

Radiocommunication Bureau

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Circular Letter
CR/211

10 May 2004

To Administrations of Member States of the ITU

Subject: Submission of Appendix 4 information on space services to the Radiocommunication Bureau

Reference: Appendix 4 of the Radio Regulations as revised by WRC-03 (Geneva, 2003)

To the Director-General

Dear Sir/Madam,

1 Introduction

1.1 The World Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 2003)(WRC-03) revised Appendix 4 of the Radio Regulations with provisional application as of 1 January 2004.

1.2 The Radiocommunication Bureau is pleased to inform your Administration that a restructured Space Network System database version 5.0 (SNS 5.0) and an accompanying software package of new electronic notification software applications (capture, query, publication and validation) BRsoft version 5.0 (BRsoft 5.0), fully reflecting all modifications and additions made by WRC-03 to Appendix 4 of the Radio Regulations, are now available.

1.3 As of 1 July 2004, administrations are requested always to use the new BRsoft 5.0 when submitting filings to the Bureau under Articles 9 and 11 and Appendices 30, 30A and 30B.

1.4 The purpose of this Circular Letter is to provide information and guidance to users, in administrations and elsewhere, on BRsoft 5.0 relating to space services.

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2 Description

2.1 The new version of the SpaceCap 5.0 software application includes all new and modified data items introduced in Appendix 4 by WRC-03. It will enable administrations to submit all filings to the Bureau, under Articles 9 and 11 and Appendices 30, 30A and 30B, in application of the Radio Regulations procedures in force relating to space services. Although SpaceCap 5.0 includes an on-line data capture validation and assisted error-correction facility (display of erroneous data items and the corresponding validation rules) for the data capture of notices submitted under Articles 9 (at present excluding advance publication) and 11, users are advised to run the SpaceVal 5.0 software application in order to perform a complete validation on a filing after the final capture or modification of the filing.

2.2 The new validation software application SpaceVal 5.0 carries out checks (at present excluding Appendices 30, 30A and 30B and advance publication) on the Appendix 4 data as revised by WRC-03. It can be used in a stand-alone mode to validate any relevant electronic filing that is in the SNS 5.0 MS-Access database format. The results of the validation may be viewed and printed using the Bureau's query software application SpaceQry 5.0 or above.

2.3 As noted in § 3.1 *quater* of the Rules of Procedure on receivability, administrations are encouraged to run the validation software themselves prior to submitting electronic notices for requests for coordination or notification, under Articles 9 and 11 respectively, in order to identify and overcome any difficulties in the notices before they are submitted to the Bureau.

2.4 SpaceVal 5.0 (along with the associated SpaceCap 5.0 and SpaceQry 5.0) is available to administrations and other users from the ITU website: (<http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/software/space/>), as well as on the BR IFIC (space services) CD-ROM (BR IFIC 2519/18.05.2004 and later).

2.5 As of 1 July 2004, administrations are requested always to use the new BRsoft 5.0 when submitting filings to the Bureau under Articles 9 and 11 and Appendices 30, 30A and 30B. As of that date, SpaceVal 5.0 or above will be the validation software used by the Bureau when assessing the completeness of Appendix 4 forms of notice for coordination requests and the notification of satellite networks or satellite systems, including earth stations, submitted under Articles 9 and 11, in accordance with the Rules of Procedure on receivability. Administrations are encouraged to run SpaceVal 5.0 in order to identify and overcome any difficulties in the notices to be submitted to the Bureau as of that date.

2.6 In their covering letter for the submission of Appendix 4 data to the Bureau, administrations are kindly requested to report to the Bureau any difficulty encountered in the use of the SpaceVal software, particularly when it concerns any unresolved "*Fatal*" error messages in the validation report.

2.7 The Bureau recommends administrations also to review the "*Warning*" error messages in the validation report. These "*Warning*" messages identify any potentially incorrect or implausible data values. These may lead to unfavourable findings during the regulatory and technical examination of the filing by the Bureau.

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2.8 The Bureau is adjusting its internal procedures in order to publish Special Sections and other filings on the BR IFIC (space services) CD-ROM in SNS 5.0 format, with an implementation timeframe of September 2004. During the transition period beginning with BR IFIC (space services) 2522/29.06.2004, the IFICxxx.mdb will be made available both in SNS 4.0 and SNS 5.0 formats (still complying with WRC-2000), and the SPS_ALL_IFICxxx.mdb in SNS 4.0 format.

2.9 The Bureau recognizes the practical drawbacks for administrations of using SpaceCap 5.0 and SpaceVal 5.0 in SNS 5.0 format when submitting filings to the Bureau while at the same time querying and printing Special Sections and data from the BR IFIC (space services) in SNS 5.0 or 4.0 format. In order to facilitate matters, administrations are advised to keep BRsoft 4.0 for the purposes of updating their local databases and of querying and printing the information published on the BR IFIC (space services) CD-ROM until it is changed to "full" SNS 5.0 format (as indicated in § 2.8 above).

2.10 The Bureau will continue to work on extending this version of the SpaceQry and SpaceVal software applications to validate all SNS 5.0 data items and the electronic notices submitted under Appendices 30, 30A and 30B and for advance publication. Once the new version of the SpaceQry and SpaceVal software with this new functionality is available, administrations will be informed accordingly.

2.11 It should be noted that SpaceCap 5.0 and SpacePub 5.0 do not yet support the submission of information under Resolution 49 (Rev. WRC-03). Administrations can continue to use SpaceCap 4.2 and SpacePub 2.6 for submissions until further notice by the Bureau.

2.12 Administrations are reminded that the Bureau is maintaining a website with useful information and "Frequently Asked Questions" in order to assist users in successfully validating their filings at <http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/space/faq/subm.html>

2.13 The Bureau is available to assist administrations in submitting a notice. Queries of a general nature relating to submissions and validation rules may be addressed to the ITU contact person, Mr. H.S. Köker, telephone: +41 22 730 55 40, fax: +41 22 730 57 85, e-mail: hasan.koker@itu.int, queries relating to the software's installation and functionality may be addressed to the ITU contact person, Mr. N.R. Venkatesh, telephone: +41 22 730 55 52, fax: +41 22 730 57 85, e-mail: venkatesh@itu.int

Yours faithfully,

Valery Timofeev
Director, Radiocommunication Bureau

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- Members of the Radio Regulations Board
- Chairmen and Vice-Chairmen of Radiocommunication Study Groups and the Special Committee on Regulatory/Procedural Matters

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