

Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) Test Report
for
Sierra Wireless Inc.

Performed on the

CDMA Cellular and PCS PCMCIA Card
Model: AIRCARD 555 with PDA
FCC ID: N7NACRD555

Test Report: 20544792
Date of Report: July 28, 2001

Job #: 20054479
Date of Test: July 16 to 28, 2001

Total number of pages in report: 55.



NVLAP Laboratory Code 200201-0
Accredited for testing to FCC Parts 15

Tested by: <i>Ch. Yang</i>	Xi-Ming Yang	Review Date: <i>7/31/01</i>
Reviewed by: <i>David Chernomordik</i>	David Chernomordik, Ph.D., EMC Technical Manager	Review Date: <i>7/31/01</i>

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Sierra Wireless Inc., Model: AIRCARD 555 w/PDA
FCC ID: N7NACRD555

Date of Test: July 16-28, 2001

1.0 JOB DESCRIPTION

1.1 Client Information

The EUT has been tested at the request of:

Company: Sierra Wireless, Inc.
Address: 13811 Wireless Way
Richmond, BC V6V 3A4
Canada
Name of contact: Mr. Gordon Carey
Telephone: (604) 231-1145
Fax: (604) 231-1109

1.2 Equipment under test (EUT)

Product Descriptions:

Equipment	Cell band and PCS band CDMA Radio Card installed into hand held computer (PDA)		
Trade Name	Sierra Wireless, Inc.	Model No:	AIRCARD 555
FCC ID	N7NACRD555	S/N No.	Not Labeled
Category	Portable	RF Exposure	Uncontrolled Environment
Frequency Band (up link)	824 - 849 MHz 1850 - 1910 MHz	System	CDMA
Antenna Type	Rotatable rod antenna, ~0 dBi		
Location:	Outside the card (PDA)		

Use of Product : Wireless Data Communications
Manufacturer: Sierra Wireless, Inc.
Production is planned Yes, No
EUT receive date: July 16, 2001
EUT received condition: Prototype in good condition.
Test start date: July 16, 2001
Test end date: July 28, 2001

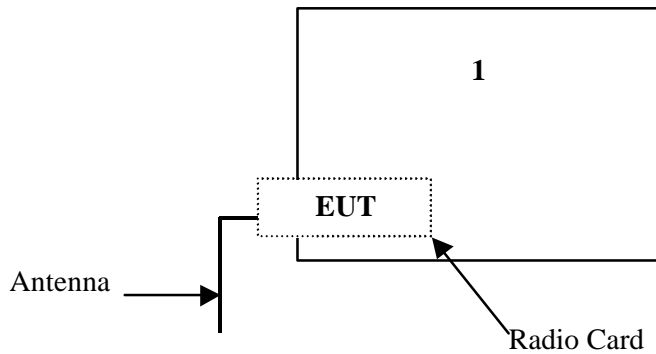
1.3 Test plan reference

FCC rule part 2.1093, FCC Docket 96-326 & Supplement C to OET Bulletin 65

1.4 System test configuration

1.4.1 System block diagram & Support equipment

Item #	Description	Model No.	Serial No.
1	Hewlett Packard PDA	HPF1260A	SG84602056



* = EUT	S = Shielded;	F = With Ferrite
** = No ferrites on video cable	U = Unshielded	M = Length in Meters

1.4.3 Test Position for Muscle

The AIRCARD 555 WITH PDA was configured for testing in a typical fashion (as a customer would normally use it), and in the confines as outlined in C95.1 (1992) and Supplement C of OET 65 (2001). Please refer to figures 1 – 3 below for the position details:

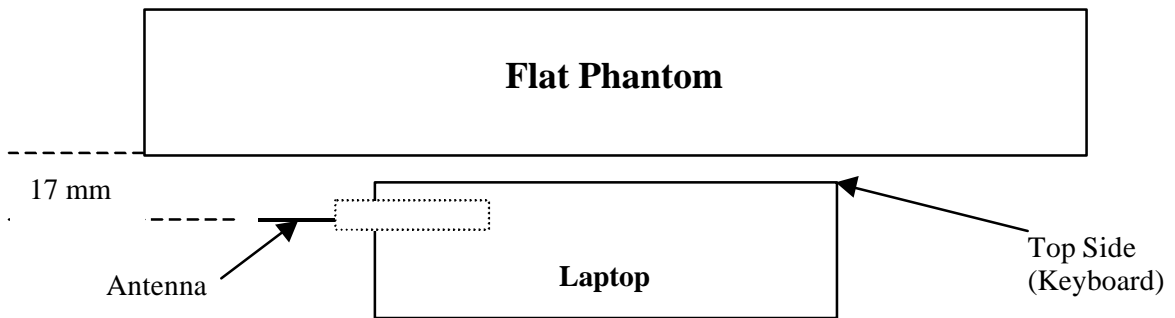


Figure 1: Face Up Position

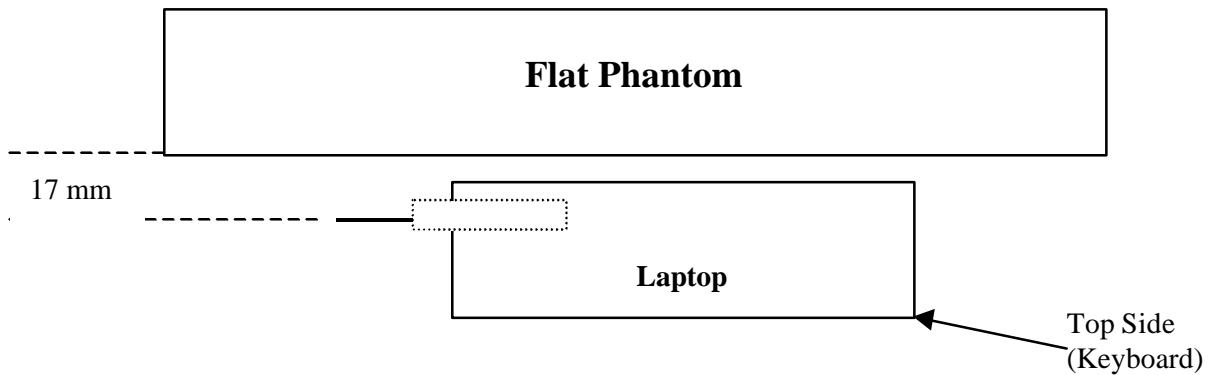


Figure 2: Face Down Position

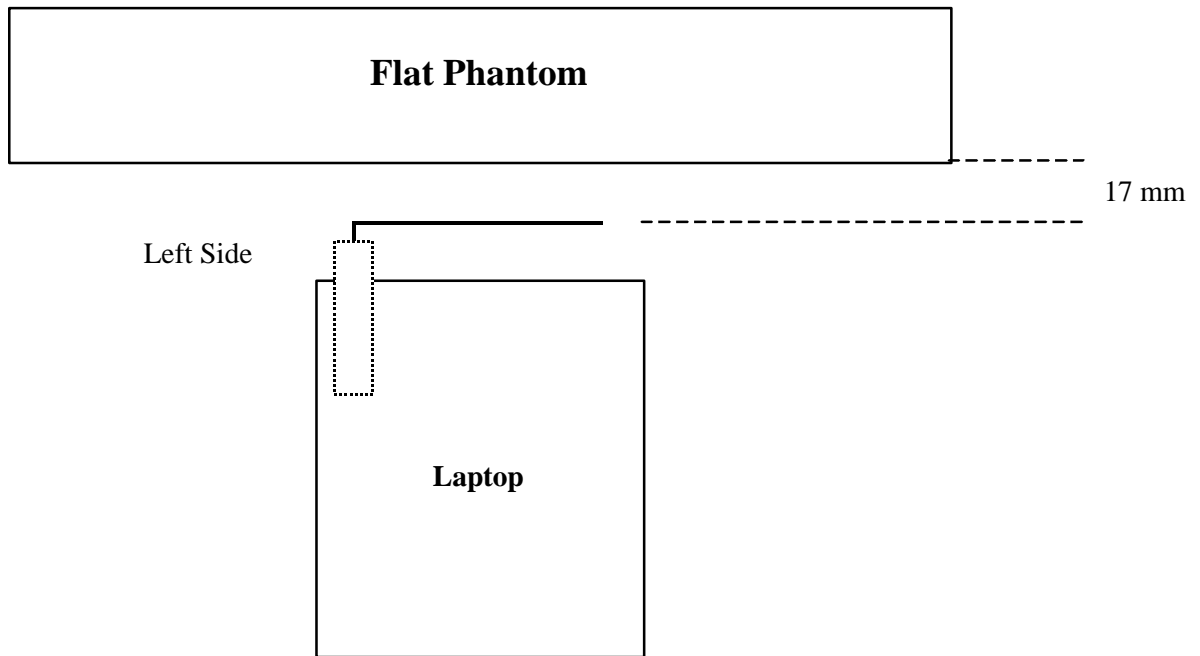


Figure 3: Vertical Position

1.4.4 Test Condition

During tests the worst case data (max RF coupling) was determined with following conditions:

EUT Antenna	Straight out position	Orientation	Flat (Muscle)
Usage	Body	Distance between antenna axis at the joint and the liquid surface:	17 mm with PDA in upside position. 17 mm with PDA in normal position. 17 mm with PDA in vertical position
Simulating human hand	Not Used	EUT Battery	EUT is powered from the PDA
Power output	23 dBm (average); 27.4 dBm (peak)		

The manufacturer accessed the spatial peak SAR values for lowest, middle and highest operating channels defined.

1.5 Modifications required for compliance

No modifications were implemented by Intertek Testing Services.

1.6 Additions, deviations and exclusions from standards

No additions, deviations or exclusions have been made from standard.

2.0 SAR EVALUATION

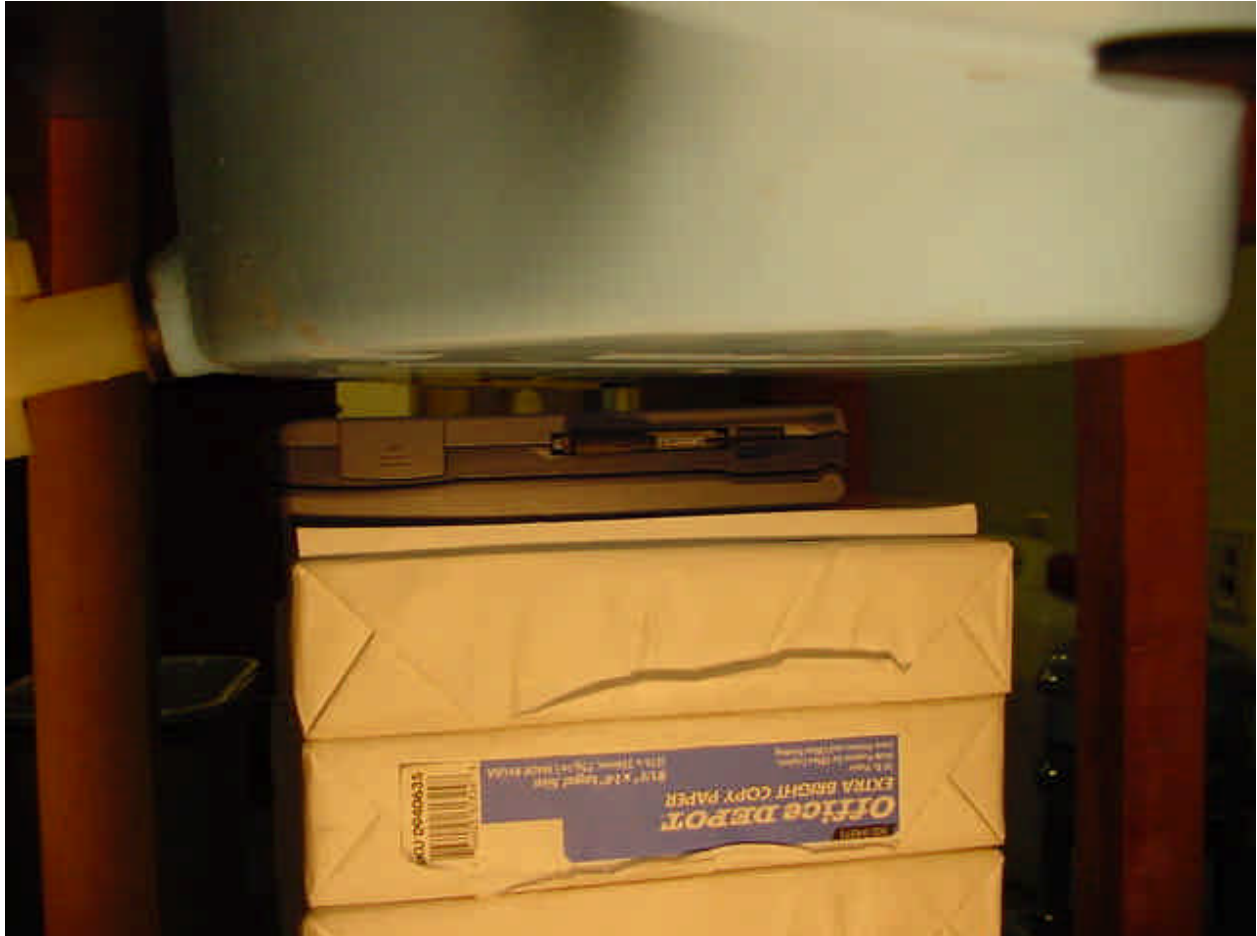
2.1 SAR Limits

The following FCC limits for SAR apply to devices operate in General Population/Uncontrolled Exposure environment:

EXPOSURE (General Population/Uncontrolled Exposure environment)	SAR (W/kg)
Average over the whole body	0.08
Spatial Peak (1g)	1.60
Spatial Peak for hands, wrists, feet and ankles (10g)	4.00

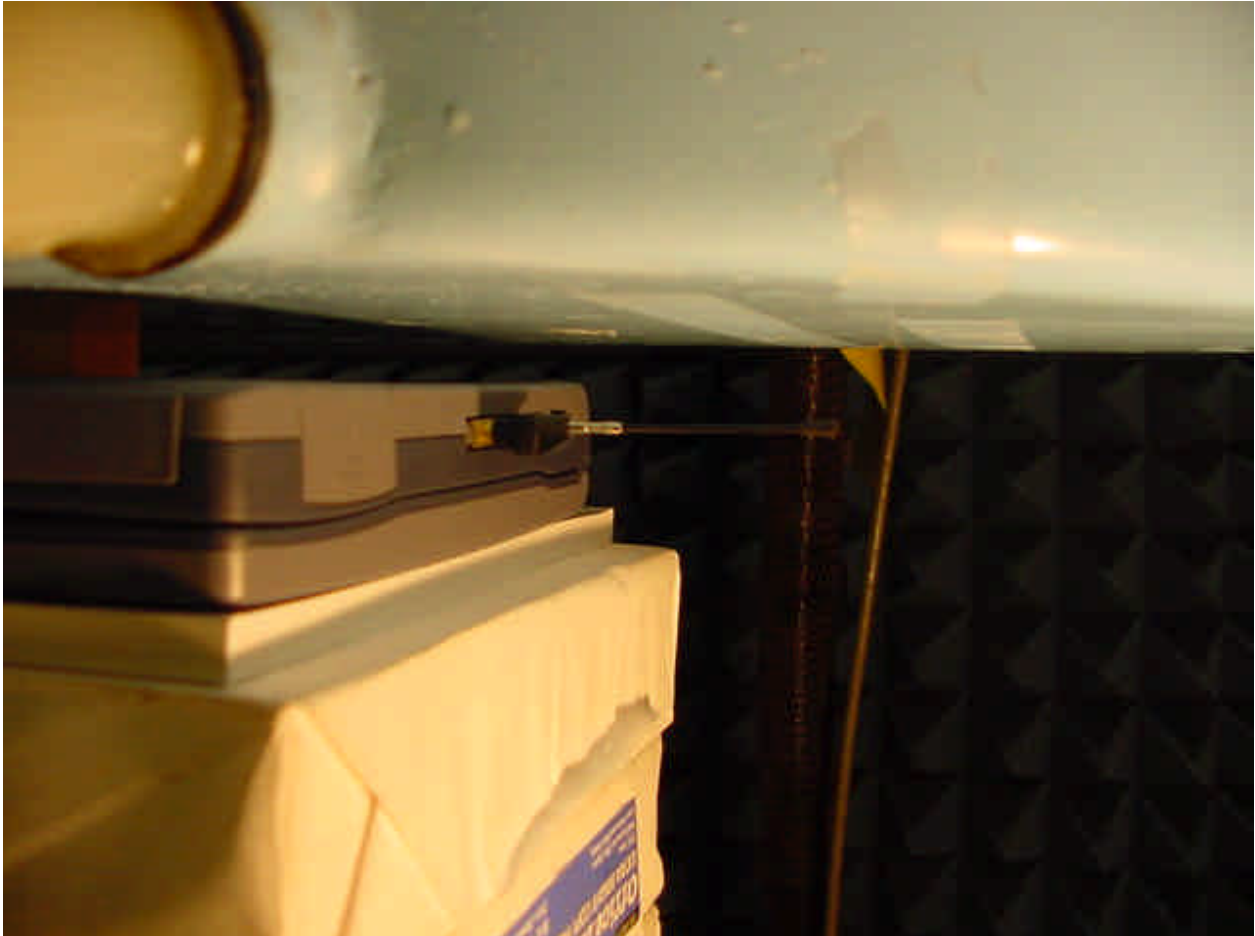
2.2 Configuration Photographs

SAR Measurement Test Setup



2.2 Configuration Photographs Continued

SAR Measurement Test Setup



.2 Configuration Photographs – Continued

SAR Measurement Test Setup



2.3 System Verification

Prior to the assessment, the system was verified to the $\pm 5\%$ of the specifications by using the system validation kit. The validation was performed at 1800 MHz.

Validation kit	Targeted SAR _{1g} (mW/g)	Measured SAR _{1g} (mW/g)
D900V2, S/N #: 013	9.45	9.31

2.4 Evaluation Procedures

The SAR evaluation was performed with the following procedures:

- a. SAR was measured at a fixed location above the ear point and used as a reference value for the assessing the power drop.
- b. The SAR distribution at the exposed side of the head was measured at a distance of 4.0 mm from the inner surface of the shell. The area covered the entire dimension of the head and the horizontal grid spacing was 20 mm x 20 mm. Based on this data, the area of the maximum absorption was determined by spline interpolation.
- c. Around this point, a volume of 32 mm x 32 mm x 34 mm was assessed by measuring 5 x 5 x 7 points. Based on this data set, the spatial peak SAR value was evaluated with the following procedure:
 - i) The data at the surface were extrapolated, since the center of the dipoles is 2.7 mm away from the tip of the probe and the distance between the surface and the lowest measurement point is 1.6 mm. The extrapolation was based on a least square algorithm. A polynomial of the fourth order was calculated through the points in Z-axes. This polynomial was then used to evaluate the points between the surface and the probe tip.
 - ii) The maximum interpolated value was searched with a straightforward algorithm. Around this maximum the SAR values averaged over the spatial volumes (1g or 10g) were computed using the 3-D spline interpolation algorithm. The 3-D spline is composed of three one-dimensional splines with the “Not a knot” condition (in x, y and z directions). The volume was integrated with the trapezoidal algorithm. 1000 points (10 x 10 x 10) were interpolated to calculate the average.
 - iii) All neighboring volumes were evaluated until no neighboring volume with a higher average value was found.
- d. Re-measurements of the SAR value at the same location as in step a. above. If the value changed by more than 5 %, the evaluation was repeated.

2.5 Test Results

The following pages contain data tables with the test results obtained when the device was tested in the condition described in this report. Detailed measurement plots, which reveal information about the location of the maximum SAR with respect to the device, are reported in Appendix A.

Trade Name:	Sierra Wireless, Inc.	Model No.:	AIRCARD 555 WITH PDA
Serial No.:	Not Labeled	Test Engineer:	Xi-Ming Yang

TEST CONDITIONS			
Ambient Temperature	22 °C	Relative Humidity	48 %
Test Signal Source	Test Mode	Signal Modulation	CDMA
Output Power Before SAR Test	23 dBm (average)	Output Power After SAR Test	23 dBm (average)
Test Duration	23 Min.	Number of Battery Change	Not Applicable

EUT Position: Upside Down Parallel					
Channel MHz	Operating Mode	Crest Factor	Measured SAR _{10g} (mW/g)	Limit SAR (W/kg)	Plot Number
824	CDMA	1	0.258	1.6	1
835	CDMA	1	0.318	1.6	2
849	CDMA	1	0.245	1.6	3

EUT Position: Upside Down Straight Out					
Channel MHz	Operating Mode	Duty Cycle ratio	Measured SAR _{1g} (mW/g)	Limit SAR (W/kg)	Plot Number
824	CDMA	1	0.602	1.6	4
835	CDMA	1	0.482	1.6	5
849	CDMA	1	0.468	1.6	6

EUT Position: Vertical					
Channel MHz	Operating Mode	Crest Factor	Measured SAR _{1g} (mW/g)	Limit SAR (W/kg)	Plot Number
824	CDMA	1	0.434	1.6	7
835	CDMA	1	0.447	1.6	8
849	CDMA	1	0.370	1.6	9

EUT Position: Keyboard Face Up Straight out					
Channel MHz	Operating Mode	Crest Factor	Measured SAR _{1g} (mW/g)	Limit SAR (W/kg)	Plot Number
824	CDMA	1	0.537	1.6	10
835	CDMA	1	0.397	1.6	11
849	CDMA	1	0.503	1.6	12

EUT Position: Vertical On Left					
Channel MHz	Operating Mode	Crest Factor	Measured SAR _{1g} (mW/g)	Limit SAR (W/kg)	Plot Number
1850	CDMA	1	1.04	1.6	13
1880	CDMA	1	1.06	1.6	14
1910	CDMA	1	1.23	1.6	15

EUT Position: Upside Down Parallel					
Channel MHz	Operating Mode	Crest Factor	Measured SAR _{1g} (mW/g)	Limit SAR (W/kg)	Plot Number
1850	CDMA	1	1.32	1.6	16
1880	CDMA	1	1.00	1.6	17
1910	CDMA	1	0.851	1.6	18

EUT Position: Upside Down Straight Out					
Channel MHz	Operating Mode	Crest Factor	Measured SAR_{1g} (mW/g)	Limit SAR (W/kg)	Plot Number
1850	CDMA	1	1.43	1.6	19
1880	CDMA	1	1.48	1.6	20
1910	CDMA	1	1.21	1.6	21

EUT Position: Keyboard Face Up					
Channel MHz	Operating Mode	Crest Factor	Measured SAR_{1g} (mW/g)	Limit SAR (W/kg)	Plot Number
1850	CDMA	1	1.47	1.6	22
1880	CDMA	1	1.21	1.6	23
1910	CDMA	1	1.38	1.6	24

Notes: a) Worst case data reported
b) Uncertainty of the system is not included

3.0 EQUIPMENT

3.1 Equipment List

The Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) tests were performed with the SPEAG model DASY 3 automated near-field scanning system, which is a package, optimized for dosimetric evaluation of mobile radios [3].

The following major equipment/components were used for the SAR evaluations:

SAR Measurement System			
EQUIPMENT	SPECIFICATIONS	S/N #	LAST CAL. DATE
Robot	Stäubli RX60L Repeatability: ± 0.025mm Accuracy: 0.806x10 ⁻³ degree Number of Axes: 6	597412-01	N/A
E-Field Probe	ET3DV5 Frequency Range: 10 MHz to 6 GHz Linearity: ± 0.2 dB Directivity: ± 0.1 dB in brain tissue	1333	04/23/01
Data Acquisition	DAE3 Measurement Range: 1µV to >200mV Input offset Voltage: < 1µV (with auto zero) Input Resistance: 200 M	317	N/A
Phantom	Generic Twin V3.0 Type: Generic Twin, Homogenous Shell Material: Fiberglass Thickness: 2 ± 0.1 mm Capacity: 20 liter Ear spacer: 4 mm (between EUT ear piece and tissue simulating liquid)	N/A	N/A
Simulated Tissue	Mixture Please see section 6.2 for details	N/A	07/15/01
Power Meter	HP 8900D w/ 84811A sensor Frequency Range: 100kHz to 18 GHz Power Range: 300µW to 3W	3607U00673	08/01/00

3.2 Tissue Simulating Liquid

Muscle	
Ingredient	Frequency (800 – 900 MHz)
Water	54.05 %
Sugar	45.05 %
Salt	0.1 %
Bactericide	0.8%

Muscle	
Ingredient	Frequency (1900 MHz)
Water	55.5 %
Sugar	43.5 %
Salt	0 %
Cellulose	1.0 %

The dielectric parameters were verified prior to assessment using the HP 85070A dielectric probe kit and the HP 8753C network Analyzer. The dielectric parameters were:

Frequency (MHz)	ϵ_r^*	s^* (mho/m)	r^{**} (kg/m ³)
835	56.5 ± 5%	0.95 ± 10%	1000

Frequency (MHz)	ϵ_r^*	s^* (mho/m)	r^{**} (kg/m ³)
1900	52.1 ± 5%	1.69 ± 10%	1000

* Worst case uncertainty of the HP 85070A dielectric probe kit

** Worst case assumption

Note: The amount of each ingredient specified in the table is not the exact amount of the final test solution. The final test solution was adjusted by adding small amounts of water, sugar, and/or salt to calibrate the solution to meet the proper dielectric parameters.

3.3 E-Field Probe Calibration

Probes were calibrated by the manufacturer in an IFI Model 110 TEM Cell. To ensure consistency, a strict protocol was followed. The conversion factor (ConF) between this calibration and the measurement in the tissue simulation solution was performed by comparison with temperature measurement and computer simulations. Probe calibration factors are included in Appendix B.

3.4 Measurement Uncertainty

The uncertainty budget has been determined for the DASY3 measurement system according to the NIS81 [5] and the NIST 1297 [6] documents and is given in the following table. The extended uncertainty (K=2) was assessed to be 23.5 %

UNCERTAINTY BUDGET				
Uncertainty Description	Error	Distrib.	Weight	Std.Dev.
Probe Uncertainty				
Axial isotropy	±0.2 dB	U-shape	0.5	±2.4 %
Spherical isotropy	±0.4 dB	U-shape	0.5	±4.8 %
Isotropy from gradient	±0.5 dB	U-shape	0	
Spatial resolution	±0.5 %	Normal	1	±0.5 %
Linearity error	±0.2 dB	Rectang.	1	±2.7 %
Calibration error	±3.3 %	Normal	1	±3.3 %
SAR Evaluation Uncertainty				
Data acquisition error	±1 %	Rectang.	1	±0.6 %
ELF and RF disturbances	±0.25 %	Normal	1	±0.25 %
Conductivity assessment	±10 %	Rectang.	1	±5.8 %
Spatial Peak SAR Evaluation Uncertainty				
Extrapol boundary effect	±3 %	Normal	1	±3 %
Probe positioning error	±0.1 mm	Normal	1	±1 %
Integrat. And cube orient	±3 %	Normal	1	±3 %
Cube shape inaccuracies	±2 %	Rectang.	1	±1.2 %
Device positioning	±6 %	Normal	1	±6 %
Combined Uncertainties				±11.7 %

3.5 Measurement Traceability

All measurements described in this report are traceable to National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) standards or appropriate national standards.

4.0 WARNING LABEL INFORMATION - USA

See users manual.

5.0 REFERENCES

- [1] ANSI, ANSI/IEEE C95.1-1991: IEEE Standard for Safety Levels with Respect to Human Exposure to Radio Frequency Electromagnetic Fields, 3kHz to 300 GHz, The Institute of electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc., New York, NY 10017, 1992
- [2] Federal Communications Commission, "Evaluating Compliance with FCC Guidelines for Human Exposure to Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields", OET Bulletin 65, FCC, Washington, D.C. 20554, 1997
- [3] Thomas Schmid, Oliver Egger, and Niels Kuster, "Automated E-field scanning system for dosimetric assessments", *IEEE Transaction on Microwave Theory and Techniques*, vol. 44, pp. 105-113, Jan. 1996.
- [4] Niels Kuster, Ralph Kastle, and Thomas Schmid, "Dosimetric evaluation of mobile communications equipment with know precision", *IEICE Transactions on Communications*, vol. E80-B, no. 5, pp.645-652, May 1997.
- [5] NIS81, NAMAS, "The treatment of uncertainty in EMC measurement", Tech. Rep., NAMAS Executive, National Physical Laboratory, Teddinton, Middlesex, England, 1994.
- [6] Barry N. Taylor and Chris E. Kuyatt, "Guidelines for evaluating and expressing the uncertainty of NIST measurement results", Tech. Rep., National Institute of Standards and Technology, 1994.

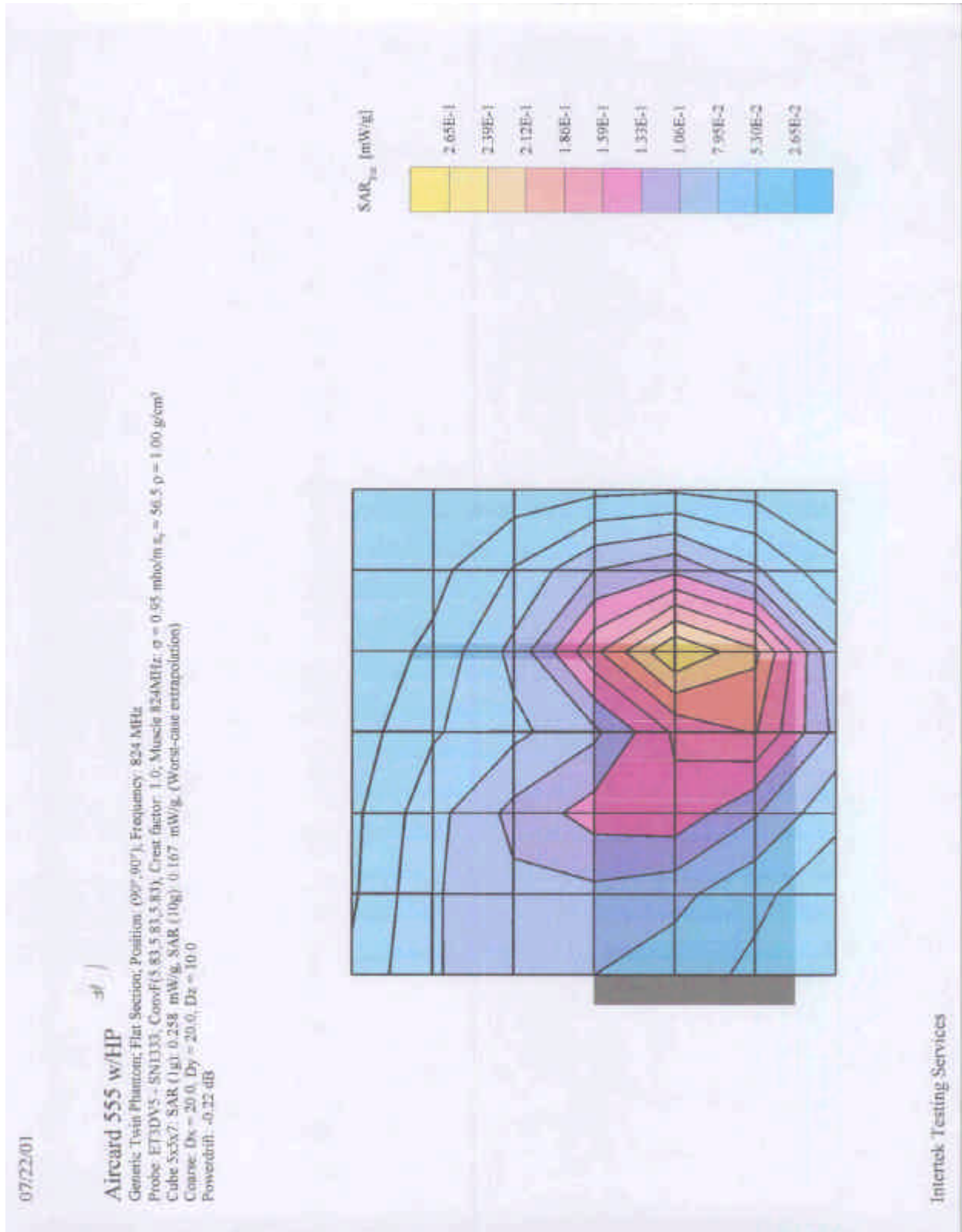
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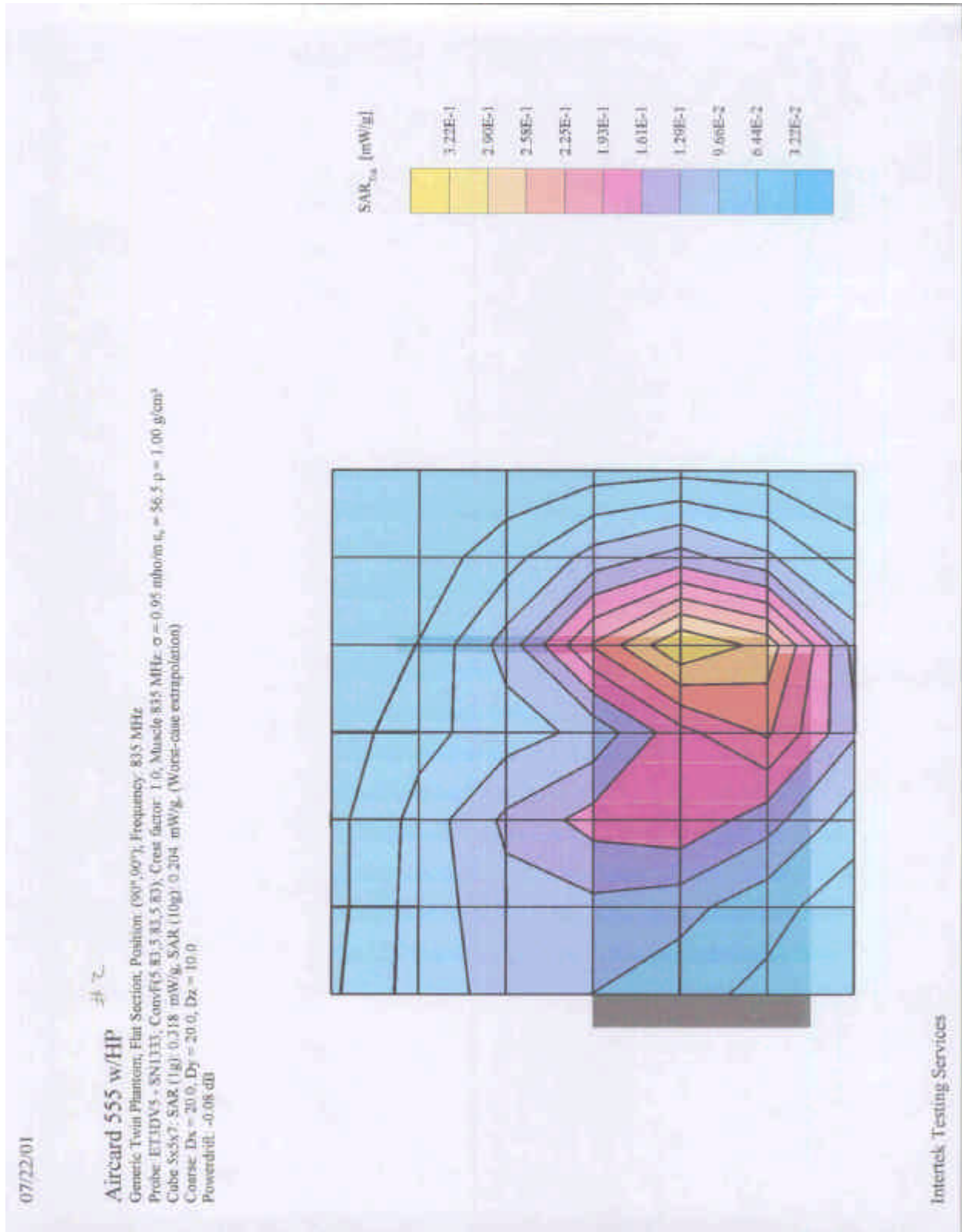
Revision/ Job Number	Writer Initials	Date	Change
1.0 / 20544792	SS	July 28 2001	Original document

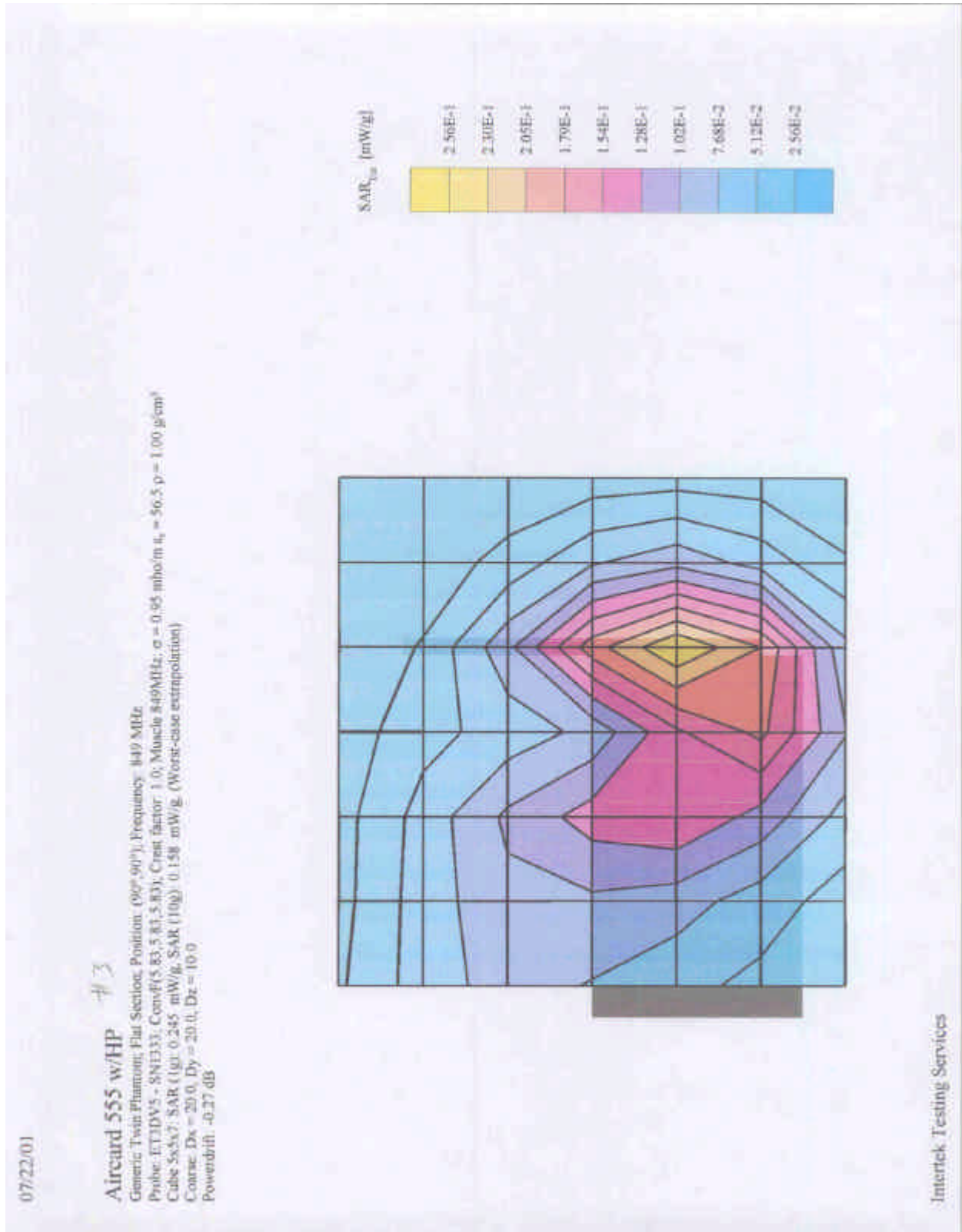
APPENDIX A - SAR Evaluation Data

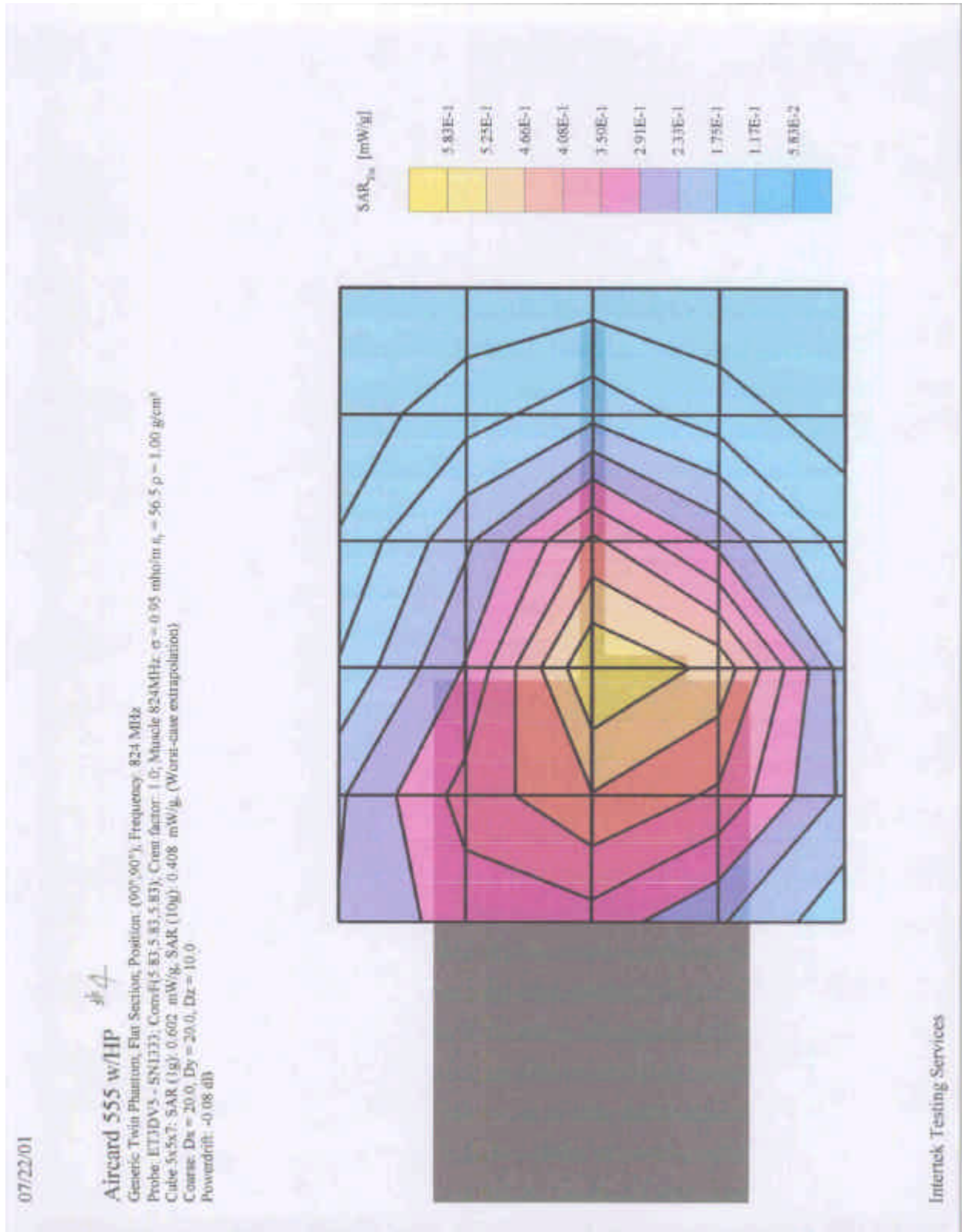
Please note that the graphical visualization of the phone position onto the SAR distribution gives only limited information on the current distribution of the device, since the curvature of the head results in graphical distortion. Full information can only be obtained either by H-field scans in free space or SAR evaluation with a flat phantom.

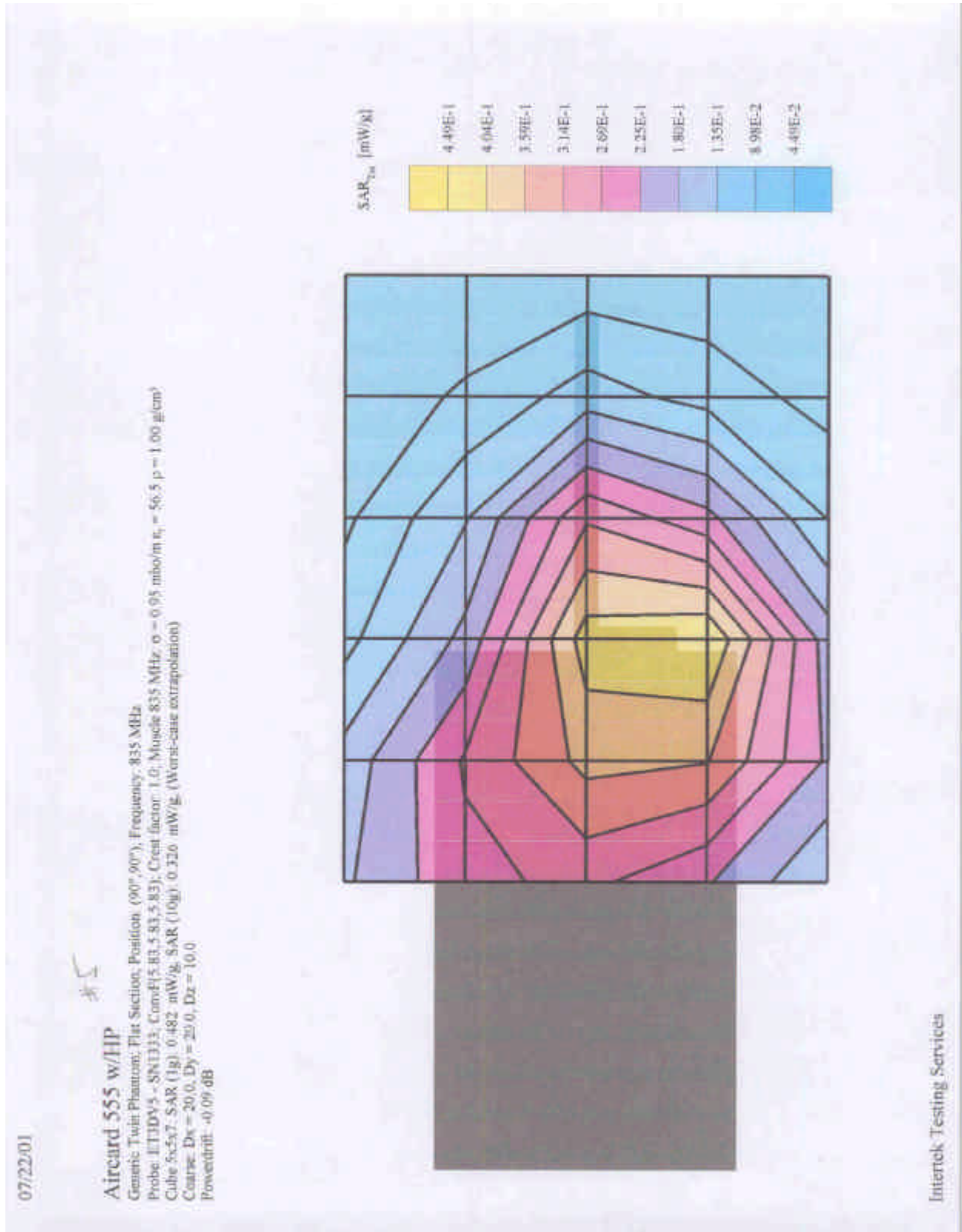
Powerdrift is the measurement of power drift of the device over one complete SAR scan.

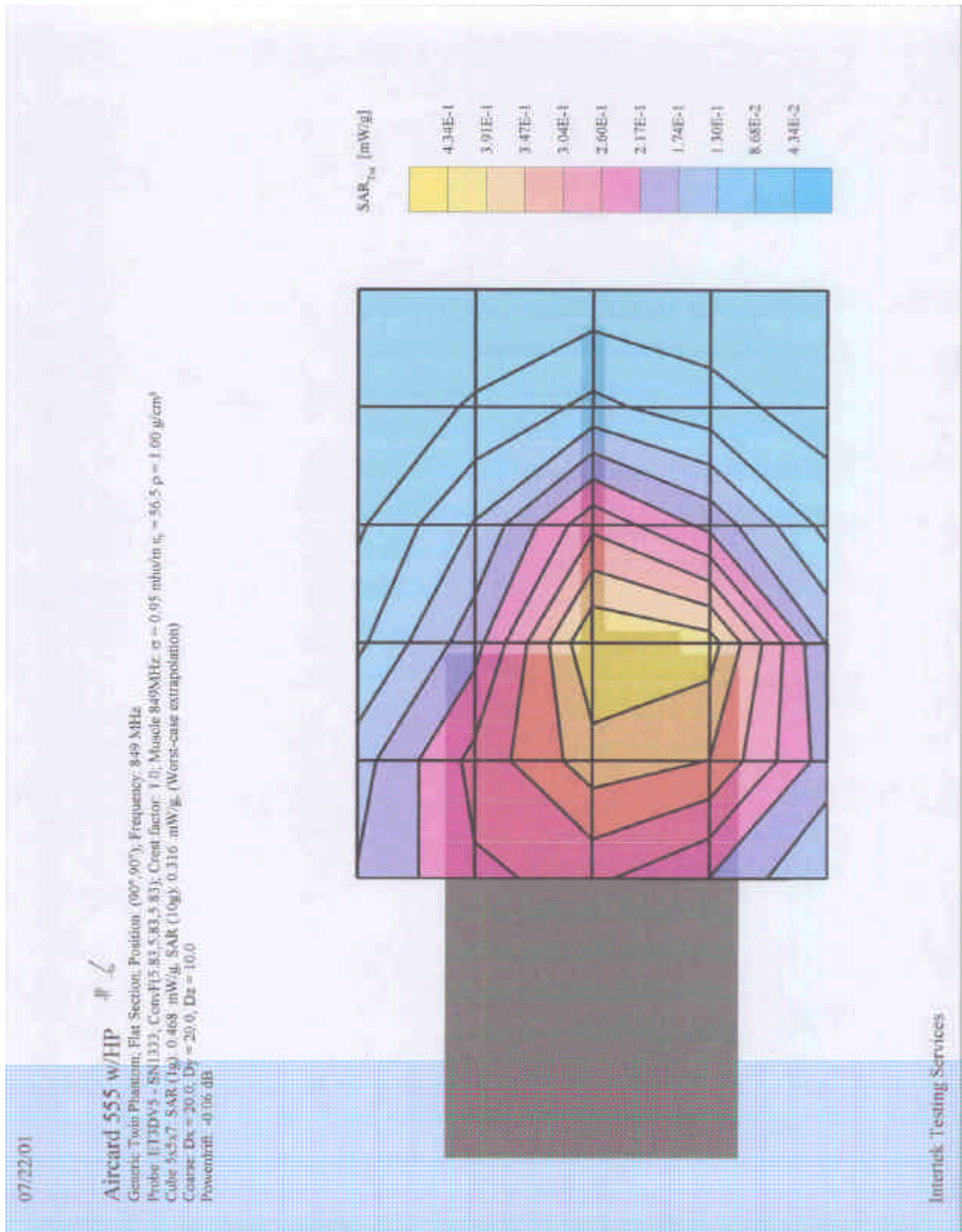


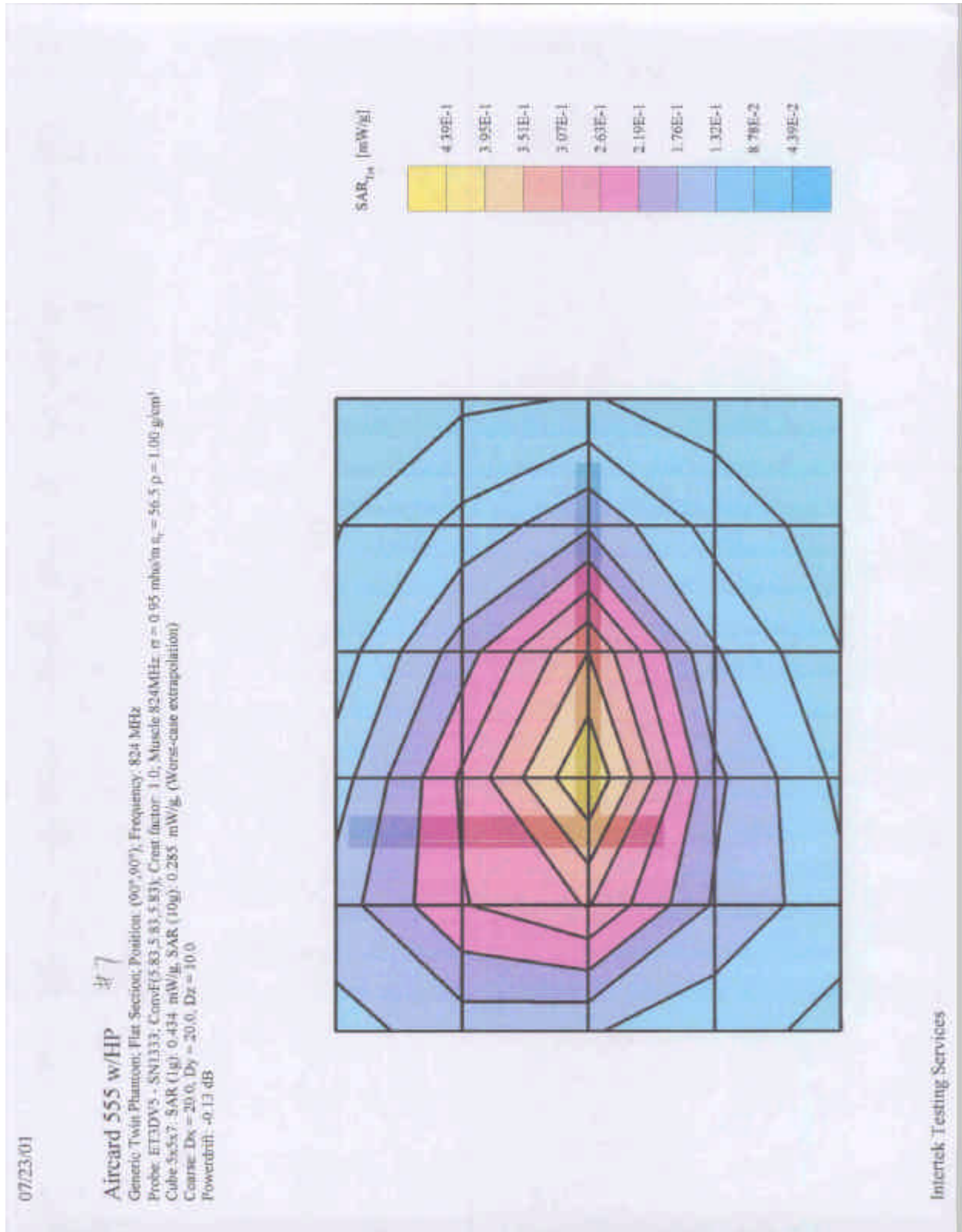


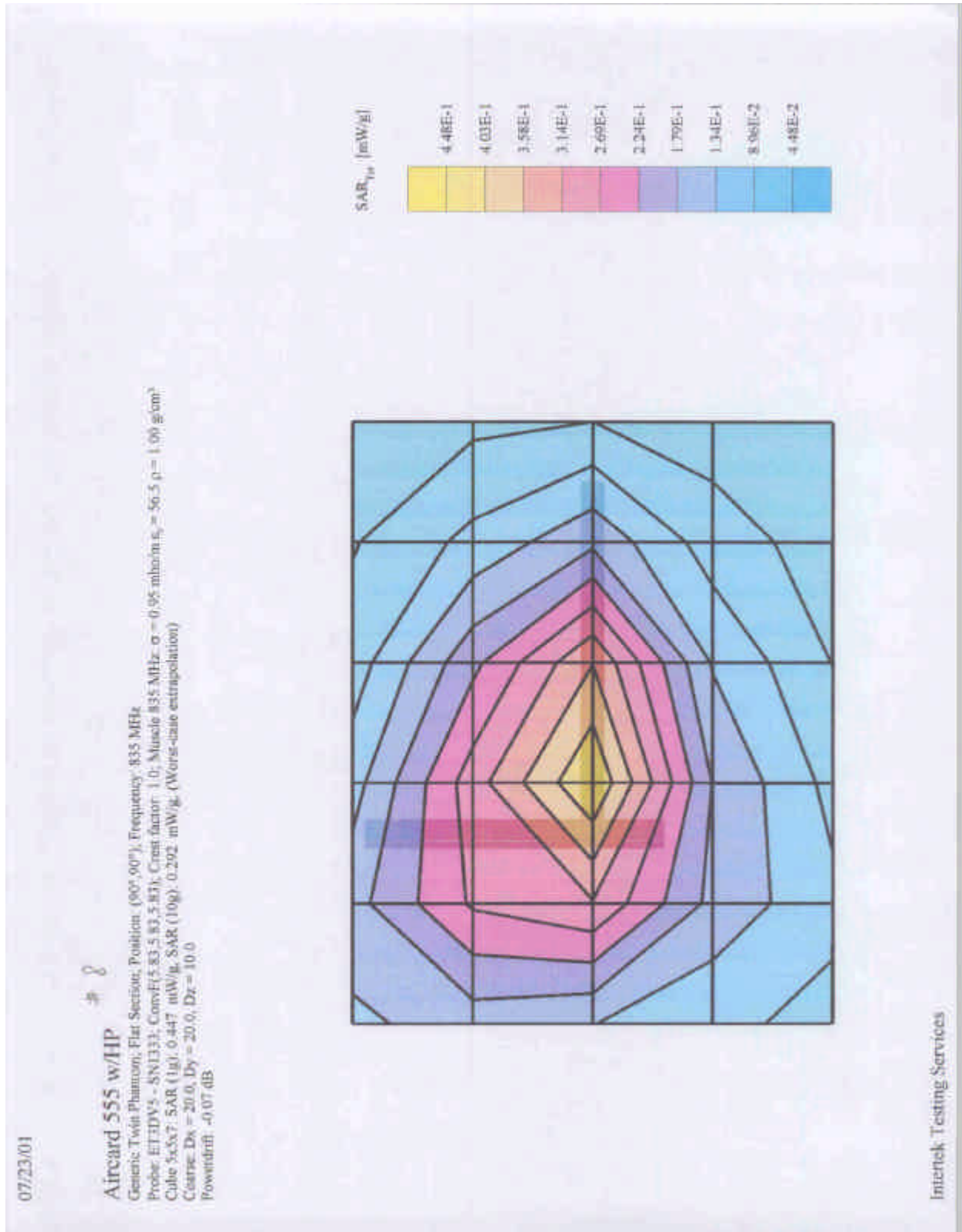


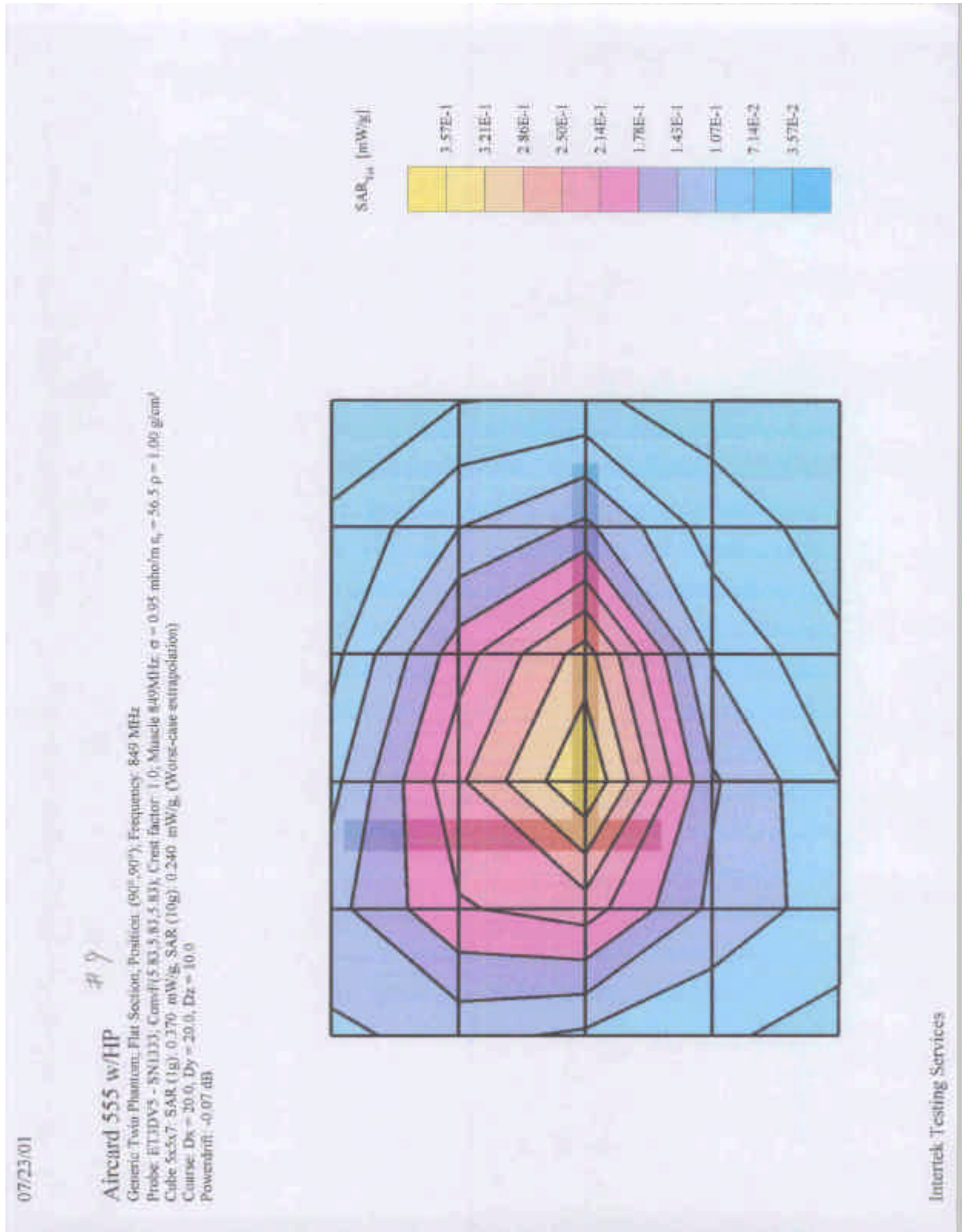


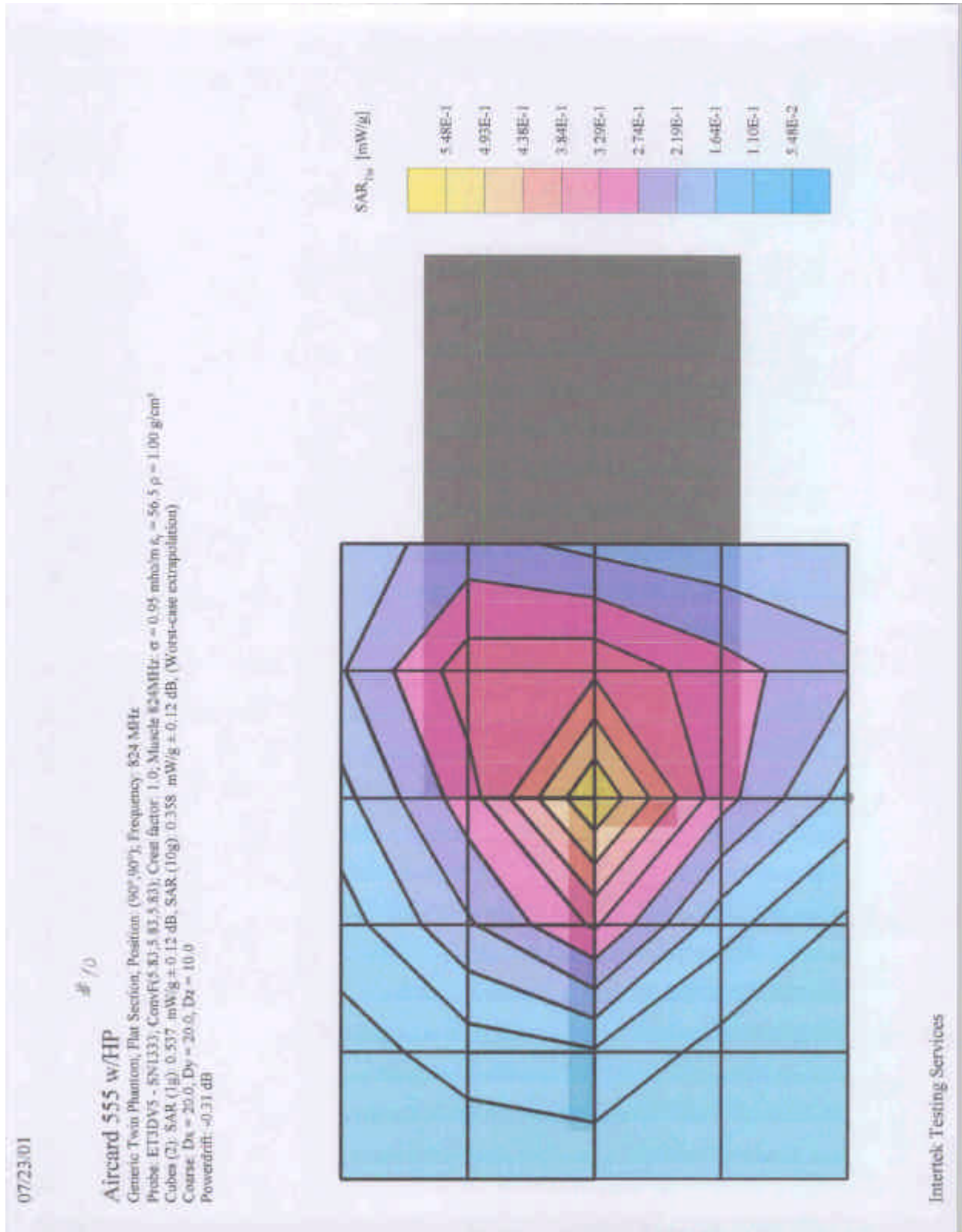


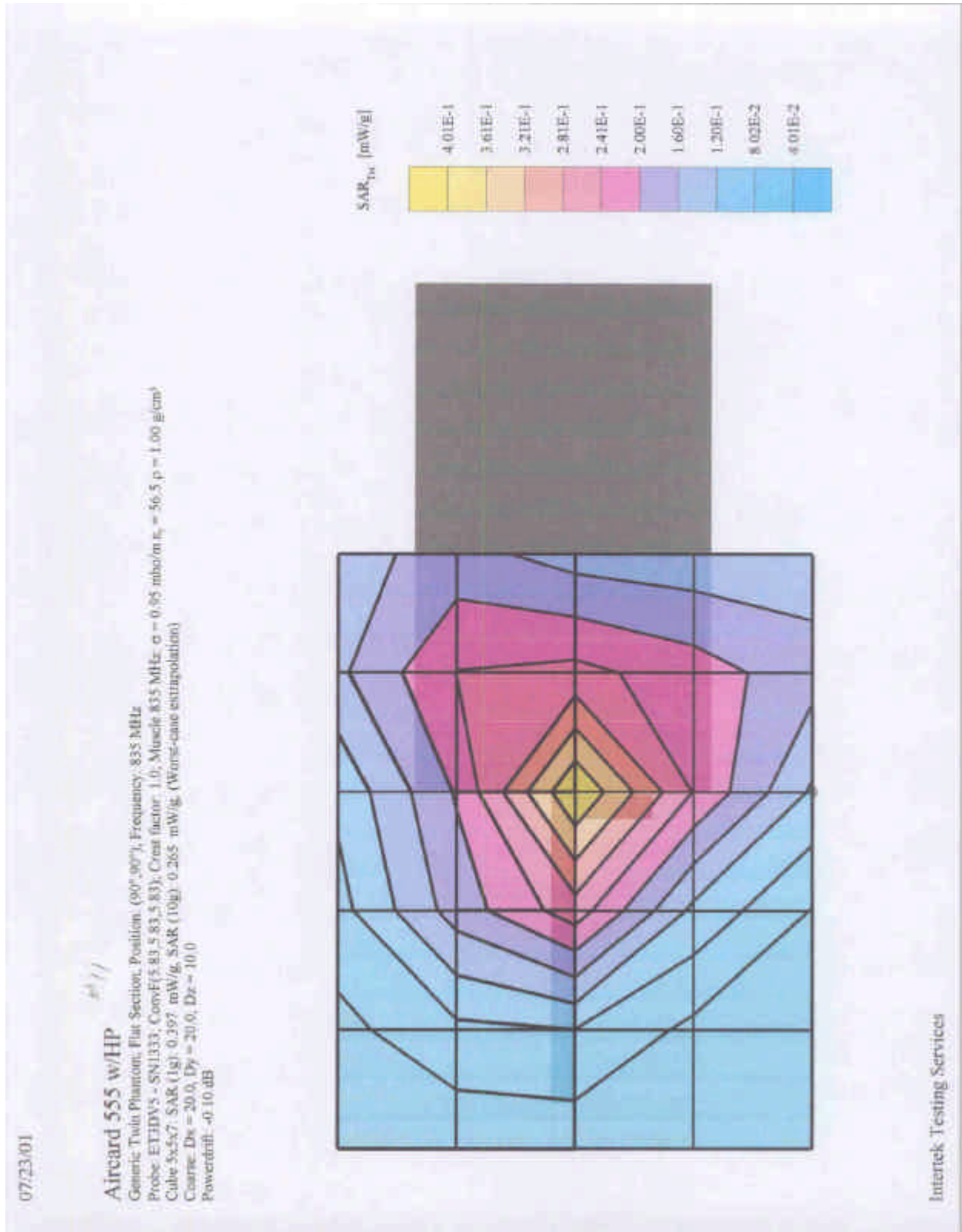


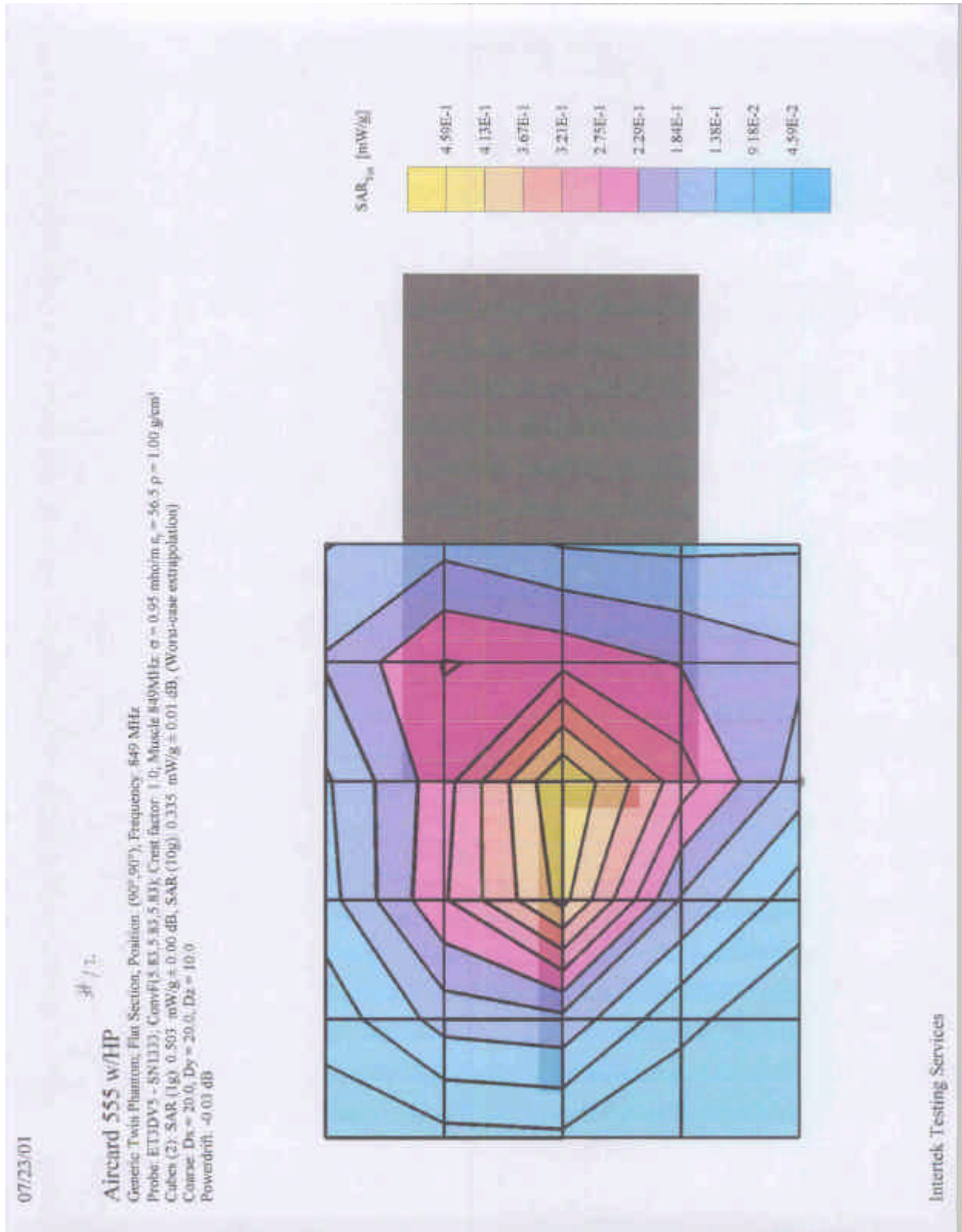


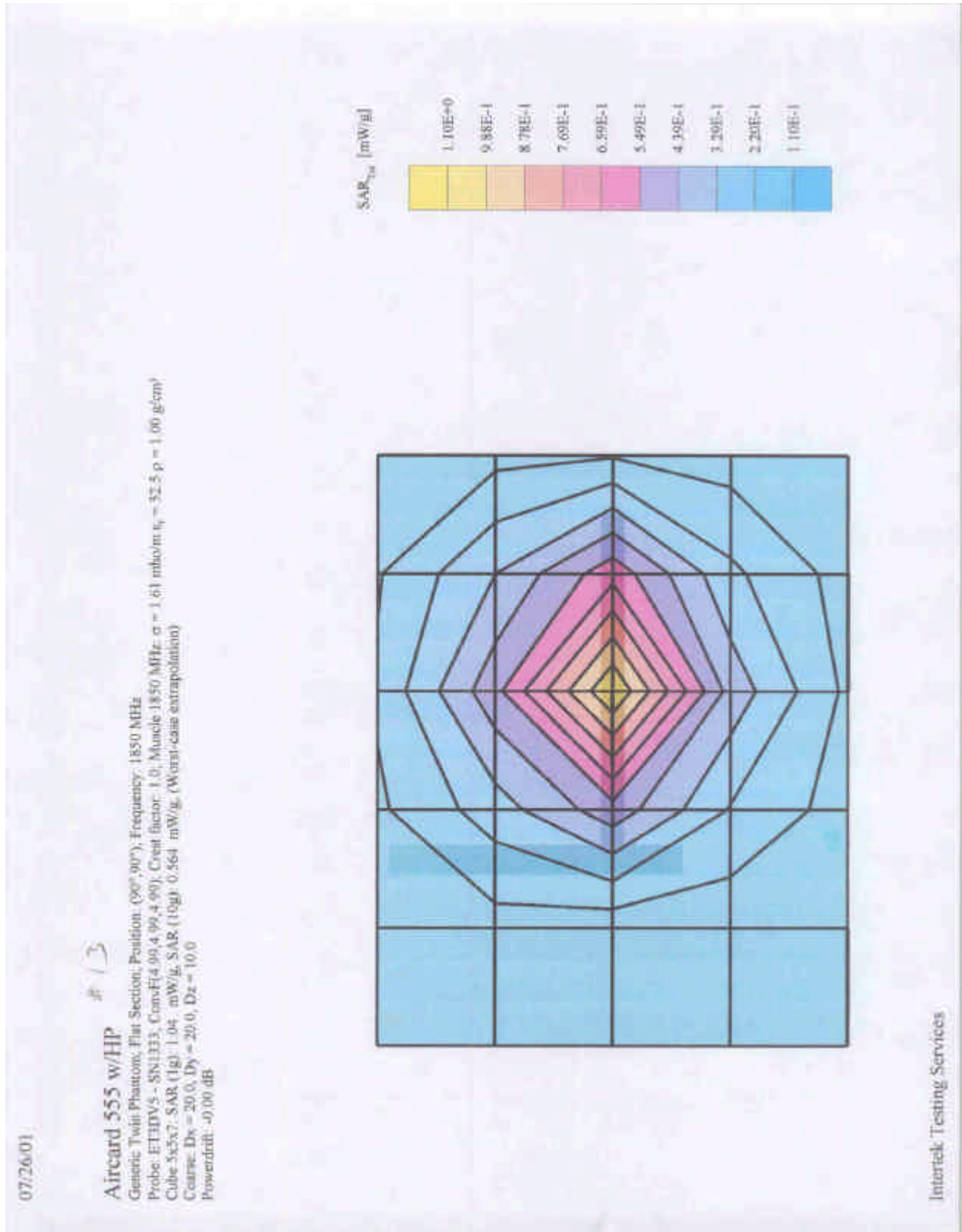


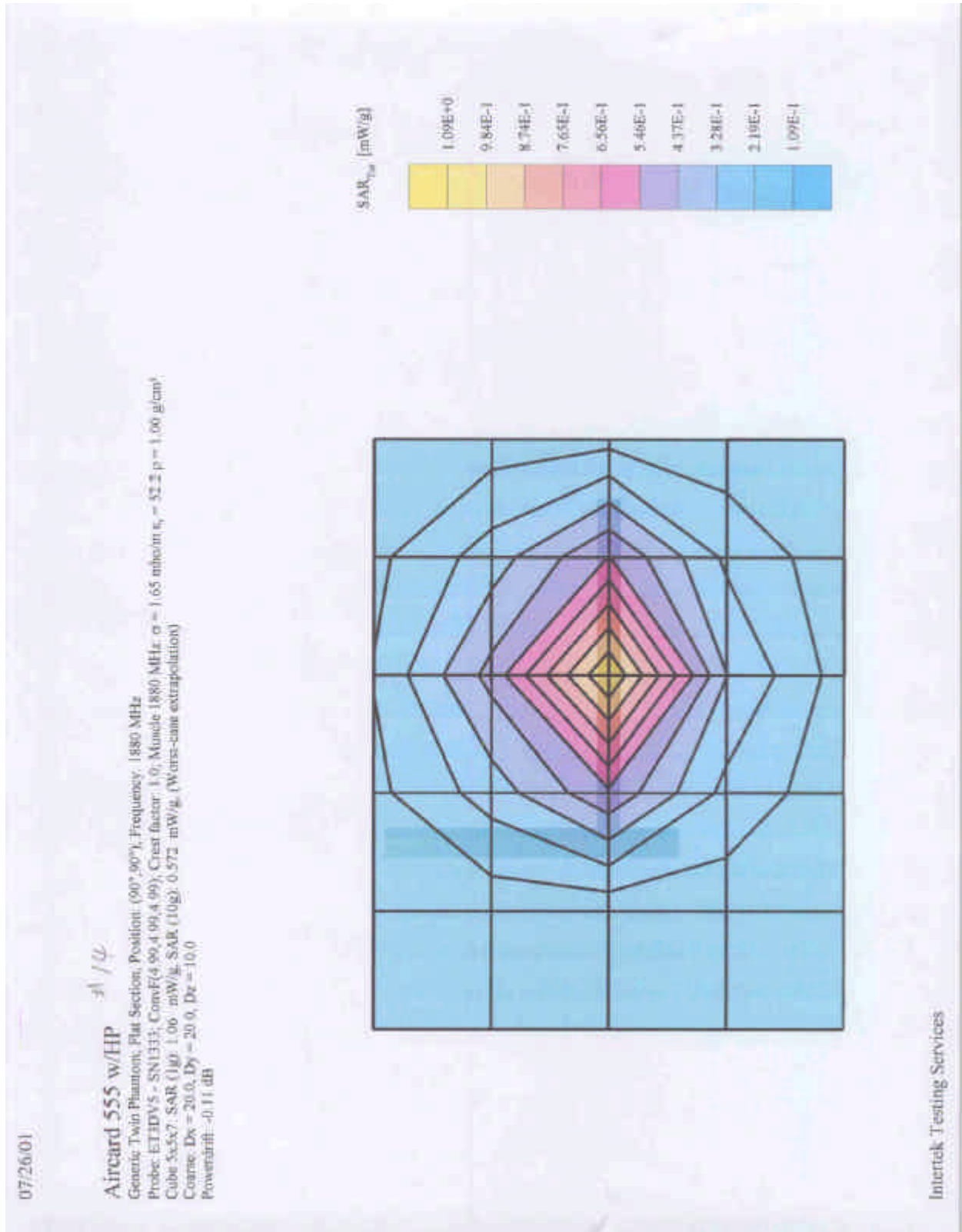


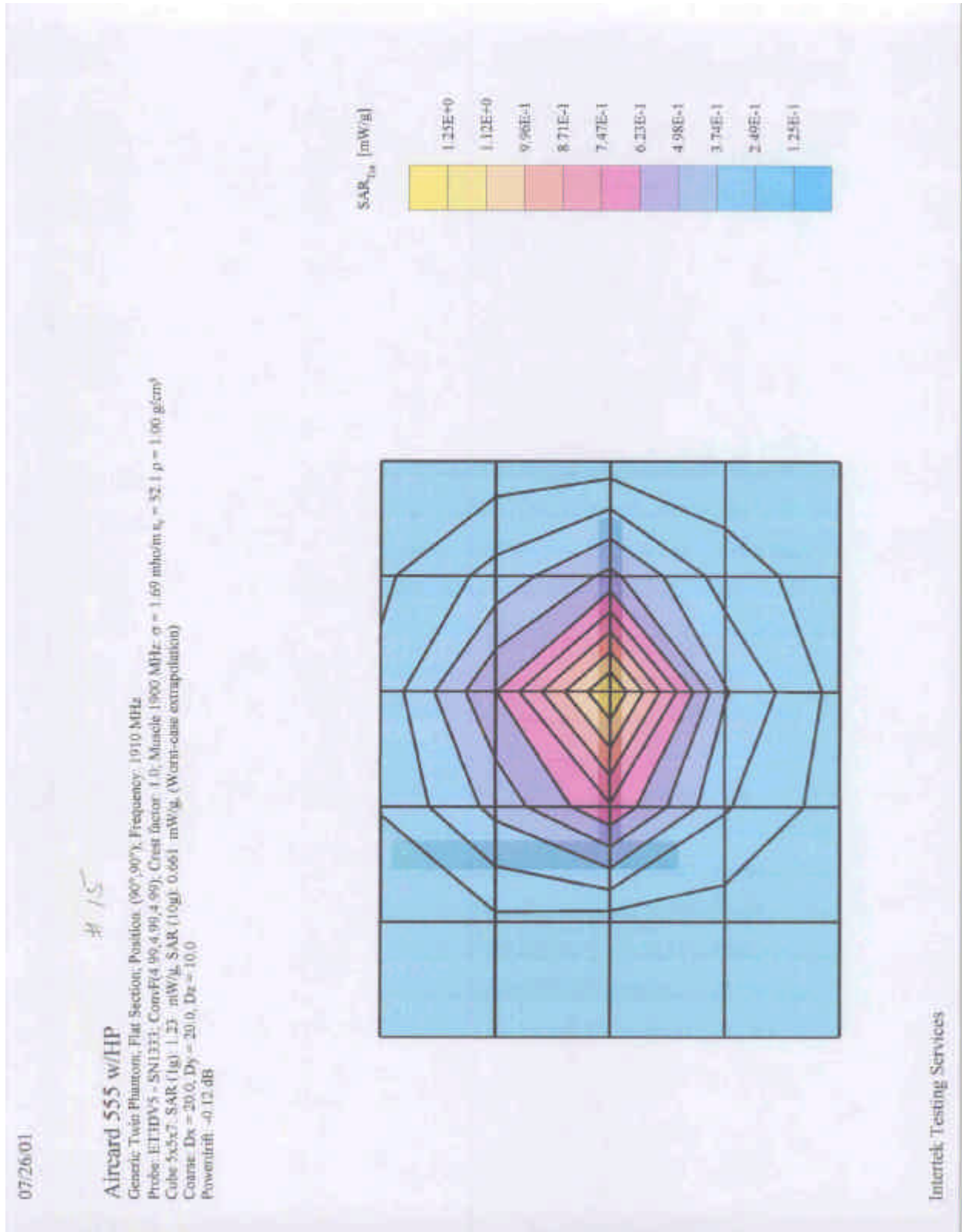


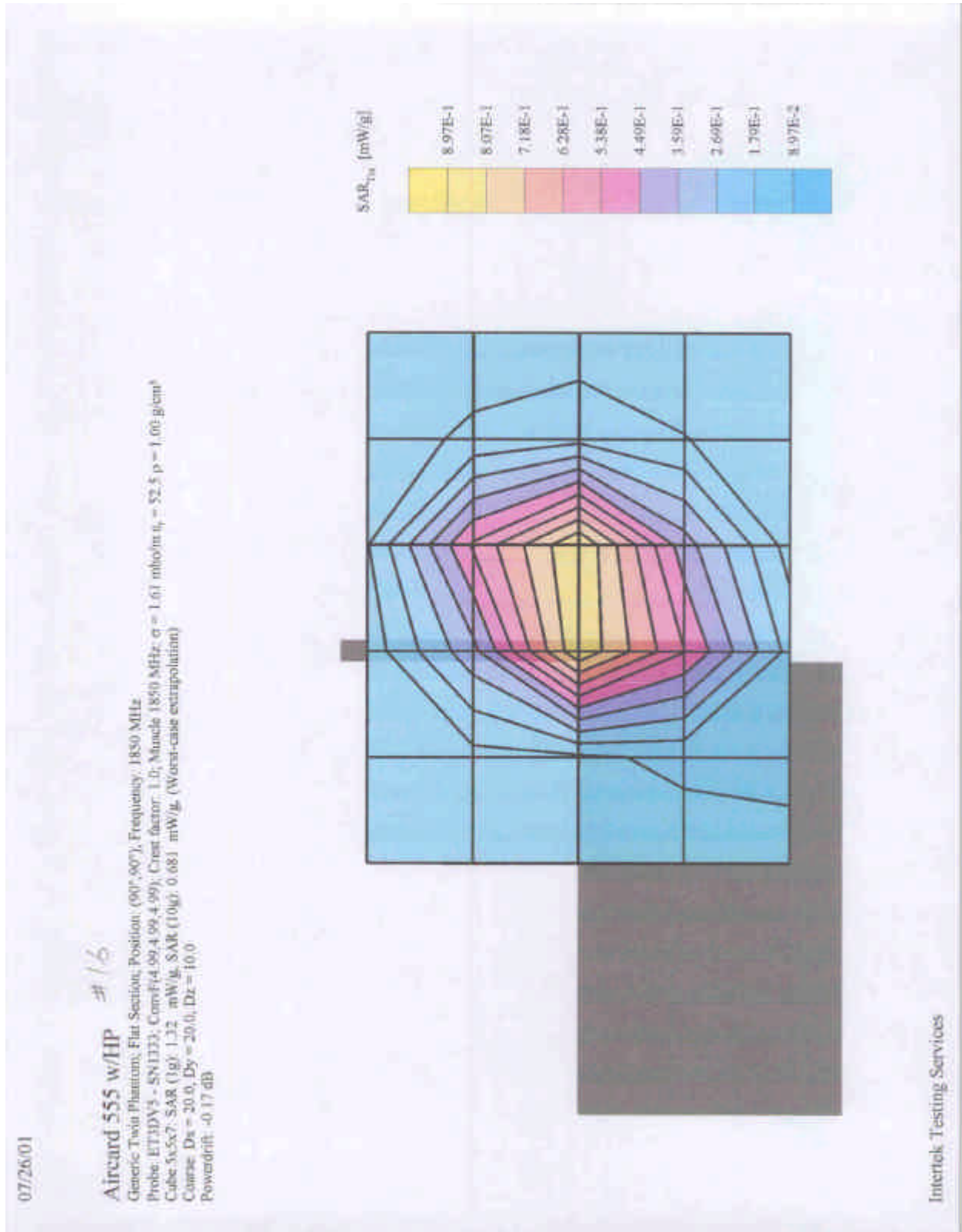


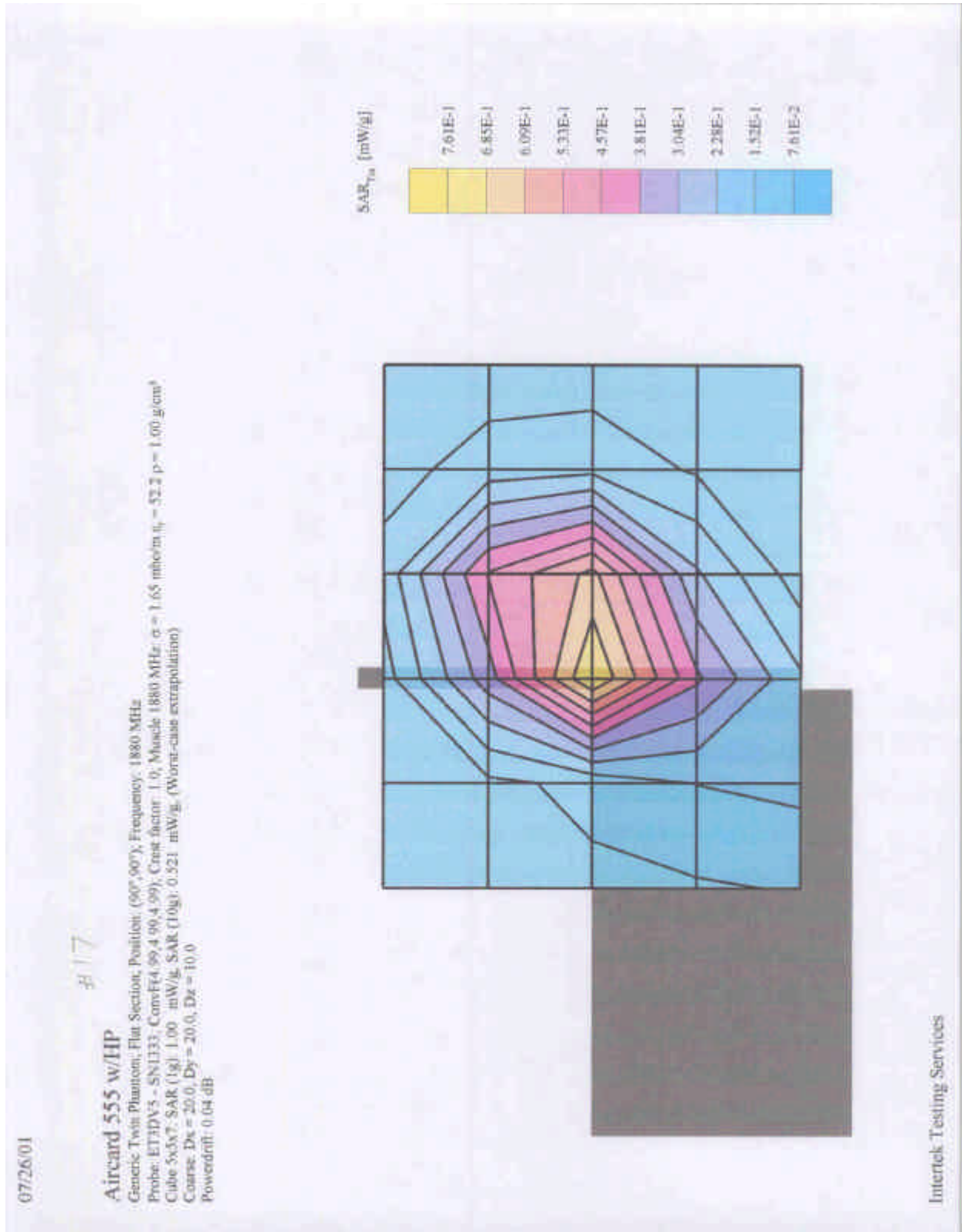


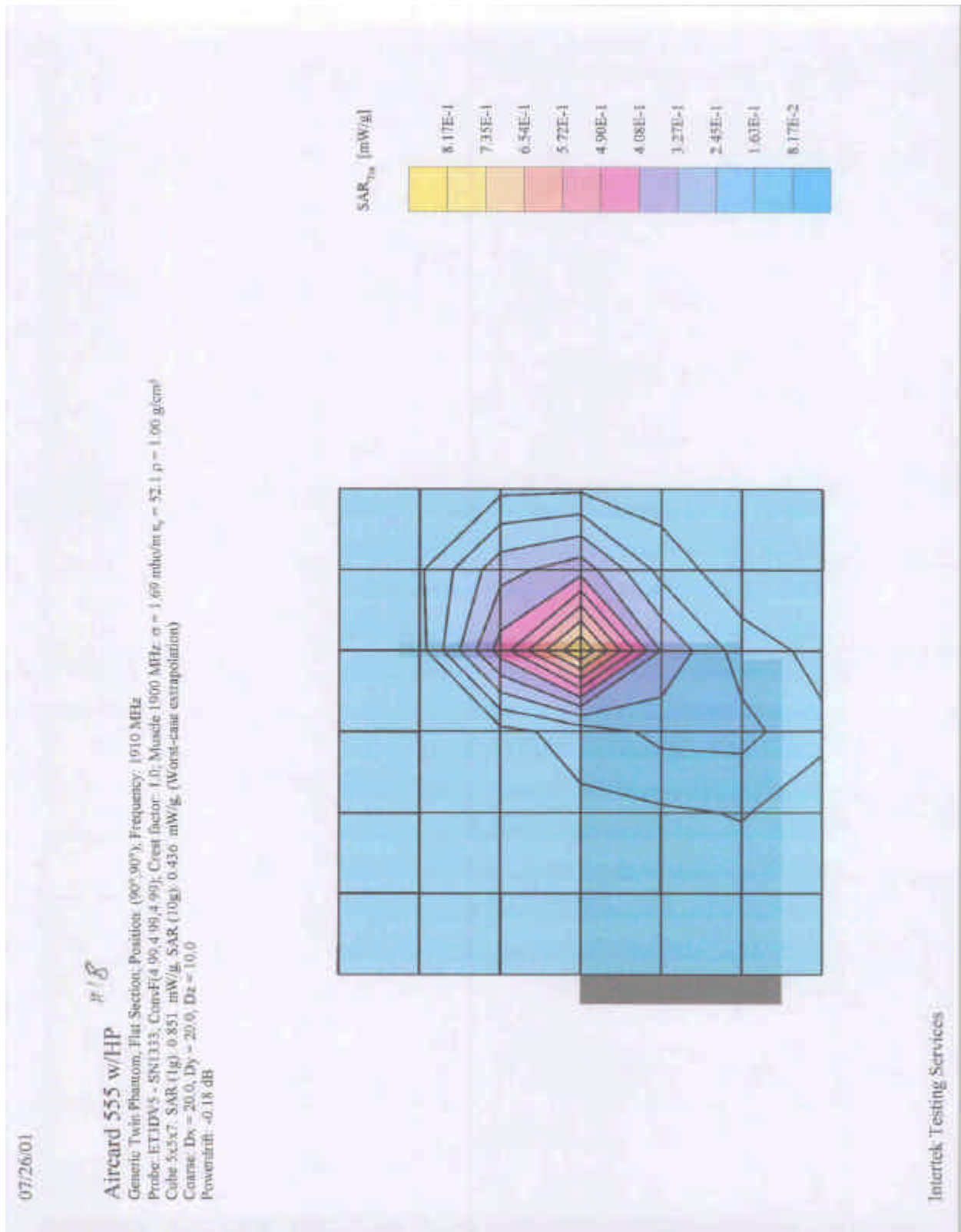


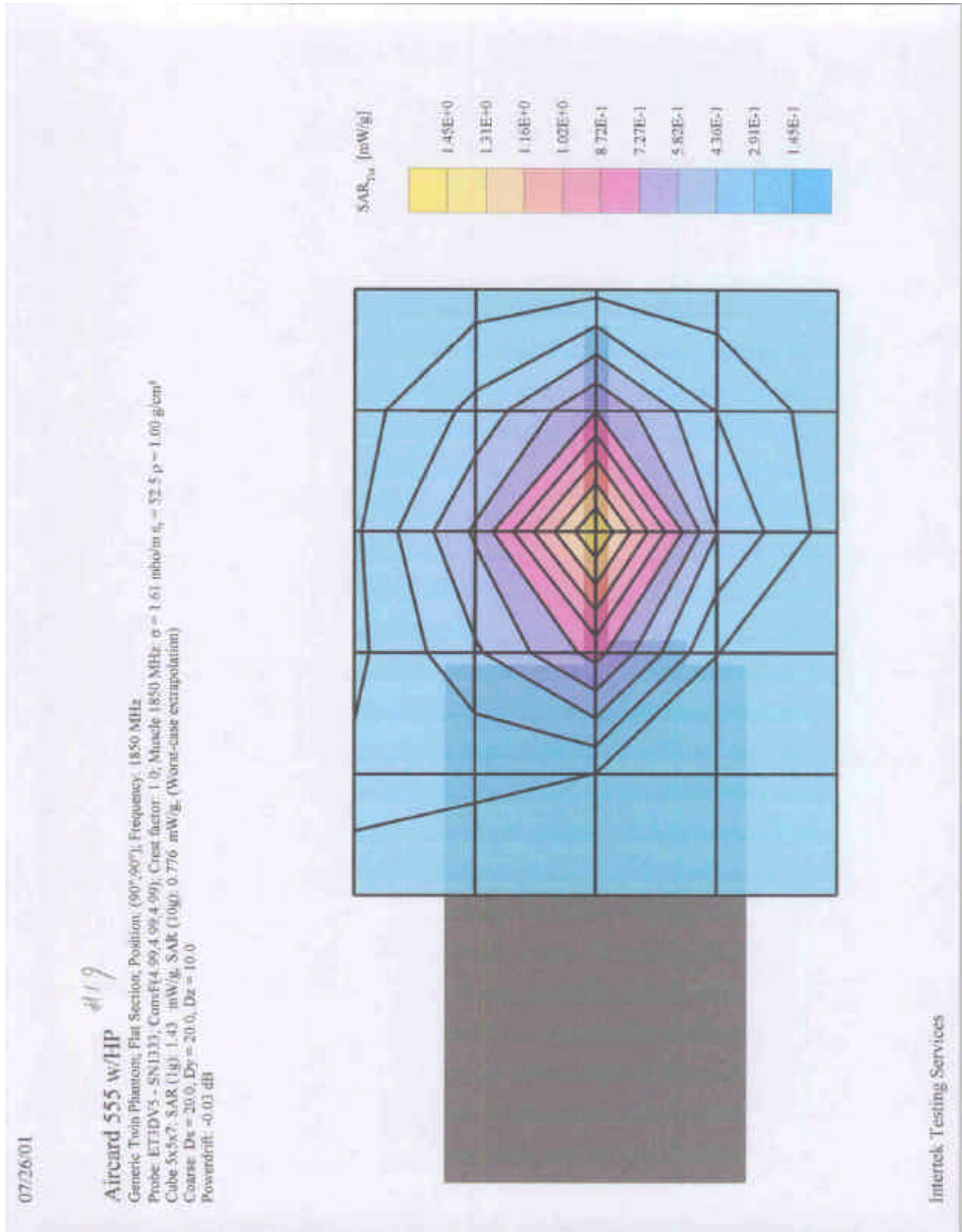


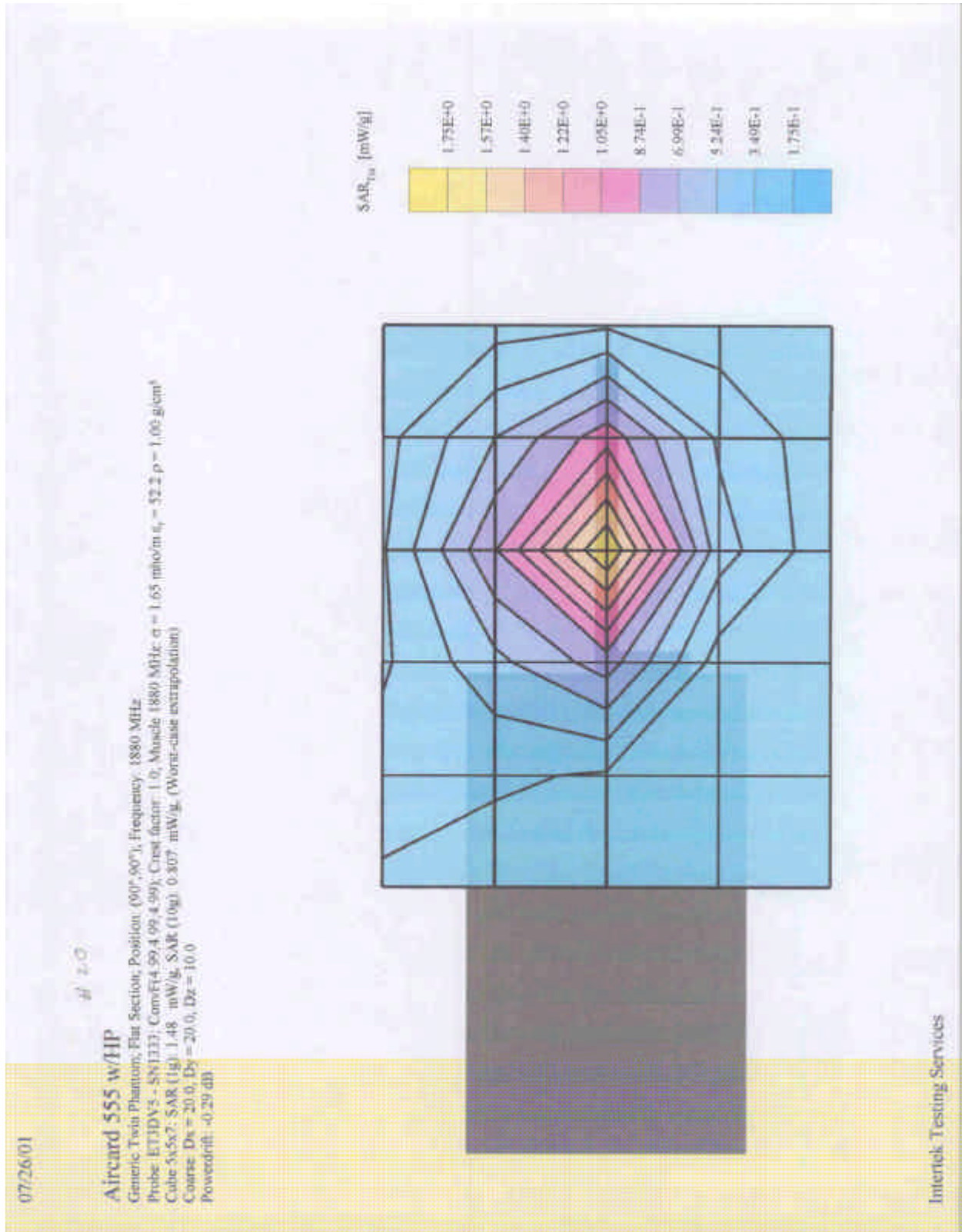


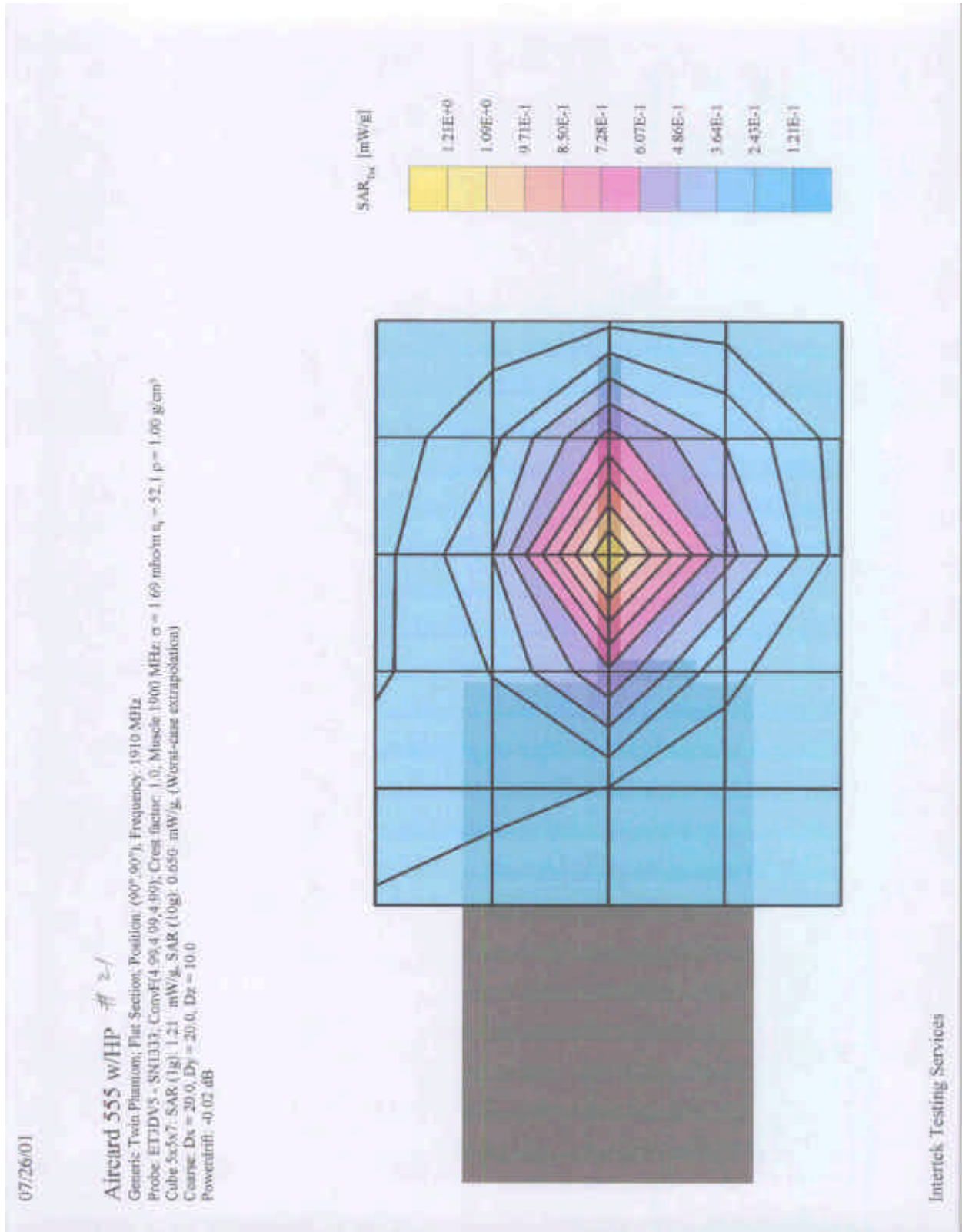


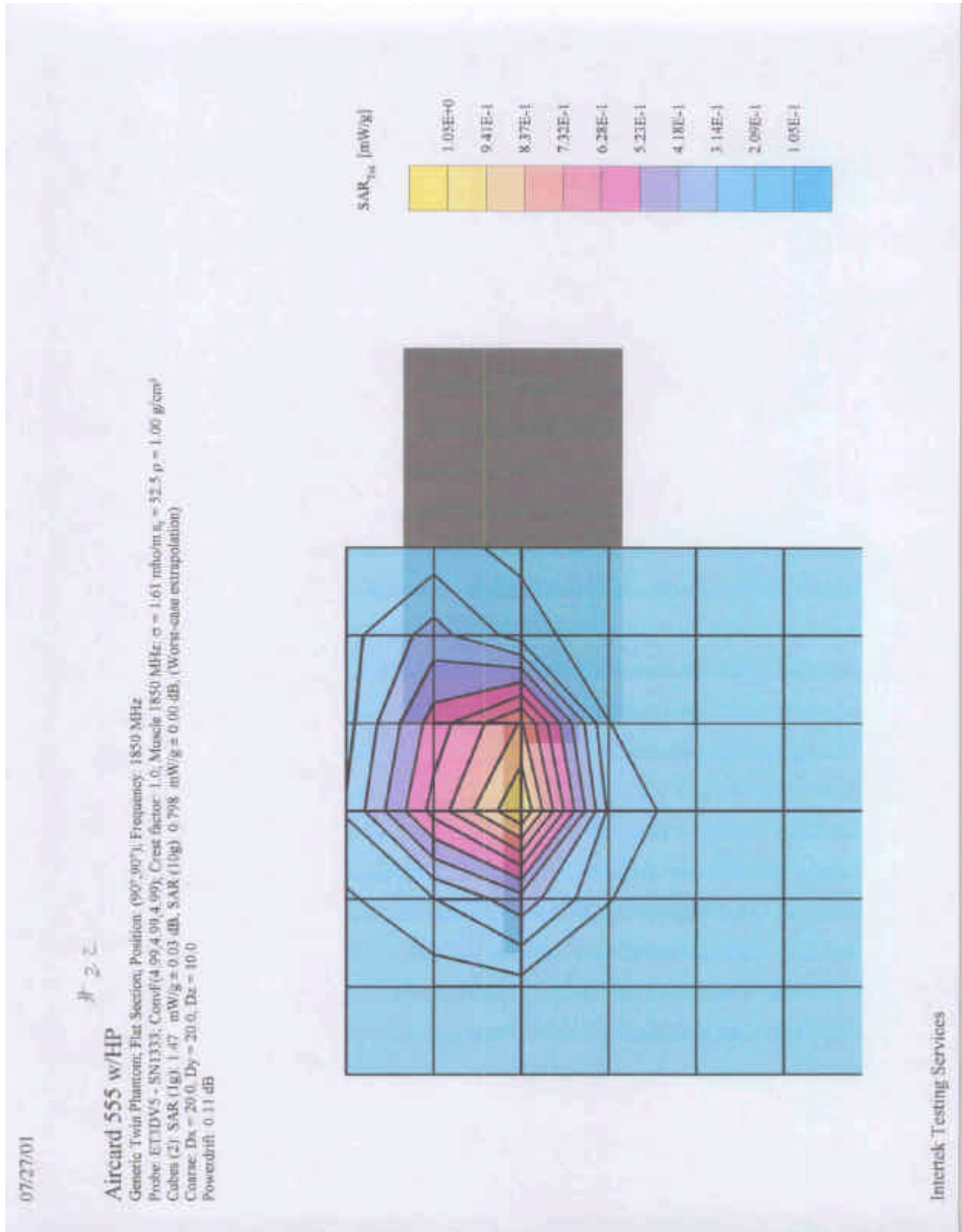


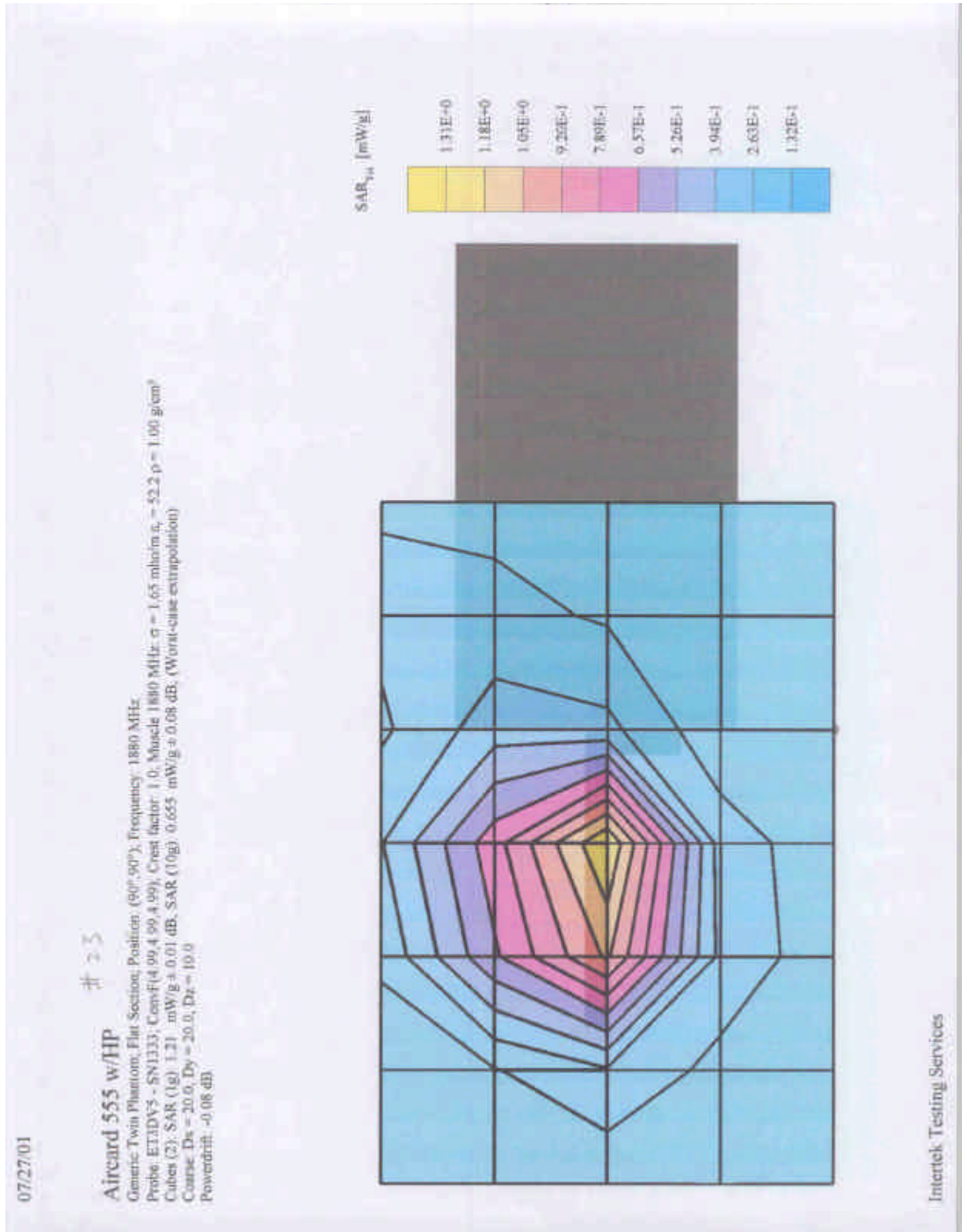


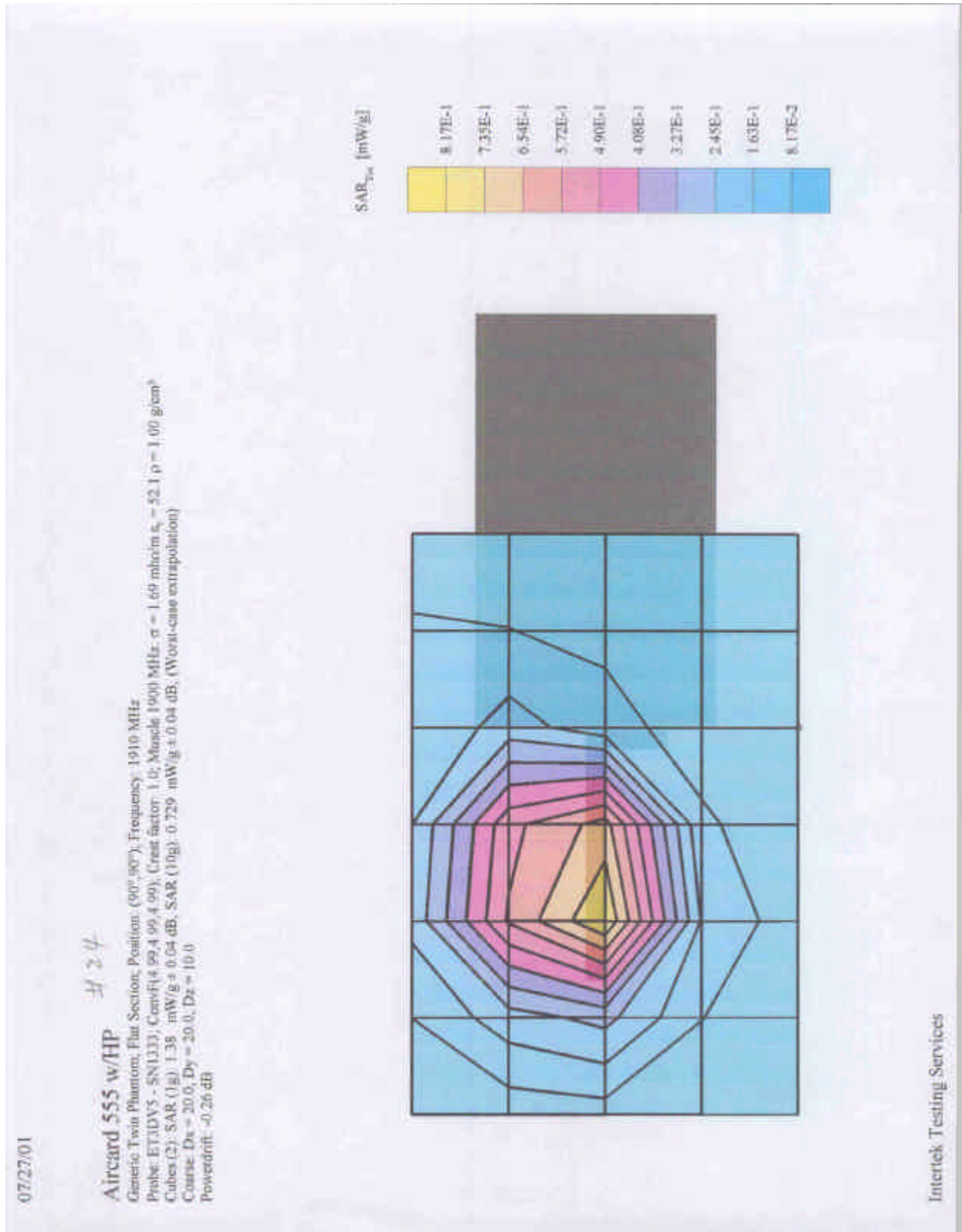












APPENDIX B - E-Field Probe Calibration Data

See attached pages.



Schmid & Partner Engineering AG

Zeughausstrasse 43, 8004 Zurich, Switzerland, Phone +41 1 245 97 00, Fax +41 1 245 97 79

Calibration Certificate

Dosimetric E-Field Probe

Type:

ET3DV5

Serial Number:

1333

Place of Calibration:

Zurich

Date of Calibration:

April 23, 2001

Calibration Interval:

12 months

Schmid & Partner Engineering AG hereby certifies, that this device has been calibrated on the date indicated above. The calibration was performed in accordance with specifications and procedures of Schmid & Partner Engineering AG.

Wherever applicable, the standards used in the calibration process are traceable to international standards. In all other cases the standards of the Laboratory for EMF and Microwave Electronics at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich, Switzerland have been applied.

Calibrated by:

Nicolae Nevoana

Approved by:

Ilvan Katja

**Schmid & Partner
Engineering AG**

Zeughausstrasse 43, 8004 Zurich, Switzerland, Telephone +41 1 245 97 00, Fax +41 1 245 97 79

Probe ET3DV5

SN:1333

Manufactured:	December 20, 1997
Last calibration:	April 10, 2000
Recalibrated:	April 23, 2001

Calibrated for System DASY3



ET3DV5 SN:1333

DASY3 - Parameters of Probe: ET3DV5 SN:1333

Sensitivity in Free Space

NormX	2.37 $\mu\text{V}/(\text{V}/\text{m})^2$
NormY	2.38 $\mu\text{V}/(\text{V}/\text{m})^2$
NormZ	2.33 $\mu\text{V}/(\text{V}/\text{m})^2$

Diode Compression

DCP X	100 mV
DCP Y	100 mV
DCP Z	100 mV

Sensitivity in Tissue Simulating Liquid

Head **450 MHz** $\epsilon_r = 43.5 \pm 5\%$ $\sigma = 0.87 \pm 10\%$ mho/m

ConvF X	6.25 extrapolated
ConvF Y	6.25 extrapolated
ConvF Z	6.25 extrapolated

Boundary effect:	
Alpha	0.19
Depth	3.06

Head **900 MHz** $\epsilon_r = 42 \pm 5\%$ $\sigma = 0.97 \pm 10\%$ mho/m

ConvF X	5.83 $\pm 7\%$ (k=2)
ConvF Y	5.83 $\pm 7\%$ (k=2)
ConvF Z	5.83 $\pm 7\%$ (k=2)

Boundary effect:	
Alpha	0.38
Depth	2.70

Brain **1500 MHz** $\epsilon_r = 41 \pm 5\%$ $\sigma = 1.32 \pm 10\%$ mho/m

ConvF X	5.27 interpolated
ConvF Y	5.27 interpolated
ConvF Z	5.27 interpolated

Boundary effect:	
Alpha	0.63
Depth	2.23

Brain **1800 MHz** $\epsilon_r = 41 \pm 5\%$ $\sigma = 1.69 \pm 10\%$ mho/m

ConvF X	4.99 $\pm 7\%$ (k=2)
ConvF Y	4.99 $\pm 7\%$ (k=2)
ConvF Z	4.99 $\pm 7\%$ (k=2)

Boundary effect:	
Alpha	0.75
Depth	1.99

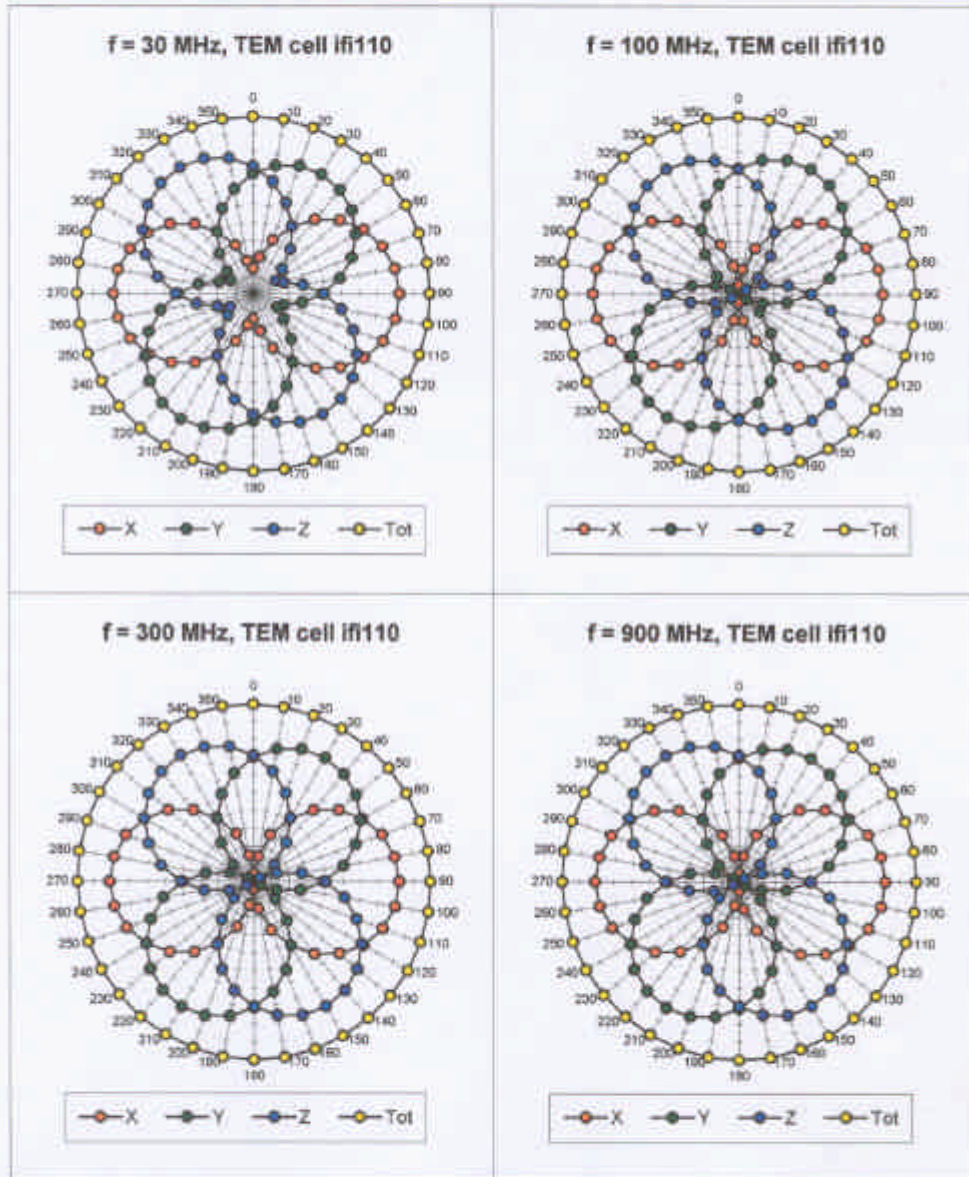
Sensor Offset

Probe Tip to Sensor Center	2.7	mm
Optical Surface Detection	1.6 ± 0.2	mm



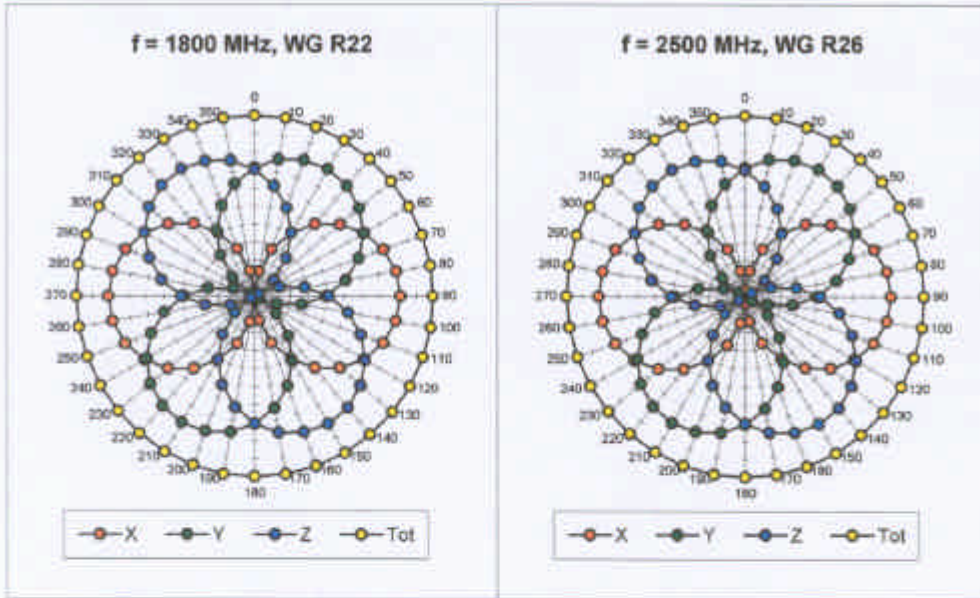
ET3DV5 SN:1333

Receiving Pattern (ϕ), $\theta = 0^\circ$

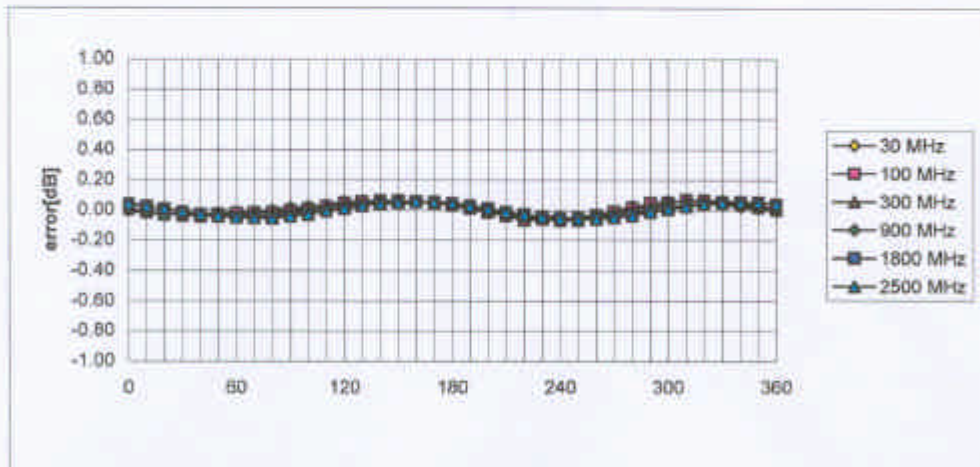




ET3DV5 SN:1333

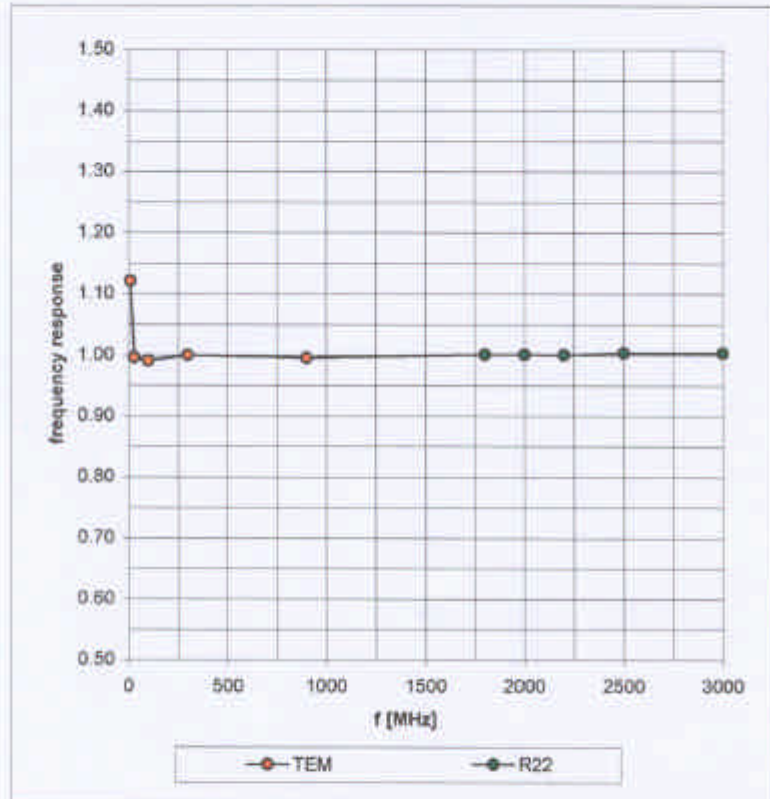


Isotropy Error (ϕ), $\theta = 0^\circ$



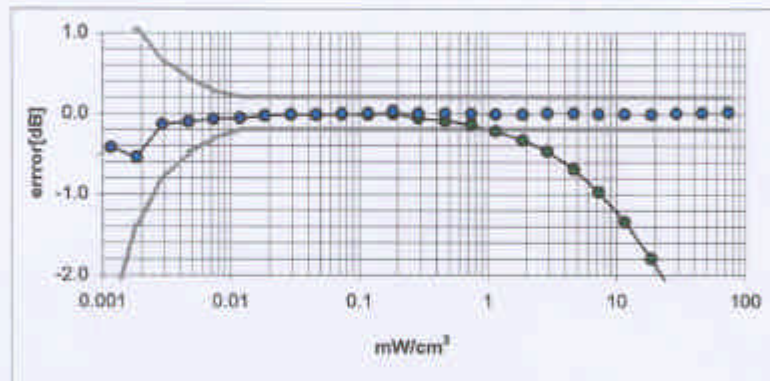
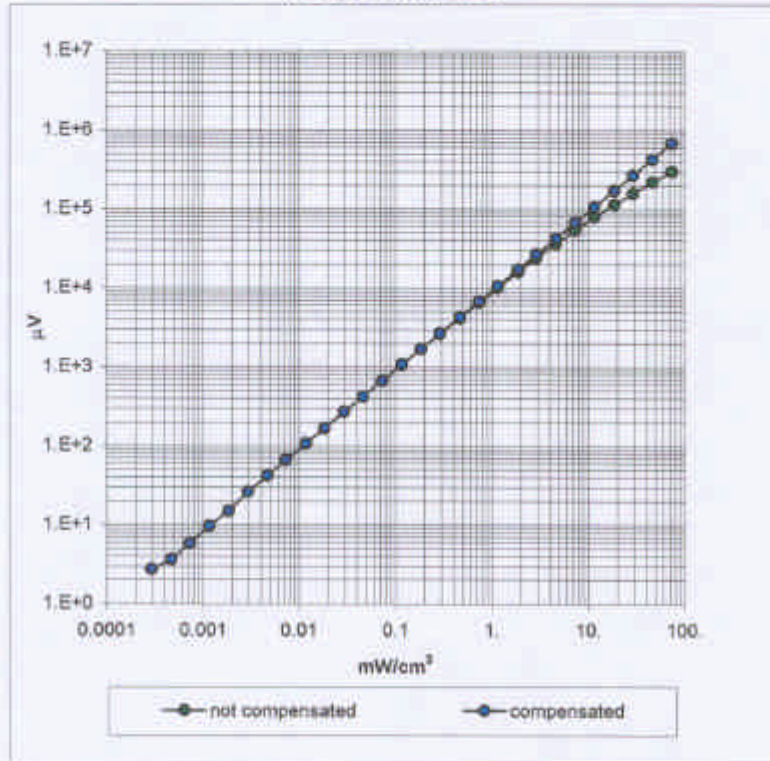
ET3DV5 SN:1333

Frequency Response of E-Field (TEM-Cell:ifi110, Waveguide R22)



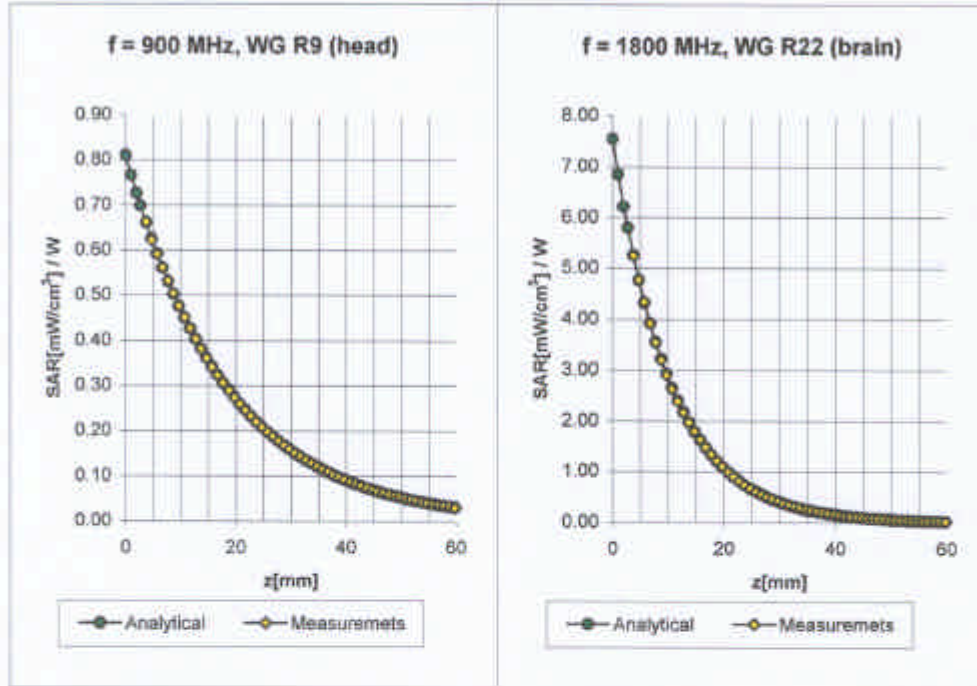
ET3DV5 SN:1333

Dynamic Range f(SAR_{brain}) (TEM-Cell:ifi110)



ET3DV6 SN:1333

Conversion Factor Assessment



Head	900 MHz	$\epsilon_r = 42 \pm 5\%$	$\sigma = 0.97 \pm 10\%$ mho/m
ConvF X	5.83 $\pm 7\%$ (k=2)		Boundary effect:
ConvF Y	5.83 $\pm 7\%$ (k=2)		Alpha 0.38
ConvF Z	5.83 $\pm 7\%$ (k=2)		Depth 2.70
Brain	1800 MHz	$\epsilon_r = 41 \pm 5\%$	$\sigma = 1.69 \pm 10\%$ mho/m
ConvF X	4.99 $\pm 7\%$ (k=2)		Boundary effect:
ConvF Y	4.99 $\pm 7\%$ (k=2)		Alpha 0.75
ConvF Z	4.99 $\pm 7\%$ (k=2)		Depth 1.99