

Consultation response form

Please complete this form in full and return to liz.hall@ofcom.org.uk.

	Call for input: Sector Spectrum Review - Programme Making and Special Events (PMSE)
Full name	
Representing (delete as appropriate)	Prestige Sound
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Confidentiality

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For confidential responses, can Ofcom publish a reference to the contents of your response?	Yes / No

Your response

Question	Your response
Section 3 –Spectrum use by the PMSE sector in the UK Question 1: What are your views on how our processes work - for example our online booking system, turnaround times, and event coordination. Do you think the current approach works well? How could we improve it?	Confidential? – N I don't know enough about it to form an opinion.

<p>Section 4 – PMSE historic trends</p> <p>Question 2: Do you have any comments on how we have analysed and characterised wireless microphone and IEM demand, or suggestions for alternative ways of characterising this demand?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>There’s nothing I would immediately argue with. In relation to IEMs and Radio microphones that I use, they’re described in the right way.</p>
<p>Question 3: Do you have any comments on how we have analysed and characterised wireless video demand, or suggestions for alternative ways of characterising wireless video demand?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>Perfectly happy.</p>
<p>Section 5 – Future trends and opportunities</p> <p>Wireless audio</p> <p>Drivers of demand</p> <p>Question 4: What factors have driven changes in the demand for audio PMSE applications, specifically for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the increased use of coordinated wireless microphones and IEMs, particularly the peak number of simultaneous assignments used at the largest events? a) the slight decline in the number of national wireless microphone licences (UHF channel 38 and VHF)? Has the extent of use of these licences changed, and if so why? b) the declines in talkback, fixed audio links and ADS licences? 	<p>Confidential? N</p> <p>I can’t speak for everyone, but as a professional who has both used other’s services and provide my own services, reliability and predictability are important, and even at the lower end of the industry, clients have little tolerance for ‘noise’ or problems in the systems they’re paying to hire. And my choice to invest heavily in CH38 RF Radio mic and IEM equipment is because that they provide almost 100% reliability and predictability when providing for clients, which serves my interests in reputation building as a reliable professional provider.</p> <p>I would argue that the use of VHF equipment is due to the availability of better quality UHF gear, but a decline in UHF licences may well be because there’s little enforcement, but also that the vast increases in costs to our companies and decline in work or career viability may have companies being more careful with how they spend.</p> <p>For talkback - it’s not impossible that it’s just as easy to communicate with cheaper walkie talkies and mobile phone based texts between departments.</p>
<p>Question 5: What factors could drive further changes in the demand for audio PMSE applications in the future, and what will this mean for future demand, specifically for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) coordinated wireless microphones and IEMs, particularly the peak number of simultaneous assignments used at the largest events? b) national wireless microphone licences (UHF channel 38 and VHF)? c) talkback, fixed audio links and ADS licences? 	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I don’t see anything getting better in the industry to increase demand at the moment considering how difficult it is to make a living working in the industry.</p>

<p>Question 6: Do you agree that, given the trends, we are right to focus on wireless microphones/IEMs?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>Yes, irregardless of any other factors with regards to demand or industry factors, what is VITAL for all professional performers and companies involved in providing equipment is that the space we operate in is noise free and reliable so that it doesn't affect our business or our reputations. Clients have no tolerance for this, and will only blame the provider for lack of reliability in the systems that they're paying to hire.</p> <p>Focusing on this is a recognition that the providers are important to the performance industry at all levels. Replacing all of the equipment we've invested heavily in would be incredible costly and</p>
<p>Changes in the take-up of bands already available</p> <p>Question 7: What factors have driven the take-up of different bands for wireless audio? What are the barriers to greater use of the DME band?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I don't have enough information to answer</p>
<p>Question 8: What actions could enable greater take-up of the DME, DECT and licence exempt bands in the future?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>Guaranteeing system reliability, and providing funding for like for like replacement.</p>
<p>Changes in spectrum availability</p> <p>Question 9: Which potential additional bands might be suitable for wireless audio applications, particularly microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I don't know enough about this.</p>
<p>Question 10: To what extent do the characteristics of different audio applications drive their requirements for spectrum – for example particular requirements for latency, resilience or capacity?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I can't help but think that the only driver is reliability of signal delivery.</p>
<p>Changes in efficiency of spectrum use</p> <p>Question 11: What changes in spectrum use (technology, working practices, different bands, etc) have enabled audio wireless growth to be accommodated to date, particularly the increased use of wireless microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues in the context of reduced UHF spectrum availability?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>The cost and availability of systems, I'd argue, especially in the lower end.</p>
<p>Question 12: What technologies are currently available or are being developed which can improve audio spectrum efficiency in the future, particularly in the use of wireless microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I don't know enough about this.</p>

<p>Question 13: Are there any barriers to adopting more efficient technologies for audio applications, particularly for wireless microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues? What could industry do and what could Ofcom do to facilitate greater use of those technologies?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I don't know of any barriers other than cost, and possibly proximity to other users within a geographic area.</p>
<p>Question 14: What changes to working practices and spectrum planning could improve audio spectrum efficiency in the future, particularly in the use of wireless microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I would consider the smaller companies/employers, as much as the bigger providers. We facilitate over 150 events every year, and we're a small business and probably not big enough to be considered.</p>
<p>Question 15: Are there any barriers to adopting working practices that could enable more efficient use of spectrum by audio applications, particularly for wireless microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues? What could industry do and what could Ofcom do to facilitate those</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>i would probably argue staffing.</p>
<p>Wireless video</p> <p>Drivers of demand</p> <p>Question 16: What factors (such as more complex events and use of higher resolution equipment) have driven the demand for wireless video bandwidth, in particular for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the increased bandwidth required for the largest sporting events such as Formula 1 at Silverstone and The Open Championship? b) the bandwidth required for nationally important state events such as The Coronation? c) the slow growth or decline in bandwidth used at horse racing fixtures? 	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I can't answer this.</p>
<p>Question 17: What factors could drive further changes in the demand for wireless video bandwidth in the future, and what will this mean for future demand, in particular for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) the bandwidth required for the largest sporting events like Formula 1 at Silverstone and The Open Championship? b) the bandwidth required for nationally important state events such as The Coronation? c) the bandwidth used at horse racing fixtures and other major sporting events? 	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I can't answer this.</p>

<p>Potential news bands</p> <p>Question 18: What factors have influenced the degree of take-up of existing bands used by wireless video applications, particularly the growth in take-up of the 7 GHz band?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I can't answer this.</p>
<p>Question 19: Which potential additional bands might be suitable for video PMSE applications, particularly at the largest events and venues?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I can't answer this. It would take more time analysing an entire spectrum than I'd be prepared to spend time on.</p>
<p>Question 20: To what extent do the characteristics of different video applications drive their requirements for spectrum – for example particular requirements for resilience or capacity?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I can't answer this.</p>
<p>Changes in efficiency of spectrum use</p> <p>Question 21: What technologies are currently available or are being developed which can improve wireless video spectrum efficiency in the future?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I can't answer this.</p>
<p>Question 22: Are there any barriers to adopting more efficient technologies for wireless video? What could industry do and what could Ofcom do to facilitate greater use of those technologies?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I can't answer this.</p>
<p>Question 23: What types of video demand could realistically be supported by private (for example 5G) networks?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I can't answer this.</p>
<p>Question 24: What changes to working practices and spectrum planning could improve video spectrum efficiency in the future, particularly in the use of wireless microphones and IEMs at the largest events and venues?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I can't answer this.</p>
<p>Question 25: Are there any barriers to adopting working practices that could enable more efficient use of spectrum by wireless video? What could industry do and what could Ofcom do to facilitate those efficiencies?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I can't answer this.</p>
<p>Other comments</p> <p>Question 26: Do you have any other comments or views on the issues raised in this document?</p>	<p>Confidential? – N</p> <p>I personally don't mind if professional providers are being moved to a new spectrum, but only on the proviso that I receive funding to replace all of my equipment with no cost to myself, and then ensure that the spectrum we're moving to is noise free to ensure a seamless transition from reliable usage to reliable usage</p>

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- Read about it in a newspaper or magazine
- Heard about it at an event
- Somebody told me or shared it with me
- Other (please specify)

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