



Animal and Plant
Health Inspection
Service

MRP/ITD/TMB-Radio

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September 11, 2013
Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

**Re: Datron World Communications, Inc., Application for Renewal, OET
File No. 0233-EX-RR-2013**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Please accept this letter of support for Datron World Communications, Inc. (“Datron”)’s application for renewal (“Renewal Application”) of its experimental authorization for call sign WF2XRU (the “Station”).

As indicated in the Renewal Application, Datron requires the use of all of the frequencies and the technical parameters shown on the modified license for the Station granted by the Office of Engineering and Technology (“OET”) on July 2, 2013 in order to test portable and mobile radios that will support critical public safety communications. Such testing is not only in the public interest, but encourages the efficient, dependable, and economical utilization of the radiocommunications resource.

The radio spectrum is a limited natural resource accessible to all nations and must be used and managed wisely to support the ongoing demand for spectrum use. Because of the demand, wideband frequencies (25 kHz bandwidth) are no longer authorized for Federal and FCC license holders. Narrowband (12.5 kHz bandwidth) is in effect, with future migration to a very narrowband (6.25 kHz) bandwidth. Datron, along with other vendors, have developed several Project 25 digital radios supporting conventional, multi-band, and trunking uses throughout the radio frequency spectrum, to include the 700-800 Public Safety band. Testing efforts are intended to improve radio use efficiency and economy of Federal Government operations where other means of communication are not appropriate or available.

The Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) is a multi-faceted Agency under the US Department of Agriculture. With a broad mission area that includes protecting and promoting U.S. agricultural health, regulating genetically engineered organisms, administering the Animal Welfare Act and carrying out wildlife damage management activities, radio is our primary communications mode. 95 percent of our Land Mobile Radio (LMR) operations are conducted in the VHF (136-174 MHz) portion of the radio spectrum. APHIS makes extensive use of Datron radio products conducting ongoing daily operations throughout the United States and Possessions. A quality product, bar none.

APHIS recognizes and supports the importance of such testing and the significant benefits it can attain. Accordingly, APHIS urges the Commission to grant the Renewal Application as requested by Datron, which will allow them to continue testing of units that will serve both the public interest and the APHIS mission.

Respectfully submitted,

/s/Robert J. Strickland

**Robert J. Strickland
National Radio Program Manager
USDA APHIS**