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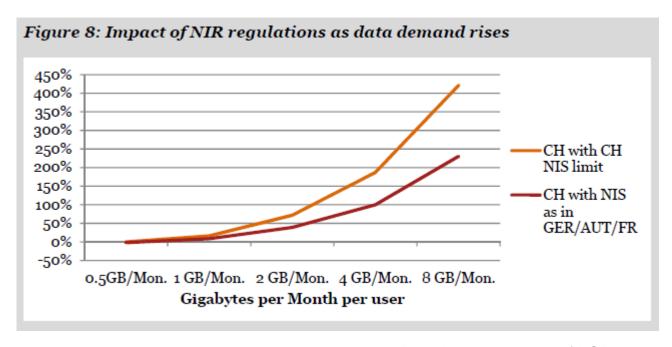


Implications of RF-EMF exposure limits for 5G: lessons from 3G and 4G deployments



### Case study: Switzerland (3G)

- Limit 5 V/m (mixed)
- Restrictive limits increase cost of deployment – more impact as data demand rises



Based on deployment of HSPA 42.4

Source: PWC (2013)

 "With the current limits [5G deployment] will be extremely difficult, if not impossible" – Swisscom CEO (April, 2017)



### Case study: Brussels (3G/4G)

- 2012 3 V/m (shared)
- 2013 BIPT
  - Limit a "serious obstacle"
- 2013 3 V/m (per technology)
- **2016**:
  - "analyse all relevant elements, including whether the current limits on antenna strength could lead to quicker saturation of networks"
- 2017 "5G may not be possible"

## Stralingsnorm verhindert uitrol 4G in Brussel



03/07/12 om 20:30 - Bijgewerkt om 20:30 Bron: Datanews

GENERAL : FIXED

Brussels finally gets 4G after politicians relent on tough mobile radiation cap

Summary: EC wonks are set to get 4G connections next year after a change in the law.



By Martin Gijzemijter for Benelux | December 12, 2013 -- 09:11 GMT (20:11 AEST)

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INTERNET

Belgian govt to study mobile network saturation after attack

## Capital of Europe loiters in mobile dead zone

Strict limits on telecoms radiation in Brussels are holding back investment in technology.

By LAURENS CERULUS | 8/29/17, 9:00 AM CET | Updated 9/13/17, 9:07 AM CET



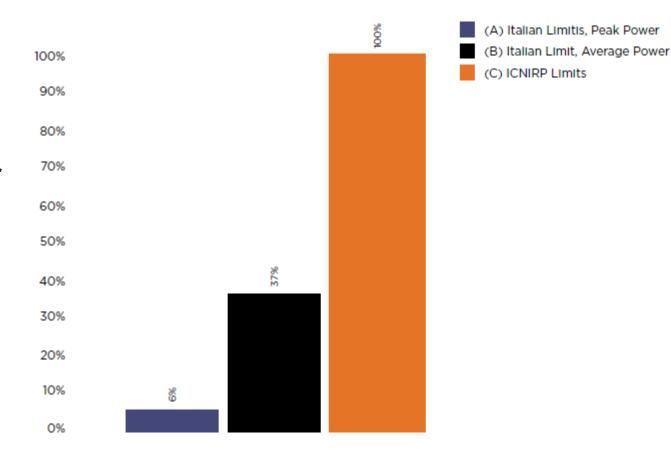
### Case study: Italy (4G)

#### PERCENTAGE OF NON-LTE SITES AVAILABLE FOR 4G COVERAGE AND QUALITY OF SERVICE IMPROVEMENT

■ Limit – 6 V/m

Average power over 24 hours provides some benefit

 With ICNIRP 100% of sites could be shared



Source: GSMA (2014)



### Case study: Poland (4G)

■ Limit – 7 V/m

- Site sharing requires power reduction
- More sites for the same coverage



SITE CONFIGURATION <sup>15</sup>	TECHNOLOGY
A	UMTS2100
В	GSM900 / UMTS2100
С	GSM900 / GSM1800 / UMTS2100
D	GSM900 / GSM1800 / UMTS2100 / LTE1800
E	GSM900 / GSM1800 / UMTS2100 / LTE1800 / LTE2600
F	GSM900 / GSM1800 / UMTS2100 / LTE1800 / LTE2600 / LTE800

Source: GSMA (2014)



#### RF-EMF levels in public areas are highly variable

Environment International 68 (2014) 49-54



Contents lists available at ScienceDirect

#### **Environment International**

journal homepage: www.elsevier.com/locate/envint



Radio-frequency electromagnetic field (RF-EMF) exposure levels in different European outdoor urban environments in comparison with regulatory limits



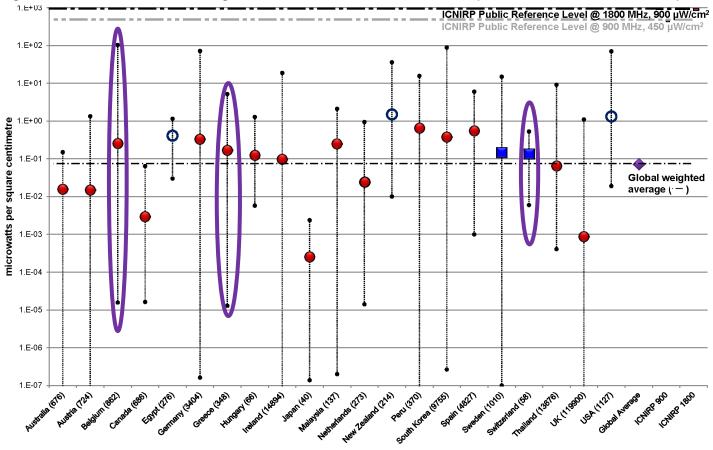
Damiano Urbinello <sup>a,b,c</sup>, Wout Joseph <sup>c</sup>, Anke Huss <sup>d</sup>, Leen Verloock <sup>c</sup>, Johan Beekhuizen <sup>d</sup>, Roel Vermeulen <sup>d</sup>, Luc Martens <sup>c</sup>, Martin Röösli <sup>a,b,\*</sup>

- Measurements in Belgium, Switzerland, the Netherlands.
  - "Exposure levels were highly spatially variable and varied considerably between different areas within as well as between cities."



#### Restrictive limits do not result in lower public exposure

Figure 1. Minimum (●), maximum (●) and narrowband average , broadband average of all survey data for each country with the number of measurement points for the country in brackets. For comparison, the global weighted average marked with dot-dashed line through (♦) and the ICNIRP reference levels for the public at 900 and 1800 MHz are also plotted.



Country with restrictive RF-EMF limit

Source: Rowley & Joyner, 2012

# Conclusions

- Restrictive RF-EMF limits do not appear to result in lower public exposures
- Restrictive RF-EMF limits make site sharing difficult, thereby increasing the number of antenna sites and increasing the cost of deployment
- Restrictive EMF limits delay deployment of new mobile technologies and associated societal benefits



# Thanks for listening

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http://www.gsma.com/publicpolicy/consumer-affairs/emf-and-health



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