



PUBLIC NOTICE

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Office of Engineering and Technology Announces Release of Revised Supplement C to OET Bulletin 65

The Commission's Office of Engineering and Technology has released Edition 01-01 of Supplement C to OET Bulletin 65 "Evaluating Compliance with FCC Guidelines for Human Exposure to Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields." This revised edition, which replaces Edition 97-01, provides additional guidance and information for evaluating compliance of mobile and portable devices with FCC limits for radiofrequency (RF) exposure.

Since 1997, Standards Coordinating Committee 34, Subcommittee 2, of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc. (IEEE SCC-34/SC-2) has been developing standard recommended procedures for evaluating portable devices using measurement or computational methods. While this task has not yet been completed, sufficient consensus now exists among industry experts to allow incorporation of the bulk of the committee's work into Supplement C. Pending adoption of a formal industry standard, this revised version of Supplement C provides standardized guidance for performing Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) measurements on portable devices, as well as updated guidance for other measurement-based and computational methods for evaluating RF exposure.

With the establishment of this standardized guidance, the Commission will now be able to allow Telecommunications Certification Bodies (TCBs) to process certain applications for equipment authorization containing RF exposure evaluations. Training of the TCBs in RF exposure evaluation techniques will be conducted on August 27, 28 and 29, 2001, in Columbia, MD, in cooperation with the TCB Council. Additional information regarding the time and location of the training will be sent to TCBs in the near future. Following training of TCBs, we anticipate allowing TCBs to start processing such applications by October 1, 2001. This, along with continued processing of such applications by the FCC's Laboratory Division, will allow alternative paths to approval for equipment manufacturers, ensuring improvement in time-to-market for new devices.

Edition 01-01 provides for the interim use of existing head phantoms until the new standard head phantom described in the new guidelines is readily commercially available. When the new standard head phantom becomes commercially available, the Commission will issue a Public Notice establishing a transition period of 3-6 months to allow interested parties to acquire this head phantom. After the transition period, the new standard head phantom should be used for all SAR testing.

Parties are encouraged to use the guidelines contained in Edition 01-01 as soon as possible. The option of using a TCB to process applications for equipment authorization will be available only for applications with RF safety evaluations prepared in accordance with the new guidelines.

New Edition 01-01 of Supplement C supercedes previous Edition 97-01. The document may be downloaded from the Commission's public website in either Microsoft Word or Adobe Acrobat .pdf format at <http://www.fcc.gov/oet>.