

# Ericsson's response to Ofcom's consultation on the statement on improving spectrum access for consumers in the 5 GHz band and notice of proposal to make Wireless Telegraphy Exemption Regulations 2017

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Ericsson welcomes the OFCOM proposal to increase the amount of Radio Spectrum available for unlicensed usage.

Our response to the consultation is as follows –

- Ericsson welcomes that OFCOM is taking the lead opening the 5GHz band and intends on influencing CEPT. We believe OFCOM should aim for full alignment with CEPT as this will be beneficial for the long term.
- Ericsson acknowledges that OFCOM intends the proposed 5GHz specification to be technology agnostic and WiFi is just one of the potential technologies. However, throughout the document there is a heavy emphasis on WiFi which could be interpreted as the designated technology for this Band. Ericsson would encourage OFCOM to use the term RLAN as stated in the ESTI Standard EN 301 893 instead of WiFi. This in our view will ensure that the technology agnostic approach is clear.
- Ericsson recognises that the choice of restriction for Indoor applications as a first step, is a sensible compromise. However, it would be good to include a proposal for the process and timeline to assess and remove this restriction. A commitment to align with any eventual CEPT decision would be beneficial.
- Ericsson recognises that the choice of restricting the maximum EIRP to 200mW as a first step, is a sensible compromise. However, it would be good to see a commitment to reassess this in line with any eventual CEPT decisions that are made regarding output power.

Ericsson would welcome the opportunity to discuss our response in more detail.



## About Ericsson globally

Ericsson is the driving force behind the Networked Society – a world leader in communications technology and services. Our long-term relationships with every major telecom operator in the world allow people, business and society to fulfil their potential and create a more sustainable future.

Our services, software and infrastructure – especially in mobility, broadband and the cloud – are enabling the telecom industry and other sectors to do better business, increase efficiency, improve the user experience and capture new opportunities.

With customers in 180 countries and approximately 115,000 employees, we combine global scale with technology and services leadership. We support networks that connect more than 2.5 billion subscribers. Forty percent of the world's mobile traffic is carried over Ericsson networks. And our investments in research and development ensure that our solutions – and our customers – stay in front.

Founded in 1876, Ericsson is headquartered in Stockholm, Sweden, and generated revenue of SEK 246.9 billion (around £22 billion) in 2015. Ericsson is listed on the NASDAQ OMX stock exchange in Stockholm and the NASDAQ in New York.

## About Ericsson in the UK

Ericsson engages geographically through 10 regional units, one of which is Region Western & Central Europe (RWCE), which includes Germany and the UK and is headquartered in London.

Ericsson is active in the UK since 1898, when we opened our first sales office here. In the early 1900s Britain accounted for ~30% of Ericsson's overall sales. More recently, Sony Ericsson, our mobile handset joint venture with Sony was headquartered in London prior to its sale to Sony in 2012.

Ericsson has made a number of significant investments in the UK, including the acquisitions of Marconi, Technicolor Broadcast Services, Tandberg TV and Red Bee Media (formerly part of the BBC). The UK is the global hub of Ericsson's media business and the majority of media-related R&D, especially video compression development, is done at our site in Southampton.

In February 2016, we launched a research partnership on 5G with King's College in London, in which we address the various technologies required to deliver next-generation communication networks and their implications on consumers and society.

Our main customers in the UK include the mobile operators EE, O2, Vodafone and Three, for which we manage a total of 44,000 radio sites and a number of other network-related services. We are a key supplier to the TV and internet service providers BT, Sky, Virgin Media and TalkTalk, and to the main UK broadcasters BBC, ITV, Channel 4 and Channel 5. We turn over around £500 million p.a. and employ around 4,000 employees in 13 offices across the UK.



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