Questions and Concerns of the Wireless Frequency Coordinators

From the OET meeting on May 20, 2011
Unlicensed Microphone Registration

• FCC plans to use the ULS for unlicensed registrations. Users will need to obtain a FRN
• OET will send the unlicensed microphone registration data of approved applications to the database administrators at the end of the 30-day public comment period
• Registrations can be renewed after one year, if appropriate
Unlicensed Microphone Registration

- Applications must state which channels need to be protected.
- Frequency coordinators may need to make changes during the 30-day period.
- “Downward (fewer channels) doesn’t bother the FCC; upward does”. Users will be allowed to change channels, if necessary.
- FCC is developing a guideline on what changes will be allowed during the 30-day period without requiring a new application.
Licensed Microphone Registration

• There is often a mix of licensed and unlicensed microphones at large venues
• Frequency coordinators are in favor of a single registration portal for licensed and unlicensed microphones. It this still under consideration?
• Users will also be able to register licensed microphones with any or all of the database administrators
Licensed Microphone Registration

• Especially if there will not be a single registration portal, frequency coordinators recommend adoption of a standardized spreadsheet that can be used at all database administrators’ registration sites

• OET indicated that they will post a sample input form on the Internet for comments
Database Synchronization

• How often will the databases be synchronized?
• FCC rules say “once/24 hours”
• In practice, will this happen more frequently? If so, how frequently?
• Will all databases update more frequently, or just certain ones?
• Why are the DBAs willing to do this?
Other Questions

• For large venues such as a stadium, theme park, or outdoor event, frequency coordinators will be able to specify multiple points or define a polygon to define a protected zone

• In some cases the protected zone might extend to the property boundary, while in others, it could be a smaller area
Other Questions

• Will the database administrators provide a Web page where wireless microphone users can check to find out which channels are reserved for microphones at a specific location?

• How will the location be input? Lat/Lon? Zip code? Street address? Multiple ways? Other?

• TVWS base stations are required to register in the database. Will the public be able to search the database for them and determine which channels they are operating on so they can avoid them?
Interference Resolution

• What is the process for resolving interference complaints?
• How long will that take?
• Will contact details for fixed TVWS stations be available in the database to facilitate interference resolution?
• If not, how would a frequency coordinator find out how to contact a TVWS operator?
Interference Resolution

• What if a TVWS device is causing interference at a live event? Can the site owner require the device to be shut down or removed?

• What steps is the Commission going to take to ensure that TVWS owners cannot easily “hack” their devices to ignore the database?

• How will the Commission deal with foreign devices that do not comply with FCC rules?