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FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

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Federal Communications Commission
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In the Matter of)
)
Amendment of the Commission's) GEN Docket No. 90-314
Rules to Establish New Personal)
Communications Services)

UTAM REPORT TO THE FCC

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Office of the Secretary
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UTAM REPORT TO THE FCC

UTAM, Inc. ("UTAM"), the frequency coordinator for unlicensed personal communications service ("UPCS"), herewith submits its fourth report on implementation of the UTAM Plan for Financing and Managing 2 GHz Microwave Relocation.¹ As detailed below, UTAM has continued to fulfill its obligations to make significant progress in facilitating the deployment of UPCS devices. As stated in earlier reports, the successful deployment of UPCS products is increasing and additional manufacturers have completed the steps necessary to begin product deployment. UTAM is further encouraged that experience with its procedures for deploying UPCS products developed over the past year has demonstrated their effectiveness in overseeing the deployment of devices while protecting incumbent microwave licensees' operations from interference.

¹ UTAM Plan for Financing and Managing 2 GHz Microwave Relocation, GEN Docket No. 90-314 (filed Aug. 1, 1994) [hereinafter "UTAM Plan"]. On April 19, 1995, the Commission formally approved UTAM as the UPCS frequency coordinator. As part of its responsibilities, UTAM was charged with submitting biannual progress reports to update: (a) the financial and band-clearing plans; (b) projections of future band clearing; (c) the extent of incumbent microwave relocations; (d) the extent of UPCS device deployment; and (e) any difficulties encountered in implementing the UTAM Plan. Amendment of the Commission's Rules to Establish New Personal Communications Services, 10 FCC Rcd 7955 (1995) (Fourth Memorandum Opinion and Order).

I. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

UTAM continues to meet the objectives established by the Commission in bringing UPCS systems to the public. During the latest reporting period, the processes and procedures put in place to allow the deployment of UPCS devices have worked well and have been readily adhered to by manufacturers of UPCS devices². UTAM will continue to monitor these processes and procedures and make any refinements deemed necessary.

Since UTAM filed its third report with the Commission, UTAM is pleased to report that the following tasks have been accomplished:

- Additional manufacturers have begun deploying products in the UPCS band and overall product deployment continues to grow at an increased rate.
- Additional manufacturers have signed Subscriber Agreements with UTAM.
- UTAM has certified additional unlicensed PCS devices and systems in accordance with UTAM's Disablement Test Suite and Location Verification Process.
- UTAM has issued another 240 Zone 1 Prior Coordination Notices ("PCNs") within the previous six months and now has 608 Zone 1 counties open to UPCS deployment.
- UTAM has brought on a new Managing Director to manage its day-to-day activities, manage UTAM's finances, oversee UTAM's Database Management System, establish a liaison between UTAM and other organizations affected by operations in the unlicensed PCS band and to manage the transition of microwave incumbents.

² Under FCC rules, parties must execute a signed Subscriber Agreement with UTAM, receive UTAM certification and obtain FCC authorization before marketing or installing a UPCS product of device. See 47 C.F.R § 15.307.

II. DEPLOYMENT ACTIVITIES

UTAM is pleased to report that the procedures developed to facilitate the deployment of UPCS devices continue to be successfully implemented and have been readily adhered to by manufacturers. In an ongoing effort to effectively streamline its operations and to respond to suggestions made by participating manufacturers and others, UTAM will continue to evaluate and refine certain of those procedures, as needed.

A. Subscriber Agreement

All manufacturers intending to deploy UPCS products must sign a Subscriber Agreement with UTAM agreeing to comply with the Commission's rules and UTAM's procedures regarding the sale of UPCS devices and systems. Since UTAM filed its third report with the Commission, several new manufacturers have signed Subscriber Agreements with UTAM, indicating that interest in sales of UPCS products remains strong.

B. Coordinatable Equipment Certification

UTAM has fully implemented the certification procedures necessary to establish that UPCS equipment will comply with the FCC's mandated disablement requirements. By requiring that installed UPCS equipment remain in its pre-coordinated location or cease operation, the Location Verification Process and Disablement Test Suite ("LVP") ensures that equipment deployed prior to full band clearing will not cause harmful interference to microwave incumbents.

Under UTAM's contract with Communications Certification Laboratory ("CCL"), an independent laboratory specializing in certification, manufacturers' UPCS equipment is tested for compliance with all applicable LVP requirements. To date, several manufacturers have successfully completed the UTAM certification process.

C. UPCS and Microwave Database Management System

Since UTAM filed its third report to the Commission, the UTAM Database Management System (DBMS) continues to perform as designed. Members are complying with the requirements set forth in the Subscriber Agreement to update the database when product has been sold and installed that allows UTAM to monitor market development, aggregate power generation and potential interference developments. UTAM members have also been using the DBMS as a tool to determine the availability of a particular location for UPCS product sales.

UTAM also continues to review the performance of the DBMS and to upgrade database capabilities as required. Currently under development are a number of reports to help both users of the DBMS and UTAM staff access information in a more user friendly format, as well as on-line notification to users of open records and status of pending installations.

D. Prior Coordination Notice ("PCN") Procedure

UTAM has completed the classification of counties in the United States based upon a two-zone classification system. Zone 1 counties are those counties distant from existing microwave operations which permit deployment of UPCS products up to a pre-determined and "pre-coordinated" power limit. In contrast, Zone 2 counties have existing microwave operations either nearby or in the county and, as a result, UPCS product deployments cannot occur within their boundaries until a site-specific coordination has been successfully completed.

UTAM's Prime Frequency Coordinator, Comsearch, issued a total of 240 PCNs for Zone 1 candidate counties during the most recent reporting period, bringing the total number of Zone 1 PCNs issued to 608. A Zone 1 PCN notifies appropriate microwave incumbents that UTAM has declared a county to be a Zone 1 candidate and that the county will be "pre-coordinated" for a particular power level as determined in accordance with current TIA Bulletin 10 guidelines. UTAM plans to issue at minimum an additional 480 PCNs in Zone 1 candidate counties in 1997.

E. Product Deployment

Since the last reporting period, product deployment continues at an increased pace, indicating significant interest in products utilizing the UPCS band. UTAM continues to coordinate the deployment of these unlicensed devices and to collect the associated clearing fees. As more fully detailed in UTAM's Plan³ filed with the Commission, UTAM

³ See footnote 1.

will use these fees to finance the relocation of microwave incumbents from the spectrum allocated to UPCS.

F. Nomadic Device Deployment

The FCC has mandated that UTAM develop a spectrum clearing plan that will facilitate the rapid deployment of nomadic devices. As noted in its third report, UTAM has formed a specific subcommittee to consider this issue and present recommendations to the Board of Trustees. This subcommittee is currently concluding the first phase of a technical study to determine the feasibility of deploying nomadic devices prior to full band clearing. Should any option prove feasible, UTAM has allocated funds in 1997 for a more detailed technical analysis.

III. RELOCATION ACTIVITIES

The successful deployment of UPCS products ultimately depends on the relocation of existing microwave incumbents. In order to effectively facilitate such relocation, UTAM has identified the incumbents that currently occupy the unlicensed band, as well as the respective PCS licensees of the frequencies of the co-channels that share the unlicensed band. Since the last report, UTAM has also held discussions with representatives of the respective clearinghouses established for cost sharing relocation expenses to further refine its clearing priorities. UTAM is hopeful that the Commission's recently adopted rules regarding cost sharing will facilitate further discussions with

incumbents and encourage the efficient transition of their operations to comparable facilities.

UTAM will adhere to the guidelines set forth by the Commission regarding cost sharing. UTAM has met with both representatives from PCIA and ITA, the designated clearinghouses, to discuss arrangements of cost sharing and the sharing of information necessary to effectively manage this transition.

UTAM remains committed to relocating microwave incumbents currently operating in the unlicensed PCS band in accordance with the priorities set forth in its Plan and in previously filed reports. Although it remains committed to relocating microwave links, UTAM will begin relocation of a particular link only at such time as it has available all funds necessary to complete relocation of that link. UTAM will continue to meet with microwave incumbents and PCS licensees to discuss the opportunity to relocate the incumbent's existing microwave operations in order to facilitate the relocation of these links.

IV. OPERATIONAL, ORGANIZATIONAL AND FINANCIAL STATUS

A. Operational Status

As noted above, UTAM is currently using the operational procedures that it put in place to oversee the deployment of UPCS devices and coordinate deployment with incumbent microwave systems. UTAM will continue to evaluate these processes and refine them as necessary.

UTAM has also recently appointed a new Managing Director to manage its day-to-day operations, develop liaisons with other industry bodies impacted by UPCS, and oversee UTAM's finances. As a result, UTAM has recently taken several steps to refine its operation and business control systems. For example, beginning in 1997, UTAM will begin issuing its members Financial Account Statements reflecting the member's contributions of advanced clearing funds, membership fees, any interest earned on advanced funds, funds applied to clearing fees, as well as any clearing fees that they have paid over the course of the year. These financial statements will be issued on a quarterly basis. In addition, UTAM is also in the process of relocating its offices from Washington, DC to Bridgewater, NJ to minimize its operating expenses. UTAM's 800 contact number (1-800-429-UTAM) will remain the same.

B. Membership and Staffing

Since its last report, UTAM voting membership has increased from eleven to twelve members. Tadiran Electronic Industries, Inc., is now a voting member in addition to Ericsson, Inc., Harris Digital Telephone Systems, Lucent Technologies, Motorola, Inc., NEC America, Nortel, Omnipoint Corporation, PCSI, Siemens Rolm Communications, Inc., Sony Corporation of America and SpectraLink Corporation. In addition, UTAM also has numerous associate members⁴. UTAM is confident that additional manufacturers

⁴ A complete list of UTAM Board of Trustees and Associate Members is attached as Appendix A.

and distributors will become voting members with the increased levels of UPCS product deployment.

As of the third report filed with the Commission, the Vice-President position on the Board of Trustees was vacant. The Board of Trustees recently elected Mr. Paul Weismantel from NEC America to this position.

UTAM's subcommittee structure continues to provide the Board of Trustees with additional operational support. Subcommittee membership is open to any interested party, and several member and non-member companies continue to participate actively in this regard. A list of the current UTAM subcommittees is provided in Appendix B.

C. Funding

As stated in the third report to the Commission, UTAM has continued to collect clearing fees from the deployment of UPCS products. UTAM forecasts indicate that these fees, combined with UTAM's current assets, will put UTAM in a sound financial position for the upcoming year. UTAM has finalized its 1997 operational budget based on a self-funding operation attained through the collection of these clearing fees. This budget is designed to allow UTAM to fulfill its objectives in clearing the UPCS band while giving it flexibility to increase its efforts should circumstances warrant.

V. OUTREACH ACTIVITIES

UTAM has continued its efforts to maintain contacts with other PCS-related industry groups in order to remain current on industry developments. As noted earlier, UTAM has recently met with representatives of PCIA and ITA clearinghouses to discuss UTAM's participation in the FCC's cost sharing process.

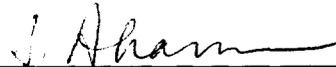
Through its members, UTAM also participates in other industry-wide seminars and trade shows to increase the awareness of the market for UPCS devices. In addition, UTAM continues to answer inquiries regarding its objectives and processes and provides information to interested parties as necessary.

VI. CONCLUSION

UTAM is pleased to report that the framework that has been established for the deployment of unlicensed devices is working successfully. The continued growth of UPCS sales, the adherence by manufacturers to UTAM's operational processes and its continued efforts to prevent interference to microwave incumbents indicate that UTAM is on a proper course for fulfilling its overall charter. UTAM will continue to monitor and refine its operations to meet the dynamics of the UPCS market and looks forward to the challenges that lie ahead.

Respectfully Submitted,

UTAM, INC.

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January 2, 1997

APPENDIX A

UTAM BOARD OF TRUSTEES AND ASSOCIATE MEMBERS

VOTING MEMBERS

Ericsson Inc.- Guy Campbell **
Harris Digital Telephone Systems - Dan Foley **
Lucent Technologies, Inc. - Sandy Abramson (President) **
Motorola, Inc. - Robert Hayes **
NEC America - Paul Weismantel (Vice-President) **
Northern Telecom - Ron Cross (Treasurer) **
Omnipoint Corporation - Anna Miller **
PCSI - Steve Sivitz **
Siemens Rolm Communications Inc. - Andy Balaschak **
Sony Corporation of America - Andrew Zidel **
SpectraLink Corporation - Ben Guderian (Secretary) **
Tadiran Electronic Industries, Inc.

** Member of the Board of Trustees

UTAM ASSOCIATE MEMBERS (1995 and 1996)

Alcatel Network Systems	American Association of Railroads
American PCSLP	American Personal Communications
Andrew Corporation	Association of American Railroads
Atlanta Financial Center	BellSouth Wireless Inc.
California Microwave Telecom	Columbia Spectrum Management
Communications Certification Laboratory	Comsearch
CTP Systems	Digital Microwave Corporation
Digital Wireless Corp.	Harris Corporation
Hewlett-Packard Company	Hitachi Telecom
IBM Research Laboratory	Industrial Telecommunications Association
Iwatsu America, Inc.	Locate
MCC Panasonic	Metrocall
Mitel Corporation	Moffett, Larson & Johnson, Inc
Nokia Mobil Phones	Pacific Telecom
PathNet, Inc.	PCIA/Naber
Plantronics	PTI Communications
Radio Dynamics	Rockwell International
Southwestern Bell	SPC Electronics
Sprint	Tenneco Energy
Thompson Consumer Electronics	U.S. West Paging, Inc.
UTC	Wise Communications, Inc.

APPENDIX B

UTAM SUBCOMMITTEES

The following identifies the UTAM subcommittees and the issues over which each has oversight responsibilities. Parties interested in participating in any of the subcommittees should contact Mike Stima at (908) 526-3636.

Certification Subcommittee. The Certification Subcommittee is responsible for addressing issues relating to UTAM's Certification Procedures and Disablement and Location Verification Process ("LVP").

Database Subcommittee. The Database Subcommittee is responsible for the continued operation and enhancement of UTAM's database management system.

Operations Subcommittee. The Operations Subcommittee is charged with developing and executing UTAM's policies and operational procedures for microwave relocation. It also works with the Prime Frequency Coordinator on coordination activities and the development and implementation of UPCS procedures. Current tasks include considering cost sharing issues and working with the Market Subcommittee to recommend microwave link relocation priorities.

Market Subcommittee. The Market Subcommittee is responsible for modifications to the clearing fee collection mechanism, the prioritization of microwave links for the relocation of microwave links, and UTAM's outreach activities. It also is the forum for handling deployment-related concerns and for coordinating UTAM publicizing activities.

Nomadic Device Evaluation Subcommittee. The Nomadic Device Evaluation Subcommittee is responsible for reviewing issues relating to nomadic device deployment and determining the action required to facilitate early deployment of such devices.