

Stop Buzzer Point of contact information:

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McKinney, TX Outdoor Antenna Test Ranges

The antenna/radome outdoor test facility is located on a 50-acre tract at Raytheon's McKinney, Texas site. The facility consists of four towers and a range-staging building. The towers are used to form seven far field antenna test ranges suitable for testing small airborne structures to large ground-based systems weighing up to 30,000 pounds. There is a model range off the NW corner of the Range Staging Building. Ranges provide frequency coverage from 0.1 to 18 GHz, and 26.5 to 40 GHz and range in length from 10 feet (smallest adjustable) to 1600 feet. The ranges are used to characterize antennas and radomes used on military systems and performing boresight alignment on those systems. Commercial test equipment from Agilent and MI Technologies (formerly Scientific-Atlanta) is used for the instrumentation of the test ranges. Some of the antennas tested are for very broadband systems and must be characterized over extended frequency ranges. This is a general-purpose test facility and supports testing of both production and development programs for the military. There is a continuing long-term need for this facility to support these efforts, which is why a 60-month license is requested.

The justification is that we are an antenna test facility providing testing capability for multiple government contract and development programs in support of defense programs. Some efforts are short duration development test activities that need access to a test facility that can make measurements when needed on a quick reaction time basis. The operation is for testing antennas used in military systems, but not in performing system level tests (i.e. radar system test). The testing is performed using commercial test equipment with CW signals at low power levels.

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