

EUROPEAN RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

ERC Decision
of 1 November 1996
on the adoption of approval regulations for
very high frequency (VHF), frequency modulated,
sound broadcasting transmitters
based on the European Telecommunications Standard
(ETS) 300 384
(ERC/DEC/(96)13)



WITHDRAWN

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1. INTRODUCTION

The free movement of radiocommunications goods and the provision of Europe-wide services for radiocommunications are only achievable if there exist common regulations throughout Europe regarding availability of frequency bands, approval requirements and border crossing procedures. A basic requirement to fulfil these objectives is the Europe-wide implementation of national regulations based on the European Telecommunications Standards (ETSS) developed by the European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI).

This Decision (ERC/DEC/(96)13) provides the necessary mechanism for CEPT Administrations to commit themselves to implement, within their national regimes, European Telecommunications Standard 300 384¹ and withdraw any conflicting national standard.

2. BACKGROUND

Both the ERC and ETSI are involved in the development of common regulations, as described in (1) above. The Memorandum of Understanding between ERC and ETSI explains the respective responsibilities of the two organisations and its annex describes the principles of co-operation. The ERC, for its part, should, *inter alia*, adopt Decisions on the introduction of ETSI standards into approval regimes.

ETS 300 384 has been prepared by the Joint Technical Committee of the European Broadcasting Union (EBU) and ETSI. The standard has undergone the ETSI standards approval procedure and is now published as an ETS.

The use of the frequency range (87.5 to 108 MHz) covered by ETS 300 384 is harmonised within CEPT. Further, the equipment used in this frequency range is subject to national licensing and frequency planning which requires specification of, *inter alia*, frequency of operation and equivalent isotropic radiated power (e.i.r.p.). Nevertheless, there are a number of parameters, in particular those considered by the ERC as essential for spectrum management purposes², which can be harmonised by adopting within approval regulations the limit values and measurement methods provided in ETS 300 384.

3. REQUIREMENT FOR AN ERC DECISION

The allocation and assignment of radio frequencies and the complementary equipment approval regimes in CEPT Member countries are laid down by law, regulation or administrative action. The ERC recognises that for harmonised broadcasting services to be introduced successfully throughout Europe, manufacturers and operators must be given the confidence to make the necessary investment in the development and procurement of new systems. Commitment by CEPT Administrations to implement this ERC Decision will provide a clear indication that equipment conforming to approval regulations based on ETS 300 384 will have the benefit of a Europe-wide market.

¹ ETS 300 384: "Radio broadcasting systems; Very High Frequency (VHF), frequency modulated, sound broadcasting transmitters" (Edition 1, 1995)

² See Annex 1 of the Decision

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The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations,

considering:

- a) that CEPT has a long term objective to harmonise the use of frequencies and the related regulatory regimes;
- b) that such harmonisation will benefit administrations, manufacturers, operators and users;
- c) that ETSI has published ETS 300 384 for equipment to be used for sound broadcasting transmitters in the 87.5 to 108 MHz frequency range;
- d) that, for the foreseeable future, there will continue to be widespread use of sound broadcasting equipment having the technical characteristics described in (c) above;
- e) that, in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding between ERC and ETSI, the ERC shall adopt ERC Decisions on the introduction of ETSI standards into approval regimes;
- f) that the use of radio equipment is subject to national licensing and frequency planning requirements, in particular for frequency of operation and e.i.r.p.;
- g) that suitable transitional arrangements are given in CEPT Recommendation T/R 01-05.

DECIDES

1. to adopt, by 1 March 1997, approval regulations for sound broadcasting equipment operating in the frequency range 87.5 to 108 MHz based on the limit values and measurement methods for spectrum management parameters contained in ETS 300 384, with the exclusion by national choice of those parameters which are subject to national licensing requirements. A list of the spectrum management parameters to be included in approval regulations is given in Annex 1;
2. to withdraw any conflicting national approval regulation(s);
3. that CEPT Member Administrations shall communicate the national measures implementing this Decision to the ERC Chairman and the ERO when the Decision is nationally implemented.

Note:

Please check the ERO web site (www.ero.dk) under "Documentation / Implementation" for the up to date position on the implementation of this and other ERC Decisions.

ANNEX 1

Parameters from ETS 300 384 to be included in approval regulations:

ETS 300 384	Section	Comments
Transmitter parameters (Section 4) :		
Carrier power	4.3	Subject to national licensing conditions
Deviation	4.8, 4.9	
Frequency error	4.5, 4.7	
Spurious emissions	4.11.1, 4.13 a	
Out of band emissions: stereo	4.11.2	
Out of band emissions: mono	4.11.3	