

3/3/2008

TCB Exclusion List

In establishing the requirements for Telecommunications Certification Bodies (TCBs), the Commission stated that while it intended to allow TCBs to certify a broad range of equipment, certain functions should continue to be performed by the Commission. These functions include certifying new or unique equipment for which the rules or requirements do not exist, or for which the application of the rules is not clear.¹ The items on the following list are currently identified as excluded from being certified by a TCB. Applications for equipment that are excluded from TCB processing shall be submitted directly to the FCC for Certification.

In accordance with the requirements in Part 2, a TCB shall not grant waivers of Commission rules, certify equipment where FCC rules do not apply, or act on rules that are unclear;² shall not authorize a transfer of grantee control; and may not interpret the FCC rules.³ Equipment subject only to Verification (Section 2.902) or Declaration of Conformity (Section 2.906) procedures of Part 2 Subpart J, or not subject to FCC equipment authorization, shall not be approved using the Certification (Section 2.907) procedure.

- 1) TCBs are excluded from issuing certifications for the following equipment types:
 - a) Unlicensed National Information Infrastructure (U-NII) devices with Dynamic Frequency Selection (DFS) capability (Part 15 Subpart E), including client devices operating in the DFS bands that have radar detection capability;⁴
 - b) Ultra-wideband (UWB) devices (Part 15 Subpart F), wideband systems transmitters operating under Section 15.250, and wideband vehicular radar systems under Section 15.252;
 - c) Access Broadband over Power Line (BPL) devices (Part 15 Subpart G);
 - d) Software Defined Radios (SDR) (Section 2.944);
 - e) Licensed radio equipment operating in the 3650 MHz band (Part 90 Subpart Z);
 - f) Doppler radars operating in the 24.05 GHz to 24.25 GHz frequency band (Part 90 Subpart F);
 - g) Split modular transmitters authorized under Section 15.212;⁵
 - h) Implanted Transmitters (Part 15, Part 95 Subpart I).

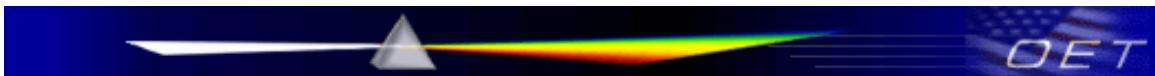
¹ New technology devices include those under development by standards organizations, industry associations and forums, or devices where measurement procedures are not finalized or compliance testing guidelines are not adequate and/or not available at FCC website (<http://www.fcc.gov/oet/ea/eameasurements.html>). Some new technology devices can be processed by TCBs under the latest FCC Permit-but-Ask procedures – see KDB Publication [388624](#).

² See Section 2.962(f)(5)(i); also Sections 2.962(f)(1), 2.962(c)(4).

³ Questions regarding FCC rules and equipment authorization policies may be submitted via the Knowledge Database (KDB), an OET on-line database containing policies, procedures, common equipment authorization questions, and KDB publications cited in this document. The KDB is available at (www.fcc.gov/labhelp).

⁴ Devices with ad-hoc capabilities, or devices that perform active scans (initiate probe transmissions), are considered to be master devices.

⁵ Section 15.212 will become effective following approval by the Office of Management and Budget.



2) TCBs are excluded from issuing certifications for the following RF exposure conditions and configurations:⁶

- a) RF exposure evaluations using numerical simulations or computational modeling techniques;
- b) Portable transmitters operating at frequencies below 300 MHz if SAR evaluation is required; or portable transmitters operating at frequencies above 6 GHz when RF exposure routine evaluation is required;
- c) Portable transmitters in stand-alone configurations with source-based, time-averaged output power⁷ greater than $900/f_{(GHz)}$ mW for general population exposure conditions; or greater than $2250/f_{(GHz)}$ mW for occupational exposure conditions;
- d) Portable devices operating according to occupational exposure requirements, except for the occupational push-to-talk device configurations described in KDB Publication [447498](#);
- e) Host independent transmitter modules for use in stand-alone portable final products that do not allow simultaneous transmission when the source-based, time-averaged output power is greater than $60/f_{(GHz)}$ mW and the 1-g SAR is greater than 25% of the SAR limit.
- f) Portable transmitters and modules for use in devices that allow simultaneous transmission as follows:
 - i) Device configurations - except for devices that are defined in the procedures for laptop computers with antennas that are built into display screens (KDB Publication [616217](#)) or handsets with multiple transmitters and antennas (KDB Publication [648474](#)) - for which:
 - (1) the closest antenna separation distance between any simultaneous transmitting antennas is less than 5 cm; or
 - (2) the sum of the 1-g SAR for all simultaneous transmitting antennas that require stand-alone SAR evaluation is greater than the SAR limit; or
 - (3) the output power of a simultaneous transmitting antenna for which stand-alone SAR evaluation is not required is greater than $60/f_{(GHz)}$ mW.
 - ii) Device configurations when simultaneous transmission SAR evaluation is required in different frequency bands, including configurations specified in the procedures for laptop computers with antennas that are built into display screens (KDB Publication [616217](#)) or handsets with multiple transmitters and antennas (KDB Publication [648474](#)).

⁶ See also guidance in KDB Publication [447498](#), Mobile and Portable Device RF Exposure Equipment Authorization Procedures.

⁷ Output power for the $60/f_{(GHz)}$, $900/f_{(GHz)}$ and $2250/f_{(GHz)}$ calculations is determined by the higher of the conducted or radiated (EIRP) source-based time-averaged output, where $f_{(GHz)}$ is the mid-band frequency in GHz.