

Redeployment

Migration to
Spectrum Efficient
Radio Equipment

***Frequently
Asked
Questions***

Why should I read this brochure?

This brochure will answer the most common questions asked about Industry Canada's Redeployment Plan. It will explain to you why you may be required to update your two-way radio equipment. It will also help you to understand the issues behind the Redeployment Plan as well as to understand the impact the Plan will have on your current and future two-way radio systems.

What is the Redeployment Plan?

Industry Canada recognizes that it is becoming increasingly difficult in certain geographical areas of Canada to meet the demand of two-way radio users for radio channels. These areas are currently lacking a sufficient number of radio channels to support the continuing increase in two-way radio systems.

The Redeployment Plan is a framework of policy and equipment certification provisions to encourage two-way radio users, both large and small, to adopt more radio spectrum efficient equipment which, in turn, will create more radio channels to meet the demand of two-way radio users.

The Plan will provide for a gradual transition to more radio spectrum efficient radios with a minimum of disruption to existing users while recognizing Canada's regional differences. The Plan will be applicable to two-way radio systems operating within the radio spectrum congested areas in Canada, but may also be applied to systems in areas surrounding the congested areas which impede the implementation of the Plan.

Which frequency bands will be affected?

As part of its gradual introduction, the Redeployment Plan focuses on the following radio frequency bands:

VHF 138-144 MHz and 148-174 MHz
UHF 406.1-430 MHz and 450-470 MHz

How will the Redeployment Plan be implemented?

The Redeployment Plan has a two-phase approach:

Phase I

December 15 1998 – new two-way radio systems established in spectrum congested areas are required to meet Phase I spectrum

efficiency standards. Systems existing in congested areas prior to this date, and not meeting efficiency standards are considered non-standard. The migration of non-standard systems to the Phase I efficiency standard will commence January 2004. Industry Canada will notify radio licensees who are operating non-standard systems if they are required to meet the spectrum efficiency standard and the date for compliance.

Licensees who have not received notification of the requirement to comply with the spectrum efficiency standard may continue to operate provided that:

- Such operation does not block the entry/assignment into the particular frequency band of any standard two-way radio system*
- No harmful interference is caused to other standard two-way radio systems*
- No protection from interference is claimed from standard two-way radio systems.*

Phase II

January 2005 – new two-way radio systems established in spectrum congested areas must meet more stringent spectrum efficiency standards than those defined for Phase I.

January 2010 – two-way radio systems meeting Phase I requirements will be considered non-standard. Two-way radio systems deemed non-standard under Phase I will be required to meet Phase II spectrum efficiency standards.

The Redeployment Plan offers flexibility in implementation based on local considerations. For example, the length of Phase I can be extended or Phase II postponed depending on equipment availability.

What effects will the Redeployment Plan have on my current and future systems?

Effective January 2004, two-way radio systems must be updated if they impede the development of systems that meet or exceed the spectrum efficiency standard. Industry Canada will inform radio licensees two years in advance of the need to update their equipment to conform with spectrum efficiency standards.

Industry Canada may authorize the expansion of existing two-way radio systems not meeting the spectrum efficiency standard with the understanding that in the future these systems may be required to conform to the Redeployment Plan.

Will equipment manufacturers produce the spectrum efficient equipment?

Since February 24, 1997 all new models of two-way radio equipment introduced into the market place meet or exceed the spectrum efficiency standard adopted by Industry Canada. Currently, there are many manufacturers producing equipment in accordance with the spectrum efficiency standard. The majority of this equipment is also capable of operating under the old efficiency standards.

What are the benefits of early adoption of redeployment?

There are three main benefits of early adoption of the Redeployment Plan:

- Qualified users who change their equipment early will receive first consideration to be licensed on the new spectrum when it becomes available*
- Users who meet the new standards early will avoid being displaced from their current frequency, and can plan their two-way radio systems more effectively*
- Users who meet the standards early will have a greater amortization period for their Phase I compliant equipment before Phase II comes into effect.*

What advice would Industry Canada offer its clients?

Industry Canada advises that any new two-way radio equipment you purchase should meet or exceed the Redeployment Plan's equipment efficiency standards. The cost associated with the replacement of your radio system will be at your expense and should be considered in your business plans.

Further information

For further information on Industry Canada's Redeployment Plan in the Frequency Range 100-500 MHz (RDP 100-500 MHz), please contact your local radio equipment supplier, the Industry Canada – Spectrum Management office nearest you or visit our Internet site at: <http://strategis.ic.gc.ca>

References

Redeployment Plan (RDP 100-500MHz)

Radio System Specifications RSS-119

Radio System Policy RP-004

SP 30-896 Part II

Radiocommunication Information Circular RIC-6

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