

10 November 2010

Dear Client

## **PHASE-OUT OF 25 kHz ANALOGUE LAND MOBILE CHANNELS IN VHF AND UHF BANDS**

MED wishes to formally advise current licence holders of **25 kHz analogue land mobile channels** about the licensing changes taking place in the VHF and UHF land mobile bands, following the outcomes of the public consultations carried out in 2008 and 2009. One outcome is the phase-out of legacy 25 kHz analogue land mobile radio (LMR) equipment, in order to align New Zealand with international practice and to allow the introduction of the more spectrum efficient digital LMR technologies in highly congested bands. These changes will include the following steps.

Existing use of 25 kHz analogue LMR channels is to cease by 1 November 2015. This period is in accordance with the minimum period (five years) specified in the Radio Regulations for giving notice of revocation of a licence of an undefined duration.

- 1 LMR frequency bands with an offset channel plan (E, EN, and ENX bands) require a different treatment to manage the introduction of digital LMR (due to potential adjacent channel interference risks). The following steps apply to these bands:
  - a Users of E band (25 kHz channels) wanting to transition to digital prior 1 November 2015, can migrate to the EE band (also in the VHF range) or any other band open for digital LMR licensing.
  - b E band users wanting to continue operating analogue services after the five year transition period can migrate to 12.5 kHz analogue channels in the EN band (also in the VHF range) or any other band open for narrow band analogue LMR.
  - c Introduction of digital LMR in the EN and ENX bands prior to 1 November 2015 will be considered on a case by case basis. Licensing of digital LMR in these bands will be possible in areas where E band users have vacated the band, or when rigorous engineering analysis guarantees no risk of interference to other band users.
- 2 Data links used for telemetry in UHF LMR bands, with channel bandwidths of 25 kHz, will only be licensed strictly on a case by case basis and subject to approval by RSM.

Yours sincerely

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