Cellular Phone Sleeve
Accessory Guidance

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Laboratory Division
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Overview

Cellular phone sleeves have traditionally required independent inquiries depending upon usage & technology. FCC OET Lab is working to consolidate guidance pertaining to common sleeve types to streamline this process.

- Bluetooth based sleeves - Passive sleeves
- Wireless power transfer sleeves - Sleeves which disable phone capabilities
- Push-to-Talk sleeves - RFID reader sleeves
- Mobile hotspot sleeves - Alternative configurations

Sleeve guidance is required due to the interaction of the sleeve’s electrical & mechanical characteristics with the host device’s radiative properties.

- Potential for increased SAR due to additional transmitters
- Alteration in mode of usage (i.e. from side of head to front)
- Impact on client phone’s SAR pattern
- Potential to void the client phone’s FCC certification
General Guidance

Common guidance across historical sleeve inquiries has been tabulated and will be used as a foundation for sleeve testing.

This guidance should be applied to all forthcoming sleeve devices.

Goal is to ensure exposure compliance under all possible modes of sleeve and host phone interaction.

- Proprietary test codes and software required for host device testing may be unavailable to third-party manufacturers
  - Such restrictions may not enable third-party accessories to be tested with intended hosts to determine compliance
  - Hosts that can be fully tested with basestation simulators for 3G may also require ad hoc Wi-Fi test configurations, which should be confirmed through KDB inquiries to avoid issues

General guidance will be supplemented with guidance specific to sleeve design and usage.

A Cellular Phone Sleeve KDB publication is currently under internal review.
Specific Guidance by Sleeve Type

Common sleeve types, after applying the general guidance, may then apply existing KDB guidance pertinent to the sleeve’s specifications and potential test reduction.

- **Single Transmitter Bluetooth Based Sleeves**
  - KDB 648474 D04
  - Section 4.3 of KDB 447498 D01

- **Wireless Power Transfer (WPT) Sleeves**
  - KDB 680106 D01
  - WPT battery covers are not considered sleeves and are governed under KDB 648474 D03

- **Push-To-Talk Sleeves**
  - Section 6.1 of KDB 447498 D01

- **13.56 MHz RFID Reader Sleeves**
  - Section 4.3 of KDB 447498 D01
Specific Guidance by Sleeve Type

Common Guidance Continued

– Mobile Hotspot Sleeves
  • KDB 941225 D06
  • Section 4 of KDB 447498 D01

– Sleeves without Onboard Transmitters
  • Do not directly fall under the jurisdiction of the FCC
  • Are prohibited from nullifying host’s certification

– Sleeves Disabling Host’s Onboard Transmitters
  • Single frequency transmitting sleeves do not require simultaneous transmission testing

Alternative Configurations

• Dissimilar sleeve types should seek additional KDB guidance