Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
OFFICE OF SECRETARY

In the Matter of	)	
	)	
Petitions for Rulemaking to Allocate	)	
the 5 GHz Band and Adopt	)	RM-8648
Service Rules for a Shared Unlicensed	)	RM-8653
Personal Radio Network	)	

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To: The Commission

REPLY COMMENTS

Pursuant to Section 1.405 of the Commission's Rules,[1] Alcatel Network Systems, Inc. ("ANS"),[2] by its attorney, hereby submits its reply comments on the above-captioned Petitions for Rulemaking (the "Petitions").[3]

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[1]47 C.F.R. Section 1.405 (1994).

[2]ANS is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Alcatel Alsthom ("Alcatel"), one of the world's largest corporations (with annual sales in excess of $30 billion) and the world's largest manufacturer and supplier of telecommunications equipment. In particular, Alcatel is the world's largest independent manufacturer and supplier of microwave radios. Formerly Collins Radio and Rockwell International, ANS, with over $500 million in annual sales, is a world leader in manufacturing microwave and light wave transmission systems. ANS' equipment is used for a wide range of services, including short, medium and long-haul voice, video and data transmission. Its microwave customers include all the Bell Operating Companies, most major independent telephone companies, cellular operators, power and other utility companies, oil companies, railroads, industrial companies, and state and local government agencies.

[3]Given the similarity between the two proposals, the Commission has consolidated the Petitions. See Order Extending Time (DA 95-1254, released June 8, 1995), in which the Chief, Office of Engineering and Technology, established July 10, 1995, as the date for comments on both Petitions.

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List A B C D E ET

Both Petitions involve a different proposed reallocation of the 5 GHz band to accommodate unlicensed high-speed, wireless digital services ("HSWDS").[4] In reply comments filed contemporaneously herewith, the Fixed Point-to-Point Communications Section, Network Equipment Division of the Telecommunications Industry Association ("TIA"), details the serious reservations expressed in various comments that must be resolved before the 5 GHz band could be reallocated for the new unlicensed HSWDS.

Specifically, the record reflects that several parties in this proceeding have the following questions about certain elements of these proposals:

- Apple's proposal, which contemplates unlicensed "community wide" networks with 10-15 km long paths, unnecessarily: (i) would cause harmful interference to other users; (ii) would usurp valuable spectrum in the 5 GHz band for short hop HSWDS links where alternative bands are available for such users; and (iii) would duplicate licensed fixed point-to-point microwave networks.[5]

- Necessary band sharing with existing services has not been demonstrated to be attainable.[6]

These questions have not been answered. Even though HSWDS is a valuable potential service, it is premature to even consider proposing allocation of the 5 GHz band for this technology until such questions are answered, especially with respect to Apple's proposals for unlicensed 10-15 km short hop HSWDS links. Thus, ANS joins TIA in recommending that the Commission adopt a

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[4]In RM-8648, the Wireless Information Networks Forum ("WINForum") filed a Petition for Rulemaking ("WINForum Petition") requesting that the 5.10-5.35 GHz band be reallocated for its Shared Unlicensed PErsonal Radio Network ("SUPERNet"). Similarly, in RM-8653, Apple Computer, Inc. ("Apple") filed a Petition for Rulemaking ("Apple Petition") requesting that the 5.15-5.30 and 5.725-5.875 GHz bands be reallocated to establish the "NII Band."

[5]See, e.g., AT&T Corp. ("AT&T") at 2; Harris Corporation-Farinon Division ("Harris") at 4; The American Radio Relay League, Incorporated ("ARRL") at 6-7.

[6]See, e.g., Constellation Communications, Inc. at 2-3; AT&T at 5; Loral/Qualcomm Partnership, L.P. at 1; ARRL at 2-3, 8-13; Federal Aviation Administration at 1-3; Harris at 4.

Notice of Inquiry so that a formal proceeding would be established to determine if the issues raised in the Apple and WINForum proposals can be resolved.

Respectfully submitted,

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July 24, 1995

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I hereby certify that a true and correct copy of the foregoing Reply Comments was sent via first class mail, postage prepaid, to the following parties on the 24th day of July, 1995.

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