given sufficient time to make technology investment decisions, establish business plans, and develop bidding strategies;
- Auctioned spectrum should be unencumbered or a relocation plan should be put in place, prior to auction, to create certainty for operators about when spectrum will be available for use;
- If auctioned spectrum is encumbered, proceeds from the auction should fund the relocation of incumbents;

TIA Position on 3G Terrestrial Spectrum Requirements

*A total of 390 MHz of spectrum will be required in the U.S. by 2010 to support terrestrial commercial mobile services. Only 189 MHz has currently been allocated for such services. Consequently, **approximately 200 MHz of additional spectrum must be allocated** to support the growth of the wireless industry over the next decade.*

TIA Policy on Unlicensed Use of Spectrum:

Making spectrum available on an unlicensed basis is essential for continued innovation in a wide variety of products and applications that are important to consumers and businesses alike. TIA supports the availability of additional spectrum for unlicensed uses, and believes that policies and regulations for unlicensed services should adhere to principles developed by the members of TIA.

- New exclusive allocations for unlicensed uses should be made in unencumbered spectrum when possible, to provide maximum flexibility and possibility for innovation.
- The use of unlicensed devices in encumbered bands must be subject to clear and enforceable service rules.
- Agencies should work to ensure that additional spectrum for unlicensed uses is made available in a timely manner.

The 1,000 companies of the Telecommunications Industry Association manufacture and supply the products and equipment used in today's wireless communications networks.