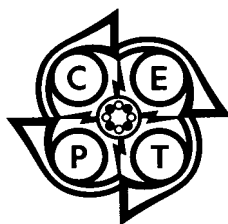


EUROPEAN RADIOCOMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

ERC Decision
of 20 March 1998
on the interconnection of PMR
and PAMR systems to a
Public Telecommunication Network

(ERC/DEC/(98)10)



EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

1 INTRODUCTION

PMR and PAMR are the terms used to describe Private Mobile Radio and Public Access Mobile Radio. PMR covers all self-provided networks, i.e. networks where radio communication is intended to be within an individually licensed closed user group. PAMR is basically a PMR radio system with a private operator providing a radio service to a closed user group or a number of closed user groups.

PMR and PAMR services have been areas where little harmonization has taken place during their development. The European situation is characterized by obstacles in meeting the demand for these services. Furthermore, lack of harmonization between national approaches to these services has been detrimental to the development of the services and the cost of equipment.

2 BACKGROUND

From the comments received in the public consultation phase of the EC Mobile Green Paper, as well as the contributions to the ERO DSI-2 report, it can be concluded that harmonization of regulations and other factors e.g. interconnection to a public telecommunication network would be much welcomed by the parties wishing to operate and use these services.

However, it is important to ensure that such interconnection does not degrade the prime purpose of the network, which is to enable efficient communications within the closed private user group; and that the efficient use of the frequency spectrum inherent in PMR and PAMR systems is also not significantly degraded.

3 REQUIREMENT FOR AN ERC DECISION

Allowing the interconnection of PMR and PAMR equipment to Public Telecommunications Networks has been identified as a matter of significant harmonization within the CEPT. A Decision on interconnection is the appropriate measure to achieve the desired harmonization.

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The European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations,

considering:

- a) that "interconnection" between a PMR or PAMR system and a public telecommunication network is where there is a connection from the control point of the PMR or PAMR system to the public network, so that a mobile unit belonging to the system can initiate or receive a call from any subscriber who has access to the public telecommunication network;
- b) that such interconnection is not intended to provide a full telephone service like cellular radio and is only intended to be used by the organization owning the PMR or the PAMR system;
- c) that interconnection is currently not permitted by all administrations and when allowed it is subject to excessive restrictions;
- d) that it is desirable that administrations lift the existing restrictions; however, for spectrum management reasons it may sometimes be necessary to impose conditions when lifting those restrictions;
- e) that PMR and PAMR services may be open communications, therefore in order to make users aware about the lack of confidentiality of the communications, conditions for interconnection to a public telecommunication network may need to be included in the licence;
- f) that the technical characteristics of PMR networks, e.g. simplex operation, may require administrations to place conditions on the interconnection;
- g) that the interconnection of PMR and PAMR systems to a public telecommunication network is subject to an agreement between the owner of the PMR or PAMR system and the operator of the public telecommunication network;
- h) that the Directive 97/33/EC deals with the interconnection in telecommunication with regard to ensuring universal service and interoperability through application of the ONP principles;
- i) that the European Union legislation concerning telecommunication terminal equipment regulates the conformity assessment and placing on the market of telecommunications terminals;

DECIDES

1. that administrations shall allow PMR and PAMR systems operated on exclusive frequencies and in appropriate cases on frequencies shared with other PMR and PAMR users to interconnect to a public telecommunication network;
2. that administrations may restrict this facility if the interconnection results in frequency congestion in certain geographical areas;
3. that this Decision shall enter into force on 1 April 1998;
4. that CEPT 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.