Equipment Authorization System (EAS) Update

Laboratory Division
Office of Engineering and Technology
George Tannahill

Note: The views expressed in this presentation are those of the authors and may not necessarily represent the views of the Federal Communications Commission.
Grantee Codes

New Grantee Code Assignments

– 2021 average 267/month
– January 2022 - 211 new codes assigned and paid
– February 2022 - 740 new codes assigned and paid
– March 2022 – 1151 new codes assigned
  • Payment required within 30 days
  • Unpaid codes
    – Information deleted
    – returned to assignment pool but reassignment not immediate
  • March 2022 final number of assigned codes not determined until early May after 30 day payment allowance.
Grantee Code numbers observations:

– Majority of new codes seem legitimate
– FCC defers grantee codes with invalid contact information and deletes after 30 days if not paid
– FCC is monitoring rate of increase to determine if it is a sustained trend
– FCC is assessing possible reasons for increase
– In general, an increase in the number of grantee codes leads to an increased number of Grants of Certification
Form 731 Application Submissions

Form 731 Application Submission Rate:

- 2020 submission rate ~2332/month
  - About 1% increase from 2019
- 2021 submission rate ~2686/month
  - About 15% increase from 2020
  - Total applications for year just over 32,000
- First three months 2022 submission rate ~3664/month
  - Projected total for year, at current rate, just under 44,000
  - Projected increase, at current rate, 36% from 2021
    - Typical late summer slowdown may lower total estimate

- Considerations:
  - More grants means more annual market surveillance testing
  - More grants typically coincides with increase in KDB inquiries
Federal Communications Commission Registration Number System (FRN)

- FRN’s assigned by FCC Cores System: www.fcc.gov/cores
  - Ten Digits long
- Required by all entities working with Federal Government
  - Used across multiple USG Agencies
  - All FCC EAS entities required to have FRN:
    - E.G. Grantees, TCBs, Test Firms, Accrediting Bodies, etc.
- CORES website modified to no longer allow login by FRN
  - Users must have username and password to login and FRN is now managed through username login

FCC uses a system known as Genesis to validate Grantee payment

- Genesis works with US Treasury Pay.Gov system to validate new grantee code payments. Genesis in not publicly visible but is critical to payment process. It was upgraded on April 5, 2022 and should reduce payment validation issues
FCC Related Web Process Updates

FCC Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS)

- [https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings](https://www.fcc.gov/ecfs/search/search-filings)
- [www.fcc.gov/ecfs](www.fcc.gov/ecfs)

- On April 4, 2022, the FCC implemented an updated search and submission website for reviewing or submitting public comments related FCC proceedings
  - Comments can only be submitted on open items during comment window specified in the specific proceeding
  - Comments can be reviewed at any time
FCC EAS Website Performance

FCC Equipment Authorization Electronic Filing System (EAS) Websites are continuing to see a high volume of public requests

- Volume of bot/automated requests is still high
- Steps to mitigate malicious or poorly constructed automated requests have been effective
- Performance issues discussed at October meeting have been mitigated
- Public user notifications of FCC EA Site issues is very low currently
- FCC continues to monitor sites and traffic
- If you encounter access issues notify FCC with specific details
FCC Website Changes

– FCC Site Performance Improvement Actions:
  • Implemented software to monitor EAS specific traffic to EAS websites
  • Block all known malicious sites automatically
  • Implement cached results if automated request has been recently made
    – This keeps traffic from hitting server multiple times for identical requests from same user in short time periods
      » New request will continue to reach the server directly
  • Implemented procedures to quickly identify, review and block high volume traffic sources that repeatedly impact performance
    – Blocked sources may appeal to FCC for reconsideration
EAS Modernization Update

- No significant updates since last TCBC Workshop
- FCC is assessing next steps, timeline and plan for implementation
  - Implementation date not determined at this time
- FCC is assessing defect resolution process
- FCC is continuing to work through system development lifecycle processes to ensure that effective support systems are in place when the process moves to production
Questions and Answers

Thanks