REPORT ON

Specific Absorption Rate Testing of the Novatel Wireless Limited U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card

FCC ID: NBZNRM-U740

Report No WS614781/01 Issue 1 November 2005

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TUV Product Service Ltd, Octagon House, Concorde Way, Segensworth North, Fareham, Hampshire, United Kingdom, PO15 5RL Tel: +44 (0) 1489 558100. Website: www.tuvps.co.uk; www.babt.com **REPORT ON** Specific Absorption Rate Testing of the Novatel Wireless Limited U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card Report No: WS614781/01 Issue 1 **FCC ID** NBZNRM-U740 **PREPARED FOR** Novatel Wireless Limited Suite 200, 6715 - 8th Street N.E. **Calgary** Alberta, T2E 7H7 Canada **ATTESTATION** The wireless portable device described within this report has been shown to be capable of compliance for localised specific absorption rate (SAR) for FCC standard Supplement C (Edition 01-01) to OET Bulletin 65 (Edition 97-01) and RSS-102 Issue 1 (Provisional) September 25, 1999 of 1.6 W/kg. The measurements shown in this report were made in accordance with the procedures specified in Supplement C (Edition 01-01) to OET Bulletin 65 (Edition 97-01). All reported testing was carried out on a sample of equipment to demonstrate compliance with the above standards. The sample tested was found to comply with the requirements in the applied rules. **V Kerai** SAR Test Engineer **APPROVED BY M J Hardy** Authorised Signatory **DATED** 22nd November 2005

> *Note: The test results reported herein relate only to the item tested as identified above and on the Status Page.*

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SECTION 1

REPORT SUMMARY

Specific Absorption Rate Testing of the Novatel Wireless Limited U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card

1.1 STATUS

TEST SPECIFICATIONS:

1. FCC Publication Supplement C (Edition 01-01) to OET Bulletin 65 (Edition 97-01): Evaluating Compliance with FCC Guidelines for Human Exposure to Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields – Additional Information for evaluating Compliance of Mobile and Portable Devices with FCC Limits for Human Exposure to Radiofrequency Emissions

REFERENCES:

2. IEEE 1528 – 2003: Recommended Practice for Determining the Peak Spatial-Average Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) in the Human Body Due to Wireless Communications Devices: Experimental Techniques

1.2 SUMMARY

The device supplied for Specific Absorption Rate (SAR) testing was a Novatel Wireless Inc U740 GPRS/EGPRS (EDGE) module, designed for modular integration into hosts. SAR assessment was performed on the module with three host laptops as follows:

- Host 1: Averatec 6200 Series
- Host 2: Dell Inspiron 9300
- Host 3: Dell Latitude D600

The Cube Phantom dimensions were 210mm x 210mm x 210mm with a sidewall thickness of 2.00mm. The phantom was filled to a minimum depth of 150mm with the appropriate Body simulant liquid. The dielectric properties were in accordance with the requirements for the dielectric properties specified in Supplement C (Edition 01-01) to OET Bulletin 65 (Edition 97-01).

Testing was conducted at the maximum power relevant for each band and modulation scheme. This was achieved using a Universal Radio Communications test set.

Body SAR assessment was performed with the three host laptops inverted such that the rear of the host laptop was facing the bottom of the cube phantom and the rear of the U740 card was facing the phantom. Testing was performed on the U740 card in Host 1 at the top, middle and bottom frequency of each band with 10mm separation distance from the card to the bottom of the Cube Phantom. Host 1, which provided the smallest separation distance from the card to the bottom of the Cube Phantom was used to perform SAR testing in three channels to establish the worst-case frequency. Further testing was carried out with the U740 card in Host 2 and Host 3 in the worst case frequency identified with separation distances of 18mm and 14mm respectively. Host 2 and 3 were positioned such that the base of the laptop was in contact with the bottom of the Cube Phantom to ensure the worst case SAR was obtained.

For body SAR assessment, testing was performed for both the 850MHz and 1900MHz frequency bands in the following test modes:

- GPRS (General Packet Radio Service)
- GSM EDGE (Enhanced Data for Global Evolution)

In GPRS mode, TS3 and TS4 were active, (CS1) with GMSK modulation. In EDGE mode, TS2 and TS3 were active, (MCS-5) with 8PSK modulation.

Included in this report are descriptions of the test method; the equipment used and an analysis of the test uncertainties applicable and diagrams indicating the locations of maximum SAR for each test position along with photographs indicating the positioning of the module with respect to the body as appropriate.

The maximum 1g volume averaged SAR level measured for all the tests performed did not exceed the limits for General Population/Uncontrolled Exposure (W/kg) Partial Body of 1.6 W/kg. Level defined in Supplement C (Edition 01-01) to OET Bulletin 65 (97-01).

1.3 TEST RESULT SUMMARY

SYSTEM PERFORMANCE / VALIDATION CHECK RESULTS

Prior to formal testing being performed a System Check was performed in accordance with OET 65 Supplement C (Edition 01-01) and the results were compared against published data in Standard IEEE 1528-2003 [3]. The following results were obtained: -

*Normalised to a forward power of 1W

1900 GPRS Multi-slot Class 10 Test Mode BODY Specific Absorption Rate (Maximum SAR) 1g & 10g Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in 3 Hosts

850 GPRS Multi-slot Class 10 Test Mode BODY Specific Absorption Rate (Maximum SAR) 1g & 10g Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in 3 Hosts

1.3 TEST RESULT SUMMARY

1900 GSM EDGE Test Mode BODY Specific Absorption Rate (Maximum SAR) 1g & 10g Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in 3 Hosts

850 GSM EDGE Test Mode BODY Specific Absorption Rate (Maximum SAR) 1g & 10g Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in 3 Hosts

1.4 OUTPUT POWER MEASUREMENTS

Radiated Output Power Measurements for the Novatel U740 Module in GPRS Mode

Radiated Output Power Measurements for the Novatel U740 Module in EDGE Mode

SECTION 2

TEST DETAILS

Specific Absorption Rate Testing of the Novatel Wireless Limited U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card

2.1.1 ROBOT SYSTEM SPECIFICATION

The SAR measurement system being used is the IndexSAR SARA2 system, which consists of a Mitsubishi RV-E2 6-axis robot arm and controller, IndexSAR probe and amplifier and SAM phantom Head Shape. The robot is used to articulate the probe to programmed positions inside the phantom head to obtain the SAR readings from the DUT.

Figure 1: Schematic diagram of the SAR measurement system

The system is controlled remotely from a PC, which contains the software to control the robot and data acquisition equipment. The software also displays the data obtained from test scans.

The position and digitised shape of the phantom heads are made available to the software for accurate positioning of the probe and reduction of set-up time.

The SAM phantom heads are individually digitised using a Mitutoyo CMM machine to a precision of 0.001mm. The data is then converted into a shape format for the software, providing an accurate description of the phantom shell.

In operation, the system first does an area (2D) scan at a fixed depth within the liquid from the inside wall of the phantom. When the maximum SAR point has been found, the system will then carry out a 3D scan centred at that point to determine volume averaged SAR level.

2.1.2 PROBE AND AMPLIFIER SPECIFICATION

IXP-050 IndexSAR Isotropic Immersible SAR probe

The probes are constructed using three orthogonal dipole sensors arranged on an interlocking, triangular prism core. The probes have built-in shielding against static charges and are contained within a PEEK cylindrical enclosure material at the tip. Probe calibration is described in the following section.

IFA-010 Fast Amplifier

Technical description of IndexSAR IFA-010 Fast probe amplifier A block diagram of the fast probe amplifier electronics is shown below.

Figure 2: Block diagram of the fast probe amplifier electronic

This amplifier has a time constant of approx. 50µs, which is much faster than the SAR probe response time. The overall system time constant is therefore that of the probe (<1ms) and reading sets for all three channels (simultaneously) are returned every 2ms to the PC. The conversion period is approx. 1 µs at the start of each 2ms period. This enables the probe to follow pulse modulated signals of periods >>2ms. The PC software applies the linearization procedure separately to each reading, so no linearization corrections for the averaging of modulated signals are needed in this case. It is important to ensure that the probe reading frequency and the pulse period are not synchronised and the behaviour with pulses of short duration in comparison with the measurement interval need additional consideration.

Phantoms

The Cube phantom used is a Perspex Box IndexSAR item IXB-070. Dimensions of 200w x 200d x 200h (mm). This phantom is used with IndexSAR side bench IXM-030.

The Flat phantom used is a Rectangular Perspex Box IndexSAR item. Dimensions of 210w x 150d x 200h (mm). This phantom is used with IndexSAR upright bench. The phantom and robot alignment is assured by both mechanical and laser registration systems.

2.1.3 SAR MEASUREMENT PROCEDURE

Figure 3: Principal components of the SAR measurement test bench

The major components of the test bench are shown in the picture above. A test set and dipole antenna control the handset via an air link and a low-mass phone holder can position the phone at either ear. Graduated scales are provided to set the phone in the 15 degree position. The upright phantom head holds approx. 7 litres of simulant liquid. The phantom is filled and emptied through a 45mm diameter penetration hole in the top of the head.

After an area scan has been done at a fixed distance of 8mm from the surface of the phantom on the source side, a 3D scan is set up around the location of the maximum spot SAR. First, a point within the scan area is visited by the probe and a SAR reading taken at the start of testing. At the end of testing, the probe is returned to the same point and a second reading is taken. Comparison between these start and end readings enables the power drift during measurement to be assessed.

SARA2 Interpolation and Extrapolation schemes

SARA2 software contains support for both 2D cubic B-spline interpolation as well as 3D cubic Bspline interpolation. In addition, for extrapolation purposes, a general n^{-th} order polynomial fitting routine is implemented following a singular value decomposition algorithm presented in [4]. A 4th order polynomial fit is used by default for data extrapolation, but a linear-logarithmic fitting function can be selected as an option. The polynomial fitting procedures have been tested by comparing the fitting coefficients generated by the SARA2 procedures with those obtained using the polynomial fit functions of Microsoft Excel when applied to the same test input data.

Interpolation of 2D area scan

The 2D cubic B-spline interpolation is used after the initial area scan at fixed distance from the phantom shell wall. The initial scan data are collected with approx. 115mm spatial resolution and spline interpolation is used to find the location of the local maximum to within a 1mm resolution for positioning the subsequent 3D scanning.

2.1.3 SAR MEASUREMENT PROCEDURE

Extrapolation of 3D scan

For the 3D scan, data are collected on a spatially regular 3D grid having (by default) 6.4 mm steps in the lateral dimensions and 3.5 mm steps in the depth direction (away from the source). SARA2 enables full control over the selection of alternative step sizes in all directions.

The digitised shape of the head is available to the SARA2 software, which decides which points in the 3D array are sufficiently well within the shell wall to be 'visited' by the SAR probe. After the data collection, the data are extrapolated in the depth direction to assign values to points in the 3D array closer to the shell wall. A notional extrapolation value is also assigned to the first point outside the shell wall so that subsequent interpolation schemes will be applicable right up to the shell wall boundary.

Interpolation of 3D scan and volume averaging

The procedure used for defining the shape of the volumes used for SAR averaging in the SARA2 software follow the method of adapting the surface of the 'cube' to conform with the curved inner surface of the phantom (see Appendix C.2.2.1 in EN 50361:2001). This is called, here, the conformal scheme.

For each row of data in the depth direction, the data are extrapolated and interpolated to less than 1mm spacing and average values are calculated from the phantom surface for the row of data over distances corresponding to the requisite depth for 10g and 1g cubes. This results in two 2D arrays of data, which are then cubic B-spline interpolated to sub mm lateral resolution. A search routine then moves an averaging square around through the 2D array and records the maximum value of the corresponding 1g and 10g volume averages. For the definition of the surface in this procedure, the digitised position of the headshell surface is used for measurement in head-shaped phantoms. For measurements in rectangular, box phantoms, the distance between the phantom wall and the closest set of gridded data points is entered into the software.

For measurements in box-shaped phantoms, this distance is under the control of the user. The effective distance must be greater than 2.5mm as this is the tip-sensor distance and to avoid interface proximity effects, it should be at least 5mm. A value of 6 or 8mm is recommended. This distance is called **dbe** in EN 50361:2001.

For automated measurements inside the head, the distance cannot be less than 2.5mm, which is the radius of the probe tip and to avoid interface proximity effects, a minimum clearance distance of x mm is retained. The actual value of dbe will vary from point to point depending upon how the spatially-regular 3D grid points fit within the shell. The greatest separation is when a grid point is just not visited due to the probe tip dimensions. In this case the distance could be as large as the step-size plus the minimum clearance distance (i.e with x=5 and a step size of 3.5, **dbe** will be between 3.5 and 8.5mm).

The default step size (**dstep** in EN 50361:2001) used is 3.5mm, but this is under user-control. The compromise is with time of scan, so it is not practical to make it much smaller or scan times become long and power-drop influences become larger.

The robot positioning system specification for the repeatability of the positioning (**dss** in EN50361:2001) is +/- 0.04mm.

2.1.3 SAR MEASUREMENT PROCEDURE

The phantom shell is made by an industrial moulding process from the CAD files of the SAM shape, with both internal and external moulds. For the upright phantoms, the external shape is subsequently digitised on a Mitutoyo CMM machine (Euro C574) to a precision of 0.001mm. Wall thickness measurements made non-destructively with an ultrasonic sensor indicate that the shell thickness (**dph**) away from the ear is 2.0 +/- 0.1mm. The ultrasonic measurements were calibrated using additional mechanical measurements on available cut surfaces of the phantom shells.

For the upright phantom, the alignment is based upon registration of the rotation axis of the phantom on its 253mm-diameter baseplate bearing and the position of the probe axis when commanded to go to the axial position. A laser alignment tool is provided (procedure detailed elsewhere). This enables the registration of the phantom tip (**dmis**) to be assured to within approx. 0.2mm. This alignment is done with reference to the actual probe tip after installation and probe alignment. The rotational positioning of the phantom is variable – offering advantages for special studies, but locating pins ensure accurate repositioning at the principal positions (LH and RH ears).

Figure 4: SAR Body Testing Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position; Tested at 1880.0MHz (1900 GPRS Middle Channel) with 10mm Separation – Host 1 used

Figure 5: SAR Body Testing Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position; Tested at 1850.2MHz (1900 GPRS Bottom Channel) with 10mm Separation – Host 1 used

Figure 6: SAR Body Testing Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position; Tested at 1909.8MHz (1900 GPRS Top Channel) with 10mm Separation – Host 1 used

Figure 7: SAR Body Testing Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position; Tested at 1880.0MHz (1900 GPRS Middle Channel) with 18mm Separation – Host 2 used

Figure 8: SAR Body Testing Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position; Tested at 1880.0MHz (1900 GPRS Middle Channel) with 14mm Separation – Host 3 used

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Figure 16: SAR Body Testing Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position; Tested at 1909.8MHz (1900 GSM EDGE Top Channel) with 10mm Separation – Host 1 used

Figure 17: SAR Body Testing Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position; Tested at 1880.0MHz (1900 GSM EDGE Middle Channel) with 18mm Separation – Host 2 used

Figure 18: SAR Body Testing Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position; Tested at 1880.0MHz (1900 GSM EDGE Middle Channel) with 14mm Separation – Host 3 used

Figure 19: SAR Body Testing Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position; Tested at 836.4MHz (850 GSM EDGE Middle Channel) with 10mm Separation – Host 1 used

Figure 20: SAR Body Testing Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position; Tested at 824.2MHz (850 GSM EDGE Bottom Channel) with 10mm Separation – Host 1 used

Figure 21: SAR Body Testing Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position; Tested at 848.8MHz (850 GSM EDGE Top Channel) with 10mm Separation – Host 1 used

Figure 22: SAR Body Testing Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position; Tested at 848.8MHz (850 GSM EDGE Top Channel) with 18mm Separation – Host 2 used

Figure 23: SAR Body Testing Results for the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position; Tested at 848.8MHz (850 GSM EDGE Top Channel) with 14mm Separation – Host 3 used

SECTION 3

TEST EQUIPMENT

3.1 TEST EQUIPMENT

The following test equipment was used at BABT:

3.2 TEST SOFTWARE

The following software was used to control the BABT SARA2 System:

3.3 DIELECTRIC PROPERTIES OF SIMULANT LIQUIDS

The fluid properties of the simulant fluids used during routine SAR evaluation meet the dielectric properties required by EN50361:2001 & OET Bulletin 65 (Edition 97-01).

The fluids were calibrated in our Laboratory and re-checked prior to any measurements being made against reference fluids stated in IEEE 1528-2003 of 0.9% NaCl (Salt Solution) at 23ºC and also for Dimethylsulphoxide (DMS) at 21ºC.

The fluids were made at BABT under controlled conditions from the following OET(65)c formulae and IEEE1528-2003. The composition of ingredients may have been modified accordingly to achieve the desired target tissue parameters required for routine SAR evaluation:

OET 65(c) Recipes

IEEE 1528 Recipes

3.3 DIELECTRIC PROPERTIES OF SIMULANT LIQUIDS

The dielectric properties of the tissue simulant liquids used for the SAR testing at BABT are as follows:-

3.4 TEST CONDITIONS

TEST LABORATORY CONDITIONS

Ambient Temperature: Within +15°C to +35°C at 20% RH to 75% RH. The actual Temperature during the testing ranged from 21.9°C to 23.7°C. The actual Humidity during the testing ranged from 33.5% to 54.6% RH.

TEST FLUID TEMPERATURE RANGE

SAR DRIFT

The SAR Drift was within acceptable limits during scans. The maximum SAR Drift, drift due to the handset electronics, was recorded as 6.86% (0.630dB) for all of the testing. The value 6.86% has been included in the measurement uncertainty budget.

3.5 MEASUREMENT UNCERTAINTY

SECTION 4

PHOTOGRAPHS

4.1 TEST POSITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Figure 24: Positional Photograph of the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position using Host 1 – Averatec 6200 Series; 10mm Separation Distance

Figure 25: Positional Photograph of the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position using Host 1 – Averatec 6200 Series; 10mm Separation Distance

4.1 TEST POSITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Figure 26: Positional Photograph of the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position using Host 2 – Dell Inspiron 9300; 18mm Separation Distance

Figure 27: Positional Photograph of the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position using Host 2 – Dell Inspiron 9300; 18mm Separation Distance

4.1 TEST POSITIONAL PHOTOGRAPHS

Figure 28: Positional Photograph of the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position using Host 3 – Dell Latitude D600; 14mm Separation Distance

Figure 29: Positional Photograph of the Novatel U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card in Rear Facing Phantom Position using Host 3 – Dell Latitude D600; 14mm Separation Distance

Figure 30: Front View of the U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card

Figure 31: Rear View of the U740 Wireless PCMCIA Card

Figure 32: Front View of Host 1 – Averatec 6200 Series Laptop

Figure 33: Front (Opened) View of Host 1 – Averatec 6200 Series Laptop

Figure 34: Front View of Host 2 – Dell Inspiron 9300 Laptop

Figure 35: Front (Opened) View of Host 2 – Dell Inspiron 9300 Laptop

Figure 36: Front View of Host 3 – Dell Latitude D600 Laptop

Figure 37: Front (Opened) View of Host 3 – Dell Latitude D600 Laptop

SECTION 5

ACCREDITATION, DISCLAIMERS AND COPYRIGHT

5.1 ACCREDITATION, DISCLAIMERS AND COPYRIGHT

This report relates only to the actual item/items tested.

Our UKAS Accreditation does not cover opinions and interpretations and any expressed are outside the scope of our UKAS Accreditation.

> Results of tests not covered by our UKAS Accreditation Schedule are marked NUA (Not UKAS Accredited).

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ANNEX A

PROBE CALIBRATION PROCEDURE

IMMERSIBLE SAR PROBE

CALIBRATION REPORT

Part Number: IXP – 050

S/N 0170

January 2005

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INTRODUCTION

This Report presents measured calibration data for a particular Indexsar SAR probe (S/N 0170) and describes the procedures used for characterisation and calibration.

Indexsar probes are characterised using procedures that, where applicable, follow the recommendations of CENELEC [1] and IEEE [2] standards. The procedures incorporate techniques for probe linearisation, isotropy assessment and determination of liquid factors (conversion factors). Calibrations are determined by comparing probe readings with analytical computations in canonical test geometries (waveguides) using normalised power inputs.

Each step of the calibration procedure and the equipment used is described in the sections below.

CALIBRATION PROCEDURE

1. Objectives

The calibration process comprises three stages

1) Determination of the channel sensitivity factors which optimise the probe's overall rotational isotropy in 1800MHz brain fluid

2) At each frequency of interest, application of these channel sensitivity factors to model the exponential decay of SAR in a waveguide fluid cell, and hence derive the liquid conversion factors at that frequency

3) Determination of the effective tip radius and angular offset of the X channel which together optimise the probe's spherical isotropy in 900MHz brain fluid

2. Probe Output

The probe channel output signals are linearised in the manner set out in Refs [1] and [2]. The following equation is utilized for each channel:

$$
U_{\text{lin}} = U_{o/p} + U_{o/p}^2 / DCP
$$
 (1)

where U_{lin} is the linearised signal, $U_{o/p}$ is the raw output signal in voltage units and DCP is the diode compression potential in similar voltage units.

DCP is determined from fitting equation (1) to measurements of U_{lin} versus source feed power over the full dynamic range of the probe. The DCP is a characteristic of the Schottky diodes used as the sensors. For the IXP-050 probes with CW signals the DCP values are typically 0.10V (or 20 in the voltage units used by Indexsar software, which are V*200).

In turn, measurements of E-field are determined using the following equation (where output voltages are also in units of V*200):

 E_{liq}^{2} (V/m) = U_{linx} * Air Factor_x^{*} Liq Factor_x $+ U_{\text{liny}}$ * Air Factor_y Liq Factor_y + U_{linz}^* Air Factor_z^{*} Liq Factor_z (3)

Here, "Air Factor" represents each channel's sensitivity, while "Liq Factor" represents the enhancement in signal level when the probe is immersed in tissue-simulant liquids at each frequency of interest.

3. Selecting Channel Sensitivity Factors To Optimise Isotropic Response

After manufacture, the first stage of the calibration process is to balance the three channels' Air Factor values, thereby optimising the probe's overall axial response ("rotational isotropy").

To do this, an 1800MHz waveguide containing head-fluid simulant is selected. Like all waveguides used during probe calibration, this particular waveguide contains two distinct sections: an air-filled launcher section, and a liquid cell section, separated by a dielectric matching window designed to minimise reflections at the air-liquid interface.

The waveguide stands in an upright position and the liquid cell section is filled with 1800MHz brain fluid to within 10 mm of the open end. The depth of liquid ensures there is negligible radiation from the waveguide open top and that the probe calibration is not influenced by reflections from nearby objects.

During the measurement, a TE₀₁ mode is launched into the waveguide by means of an N-type-towaveguide adapter. The probe is then lowered vertically into the liquid until the tip is exactly 115mm above the centre of the dielectric window. This particular separation ensures that the probe is operating in a part of the waveguide where boundary corrections are not necessary.

Care must also be taken that the probe tip is centred while rotating.

The exact power applied to the input of the waveguide during this stage of the probe calibration is immaterial since only relative values are of interest while the probe rotates. However, the power must be sufficiently above the noise floor and free from drift.

The dedicated Indexsar calibration software rotates the probe in 10 degree steps about its axis, and at each position, an Indexsar 'Fast' amplifier samples the probe channels 500 times per second for 0.4 s. The raw $U_{\alpha/\alpha}$ data from each sample are packed into 10 bytes and transmitted back to the PC controller via an optical cable. U_{linx} , U_{liny} and U_{linz} are derived from the raw $U_{\text{o/o}}$ values and written to an Excel template.

Once data have been collected from a full probe rotation, the Air Factors are adjusted using a special Excel Solver routine to equalise the output from each channel and hence minimise the rotational isotropy. This automated approach to optimisation removes the effect of human bias.

Figure 5 represents the output from each diode sensor as a function of probe rotation angle. The directionality of the orthogonally-arranged sensors can be checked by analysing the data using dedicated Indexsar software, which displays the data in 3D format, a representative image of which is shown in Figure 3. The left-hand side of this diagram shows the individual channel outputs after linearisation (see above). The program uses these data to balance the channel outputs and then applies an optimisation process, which makes fine adjustments to the channel factors for optimum isotropic response.

4. Determination Of Conversion ("Liquid") Factors At Each Frequency Of Interest

A lookup table of conversion factors for a probe allows a SAR value to be derived at the measured frequencies, and for either brain or body fluid-simulant.

The method by which the conversion factors are assessed is based on the comparison between measured and analytical rates of decay of SAR with height above a dielectric window. This way, not only can the conversion factors for that frequency/fluid combination be determined, but an allowance can also be made for the scale and range of boundary layer effects.

The theoretical relationship between the SAR at the cross-sectional centre of the lossy waveguide as a function of the longitudinal distance (*z*) from the dielectric separator is given by Equation 4:

$$
SAR(z) = \frac{4\left(P_f - P_b\right)}{\rho ab\delta} e^{-2z/\delta} \tag{4}
$$

Here, the density ρ is conventionally assumed to be 1000 kg/m³, ab is the cross-sectional area of the waveguide, and P_f and P_b are the forward and reflected power inside the lossless section of the waveguide, respectively. The penetration depth δ (which is the reciprocal of the waveguide-mode attetion coefficient) is a property of the lossy liquid and is given by Equation (5).

$$
\delta = \left[\text{Re} \left\{ \sqrt{\left(\pi/a\right)^2 + j\omega\mu_o\left(\sigma + j\omega\varepsilon_o\varepsilon_r\right)} \right\} \right]^{-1} \tag{5}
$$

where *σ* is the conductivity of the tissue-simulant liquid in S/m, *εr* is its relative permittivity, and *ω* is the radial frequency (rad/s). Values for *σ* and *εr* are obtained prior to each waveguide test using an Indexsar DiLine measurement kit, which uses the TEM method as recommended in [2]. *σ* and *ε^r* are both temperature- and fluid-dependent, so are best measured using a sample of the tissuesimulant fluid immediately prior to the actual calibration.

Wherever possible, all DiLine and calibration measurements should be made in the open laboratory at 22 \pm 2.0^oC; if this is not possible, the values of *σ* and *ε_{<i>r*} should reflect the actual temperature.</sub> Values employed for calibration are listed in the tables below.

By ensuring the liquid height in the waveguide is at least three penetration depths, reflections at the upper surface of the liquid are negligible. The power absorbed in the liquid is therefore determined solely from the waveguide forward and reflected power.

Different waveguides are used for 835/900MHz, 1800/1900MHz, 2450MHz and 5200/5800MHz measurements. Table A.1 of [1] can be used for designing calibration waveguides with a return loss greater than 20 dB at the most important frequencies used for personal wireless communications, and better than 15dB for frequencies

4. Determination Of Conversion ("Liquid") Factors At Each Frequency Of Interest continued

greater than 5GHz. Values for the penetration depth for these specific fixtures and tissue-simulating mixtures are also listed in Table A.1.

According to [1], this calibration technique provides excellent accuracy, with standard uncertainty of less than 3.6% depending on the frequency and medium. The calibration itself is reduced to power measurements traceable to a standard calibration procedure. The practical limitation to the frequency band of 800 to 5800 MHz because of the waveguide size is not severe in the context of compliance testing.

During calibration, the probe is lowered carefully until it is just touching the cross-sectional centre of the dielectric window. 200 samples are then taken and written to an Excel template file before moving the probe vertically upwards. This cycle is repeated 50 times. The vertical separation between readings is determined from practical considerations of the expected SAR decay rate, and range from 1mm steps at low frequency, through 0.5mm at 2450MHz, down to 0.2mm at 5GHz.

Once the data collection is complete, a Solver routine is run which optimises the measuredtheoretical fit by varying the conversion factor, and the boundary correction size and range.

5. Measurement of Spherical Isotropy

The setup for measuring the probe's spherical isotropy is shown in Figure 2.

A box phantom containing 900MHz head fluid is irradiated by a vertically-polarised, tuned dipole, mounted to the side of the phantom on the robot's seventh axis. During calibration, the spherical response is generated by rotating the probe about its axis in 20 degree steps and changing the dipole polarisation in 10 degree steps.

By using the VPM technique discussed below, an allowance can also be made for the effect of Efield gradient across the probe's spatial extent. This permits values for the probe's effective tip radius and X-channel angular offset to be modelled until the overall spherical isotropy figure is optimised.

The dipole is connected to a signal generator and amplifier via a directional coupler and power meter. As with the determination of rotational isotropy, the absolute power level is not important as long as it is stable.

The probe is positioned within the fluid so that its sensors are at the same vertical height as the centre of the source dipole. The line joining probe to dipole should be perpendicular to the phantom wall, while the horizontal separation between the two should be small enough for VPM corrections to be applicable, without encroaching near the boundary layer of the phantom wall. VPM corrections require a knowledge of the fluid skin depth. This is measured during the calibration by recording the E-field strength while systematically moving the probe away from the dipole in 2mm steps over a 215mm range.

VPM (Virtual Probe Miniaturisation)

SAR probes with 3 diode-sensors in an orthogonal arrangement are designed to display an isotropic response when exposed to a uniform field. However, the probes are ordinarily used for measurements in non-uniform fields and isotropy is not

5. Measurement of Spherical Isotropy - continued

assured when the field gradients are significant compared to the dimensions of the tip containing the three orthogonally-arranged dipole sensors.

It becomes increasingly important to assess the effects of field gradients on SAR probe readings when higher frequencies are being used. For Indexsar IXP-050 probes, which are of 5mm tip diameter, field gradient effects are minor at GSM frequencies, but are major above 5GHz. Smaller probes are less affected by field gradients and so probes, which are significantly less than 5mm diameter, would be better for applications above 5GHz.

The IndexSAR report IXS0223 describes theoretical and experimental studies to evaluate the issues associated with the use of probes at arbitrary angles to surfaces and field directions. Based upon these studies, the procedures and uncertainty analyses referred to in P1528 are addressed for the full range of probe presentation angles.

In addition, generalized procedures for correcting for the finite size of immersible SAR probes are developed. Use of these procedures enables application of schemes for virtual probe miniaturization (VPM) – allowing probes of a specific size to be used where physically-smaller probes would otherwise be required.

Given the typical dimensions of 3-channel SAR probes presently available, use of the VPM technique extends the satisfactory measurement range to higher frequencies.

CALIBRATION FACTORS MEASURED FOR PROBE S/N 0170

The probe was calibrated at 835, 900, 1800, 1900, 2450, 5200 and 5800 MHz in liquid samples representing both brain liquid and body fluid at these frequencies. The calibration was for CW signals only, and the axis of the probe was parallel to the direction of propagation of the incident field i.e. end-on to the incident radiation. The axial isotropy of the probe was measured by rotating the probe about its axis in 10 degree steps through 360 degrees in this orientation.

The reference point for the calibration is in the centre of the probe's cross-section at a distance of 2.7 mm from the probe tip in the direction of the probe amplifier. A value of 2.7 mm should be used for the tip to sensor offset distance in the software. The distance of 2.7mm for assembled probes has been confirmed by taking X-ray images of the probe tips (see Figure 8).

It is important that the diode compression point and air factors used in the software are the same as those quoted in the results tables, as these are used to convert the diode output voltages to a SAR value.

Surface Isotropy diagram of IXP-050 Probe S/N 0170 at 900MHz after VPM (rotational isotropy at side +/-0.09dB, spherical isotropy +/-0.44dB)

CALIBRATION FACTORS MEASURED FOR PROBE S/N 0170

SUMMARY OF CALIBRATION FACTORS FOR PROBE IXP-050 S/N 0170

PROBE SPECIFICATIONS

Indexsar probe 0170, along with its calibration, is compared with CENELEC and IEEE standards recommendations (Refs [1] and [2]) in the Tables below. A listing of relevant specifications is contained in the tables below:

REFERENCES

[1] CENELEC, EN 50361, July 2001. Basic Standard for the measurement of specific absorption rate related to human exposure to electromagnetic fields from mobile phones.

[2] IEEE 1528, Recommended practice for determining the spatial-peak specific absorption rate (SAR) in the human body due to wireless communications devices: Experimental techniques.

FIGURES

Figure 1. Spherical isotropy jig showing probe, dipole and box filled with simulated brain liquid (see Ref [2], Section A.5.2.1)

Figure 2. Schematic diagram of the test geometry used for isotropy determination

Figure 3. Graphical representation of a probe's response to fields applied from each direction. The diagram on the left shows the individual response characteristics of each of the three channels and the diagram on the right shows the resulting probe sensitivity in each direction. The colour range in the figure images the lowest values as blue and the maximum values as red. For the probe S/N 0170, this range is $(+/-)$ 0.44 dB.

Figure 4. Geometry used for waveguide calibration (after Ref [2]. Section A.3.2.2)

Figure 5. The rotational isotropy of probe S/N 0170 obtained by rotating the probe in a liquid-filled waveguide at 1800 MHz*.*

835 - 900 MHz (WG4) Body liquid 835 MHz

0.8 0.7 0.7 0.6 0.6 0.5 0.5 $\sum_{0.4}^{60}$ **SAR (W/kg) SAR (W/kg)** 0.4 $\frac{8}{3}$ 0.3 0.3 0.2 0.2 **COORD RARD** 0.1 aaan 0.1 **Rand** $\overline{\mathbf{r}}$ te. 0 0 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 **z (mm) z (mm)** - Analytical **- O** - Measurements **o**-Analytical **-o**-Measurements **835 - 900 MHz (WG4) Head liquid 900 835 - 900 MHz (WG4) Head liquid 900 MHz MHz** 0.8 0.8 0.7 0.7 0.6 0.6 0.5 0.5 0.4 0.4 0.3 0.3 0.2 0.2 0.1 0.1 **Read ROCCO DO** 0 0 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 0 10 20 30 40 50 60 **z (mm) z (mm)**

SAR DECAY FUNCTION – Analytical and Measurements

835 - 900 MHz (WG4) Head liquid 835 MHz

Figure 6a. The measured SAR decay function along the centreline of the WG4 waveguide with conversion factors adjusted to fit to the theoretical function for the particular dimension, frequency, power and liquid properties employed.

- Analytical - o-Measurements

- Analytical - o-Measurements

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SAR DECAY FUNCTION – Analytical and Measurements

Figure 6b The measured SAR decay function along the centreline of the WG4 waveguide with conversion factors adjusted to fit to the theoretical function for the particular dimension, frequency, power and liquid properties employed.

SAR DECAY FUNCTION – Analytical and Measurements

Figure 6c The measured SAR decay function along the centreline of the WG4 waveguide with conversion factors adjusted to fit to the theoretical function for the particular dimension, frequency, power and liquid properties employed.

SAR DECAY FUNCTION – Analytical and Measurements

Figure 7. The measured SAR decay function along the centreline of the R22 waveguide with conversion factors adjusted to fit to the theoretical function for the particular dimension, frequency, power and liquid properties employed.

Figure 8: X-ray positive image of 5mm probes

TABLE INDICATING THE DIELECTRIC PARAMETERS OF THE LIQUIDS USED FOR CALIBRATIONS AT EACH FREQUENCY

