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Avanti Communications Group Plc Input To Ofcom Re Low Power Licence Exemption Limits Above 10 GHz

1. General Comments:

The Ofcom consultation document entitled "*Low power licence-exemption limits above 10GHz*" proposes to change EIRP spectral density limits given in the EC Decision 2007/131/EC to the effect, that Ofcom would relax conditions for licence-exempted operations of UWB above 10 GHz.

Avanti, as a UK-based satellite operator, has **very serious** concerns about this particular Ofcom proposal, noting that Avanti has UK satellite network filings which are intended to use the Ku-band BSS bands (17.3 – 18.1 GHz / 11.7 – 12.5 GHz) and the Ka-band FSS bands and that Avanti has already one satellite system (HYLAS) which will be launched in 2009 for operation in the above bands to provide services to UK customers. .

Avanti fully supports the SAP REG and Intellect responses to Ofcom on this matter.

Furthermore, Avanti is deeply concerned about the trend of certain Ofcom policies in recent years which have the net effect in the short or medium terms to compromise the viability of commercial use of various ITU primary or co-primary allocated satellite service bands in the UK. The subject Ofcom proposal for accommodating Low Power Licence Exempt devices above 10 GHz is evidence of that trend; this trend is highly detrimental to the ability of current and future satellite operators and service providers to provide high quality services to UK customers.

2. Specific Answers To Ofcom Consultation Questions:

Q1: Do you agree with this assessment of the services that do not require further analysis?

A1: No. See also SAP REG response.

Q2: Is this analysis of risk of interference to broadcasting satellite correct?

A2: See also SAP REG response. Existing and planned BSS satellite networks in the bands are already interference constrained by the terms of the ITU BSS Plan. Attempting to accommodate Low Power devices in this band would be prejudicial to the service objectives of Ku-band BSS services being provided to millions of customers in the UK.

Q3: Is this analysis to the risk of interference to radio-navigation & location correct?

A3: No additional comments.

Q4: Is this approach to meteorological aids appropriate?

A4: No additional comments.

Q5: Do you agree with the proposed Licence-exemption limits set out above?

A5: No. See also SAP REG response.