

PUBLIC INTEREST STATEMENT

1. Introduction

Laurel Technologies Partnership (“DRS Laurel Technologies”) respectfully requests that the Commission grant Special Temporary Authority (“STA”) to permit DRS Laurel Technologies to operate the facilities specified in the instant application.

2. Purpose and Nature of the Operation

DRS Laurel Technologies is a State of the Art Radar Test and Integration facility, and is a leading supplier of networked and integrated sensor control systems for military and homeland security missions. DRS Laurel Technologies incorporates dynamic technologies in command, control, computing, and communications to provide new approaches for seamless homeland security, homeland defense, and military operations. The company’s solutions for force protection, and ship self-defense incorporate virtually undetectable radar, day/night video and a multi-sensor tracking system to provide highly accurate detections and tracking of targets. Designed and built for border, coastal/port defense, and surveillance, the systems automatically identify and classify moving ground and shallow-water targets, contributing to national security objectives to safeguard borders, littoral regions and valuable assets from terrorist acts.

The requested STA will permit ground-based operations in support of the implementation of the following government contract:

Contract No.:	W15P7T-12-C-D500
Agency/Customer:	Army Contracting CMD-APG
POC:	Benjamin Tarr (443) 861-4622

This experiment is intended to support the continued development and implementation of a border security system. The testing in this experiment is intended to confirm the functionality of radios that will be used by the military for communications between the command centers and the quick response teams upon detection of targets. In addition to such functionality testing, the experiment will support demonstrations for the military customer.

This testing represents a second phase of testing that was previously authorized for its first phase under a prior STA granted in 2009 under call sign WD9XSD. DRS Laurel Technologies is able to accept and implement Special Conditions for this experiment similar to those previously specified under WD9XSD.

3. Interference Mitigation

DRS Laurel Technologies is well aware of its obligations under Part 5 of the Commission’s rules to avoid interference to co-channel licensees in non-experimental services, and will take all steps to ensure compliance with this obligation. With respect to interference mitigation, DRS Laurel Technologies advises as follows:

- Operation of the requested facilities will not be continuous. Rather, authority for only sporadic operation of the facilities is requested during the authorized timeframe. The transmitters will be radiating low levels of RF power while viewing targets of interest. Transmissions are anticipated for a few hours per day. In the off state, no measurable power will be radiated. In fact, there may be extended periods of non-operation during the authorized period, while other non-RF transmission aspects of the experiment are conducted.
- DRS Laurel Technologies understands that FAA (or other stakeholders) may require certain limited azimuth and/or elevation blanking in order to ensure that the proposed facilities do not pose a threat of interference to adjacent emitters. Accordingly, this is to confirm that the subject radar device has such blanking capabilities and that DRS Laurel Technologies stands ready to work with FAA to identify any reasonably necessary azimuth and/or elevation restrictions for the system.

4. Stop Buzzer

DRS Laurel Technologies advises that the following will be available by wireless telephone and will act as a “stop buzzer” if any issues regarding interference arise during testing:

Jim Kijesky – (727) 331-9729

For the foregoing reasons, Laurel Technologies respectfully submits that approval of this application is in the public interest, convenience and a necessity.