



# **UK Radio Licence Interface Requirement 2017 for Remote Meter Reading Operator Services**

**Version 1.0**

98/34/EC Notification Number: 2000/391/UK

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## **References**

- MPT 1601 Department of Trade and Industry Performance Specification – Technical requirements for the testing, type approval and licensing of Short Range Radio Devices for Remote Meter Reading in the frequency band 183.5 MHz to 184.5 MHz.
- I-ETS 300 220 Interim European Technical Specification - Radio Equipment and Systems (RES); Short Range Devices (SRDs); Technical characteristics and test methods for radio equipment to be used in the 25 MHz to 1000 MHz frequency range with power levels ranging up to 500 mW.

## **1. Foreword**

- 1.1 The Radio Equipment and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment Directive 99/5/EC (R&TTE Directive) was implemented in the United Kingdom (UK) on the 8 April 2000 by The Radio Equipment and Telecommunications Terminal Equipment Regulations 2000, Statutory Instrument SI730. In accordance with Articles 4.1 and 7.2 of Directive 1999/5/EC, this UK Radio Interface Requirement contains the requirements for the licensing and use of Remote Meter Reading radio systems in the specified frequency bands.
- 1.2 Nothing in this UK Radio Interface Requirement shall preclude the need for equipment to comply with the requirements of Directive 99/5/EC.
- 1.3 It is required by the Wireless Telegraphy Act 1949 that no radio equipment is installed or used in the UK except under the authority of a licence granted by or otherwise exempted by regulations made by the Secretary of State. It is a condition of such a licence or exemption regulations as appropriate that the equipment must meet the minimum requirements specified in this UK Radio Interface Requirement for the stated equipment types and for the stated frequency bands.
- 1.4 The criteria given in the main body of this UK Radio Interface Requirement will apply in the licensing of Remote Meter Reading services in the UK
- 1.5 This UK Radio Interface Requirement will be revised as necessary, for example to follow:
  - i) current technology developments for reasons related to the effective and appropriate use of the spectrum in particular maximising spectrum utilisation; and
  - ii) changes to the available spectrum allocated for Remote Meter Reading radio systems.
- 1.6 The RA has publicly consulted with manufacturers and operators on all aspects of this UK Radio Interface Requirement. All UK Radio Interface Requirements notified under Directive 98/34/EC will be published and will be made available free of charge from the RA Information and Library Service and/or the RA web-site. The addresses for both the Library and the web-site are given on the back cover of this document.
- 1.7 Further information on this UK Radio Interface Requirement can be obtained from the technical enquiry contact given on the back of this document.

## **2. Minimum Equipment Requirements for Operation within the UK**

- 2.1 The minimum requirements in this document are made for reasons related to the effective and appropriate use of the radio spectrum, in particular maximising spectrum utilisation.
- 2.2 This UK Radio Interface Requirement gives a high level description of how the spectrum in the UK is used for Remote Meter Reading systems. It does not prescribe a technical interpretation of the ‘essential requirements’ of Directive 1999/5/EC.
- 2.3 This UK Radio Interface Requirement therefore stipulates the necessary equipment parameters for the licensing of Remote Meter Reading radio equipment in the UK. Table 2.1 contains the relevant equipment parameters. These together with the ‘essential requirement’ detailed in Article 3.2 of the Directive 1999/5/EC constitute the minimum equipment requirements for Remote Meter Reading radio equipment within the UK.
- 2.4 The technical parameters specified in the UK Radio Interface Requirement are applied to achieve the desired level of compatibility within the Remote Meter Reading Operator Service and with other radiocommunications services whilst promoting enterprise, innovation and competition.
- 2.5 This UK Radio Interface Requirement provides the necessary technical information which facilitates access to the Remote Meter Reading Operator Service spectrum by making clear the assumptions that are made in planning the use Remote Meter Reading Operator Service spectrum in the UK. It is not the intention of this UK Radio Interface Requirement to duplicate or impose any additional ‘essential requirements’ of the Directive 1999/5/EC on products. Any specified parameters within this document are for the purpose of identifying product options and not as a national product requirement.

**Table 2.1: Minimum Equipment Requirements for Remote Meter Reading Services**

| <b>Operational Frequency Range</b> | <b>Lower Frequency Limit</b>                   | <b>Upper Frequency Limit</b> | <b>Additional Technical Information</b>  |
|------------------------------------|--|------------------------------|--|
|                                    | 183.5 MHz                                      | 184.5 MHz                    | 1.Licences may not be issued for apparatus using certain frequencies.<br>2. Equipment shall be capable of operating on any one channel in the frequency bands allocated. |
| <b>Channel Spacing</b>             | 25 kHz, 50 kHz, or 200 kHz                     |                              |  |
| <b>Emission Designation</b>        | Not Defined / (Less than 200 kHz)              |                              | Necessary bandwidths less that that shown are permitted.   |
| <b>Output Power</b>                | 100 mW ERP for Equipment Categories 1, 2 and 3 |                              | Maximum ERP. Site Clearance considerations may impose additional restrictions on maximum power used on certain channels.   |
| <b>WT-Act Licence Required?</b>    | Yes  |                              |  |
| <b>T-Act Licence Required?</b>     | Public Operators                               |                              |  |
| <b>Access Protocol</b>             | Not Defined J                                  |                              |  |

## **Annex A. Additional Performance Parameters (Informative)**

- A.1 MPT 1601 defines radio equipment designed for use in the 183.5 to 184.5 MHz band assigned to Remote Meter Reading (RMR) and tested to I-ETS 300 220. Any type of modulation may be used for data transmission. Analogue or digital speech is not permitted over the radio link.
- A.2 Under MPT 1601 the equipment for type testing shall be submitted under one of the following categories:
- Category 1: Consumer unit; a transmitter with a maximum effective radiated power of 100 mW, with or without a receiver
  - Category 2: Node unit; a transmitter, with a maximum effective radiated power of 100 mW, with or without a receiver
  - Category 3: Concentrator (Fixed, or Mobile); a transmitter, with a maximum effective radiated power of 100 mW, with or without a receiver.

## Document history

| Draft | Date     | Changes |
|-------|----------|---------|
| 0.2   | 03/07/00 |         |
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