

CTIA

Building The Wireless Future™
Cellular Telecommunications & Internet Association

May 21, 2003

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
12th Street Lobby, TW-A325
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: *Ex Parte* Presentation
WT Docket No. 01-309**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

On May 20, 2003, the Cellular Telecommunications & Internet Association (“CTIA”), represented by Diane Cornell, Vice President for Regulatory Affairs; Jo-Anne Basile, Vice President for External & Industry Relations, and Ron Barnes, Director for State Affairs; and the Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS) represented by Ed Hall, Vice President for Technology Development; and Tim Jeffries, Director - ACTA/Technology Development, met with Julie Knapp, Office of Engineering and Technology; Rashmi Doshi, Office of Engineering and Technology, Laboratory Division; Greg Guice, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, Policy Division; and Sean Devlin, Intern.

At the meeting the parties discussed the FCC’s ongoing proceeding regarding hearing aid compatibility. Specifically, CTIA discussed efforts underway to make publicly available additional information about wireless phones on the market today that would be useful to consumers with hearing aids in evaluating which digital phones would work best with their hearing aid.

Along with ATIS, CTIA also discussed the wireless industry’s belief that a focused effort coordinated by ATIS’s Incubator Solutions Program, would be required to validate the ANSI C63.19 hearing aid compatibility standard and to develop an inductive coupling standard for digital wireless phones, in light of the fact that one does not exist



today. Ideally, this effort would include hearing aid industry participation. The Incubator process, if utilized, would provide for a timely and efficient method of addressing the questions and potential concerns both the wireless and hearing aid industries have about the ANSI C63.19 standard in its current version.

Finally, CTIA reiterated its position that consumers would not be well served overall if the wireless exemption granted in the Hearing Aid Compatibility Act were lifted altogether, or if a “one-size-fits-all” solution was imposed.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206 of the Commission’s Rules, this letter is being electronically filed with your office. If you have any questions concerning this submission, please contact the undersigned.

Sincerely,

Diane Cornell

Ed Hall

Diane Cornell

Ed Hall

cc: Julius Knapp
Rashmi Doshi
Greg Guice
Sean Devlin

