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Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554

FILED/ACCEPTED

MAR - 3 2008

Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary

In the Matter of)
)
Request to Streamline Licensing of L-band)
User Terminals Using Inmarsat Satellites as)
Points of Communication)
)
)

IB Docket No. SES-PDR-20080303-00367

PETITION FOR DECLARATORY RULING

Inmarsat submits this petition for declaratory ruling pursuant to Section 1.2 of the Commission's rules to propose that the International Bureau (the "Bureau") make a ministerial change in the way that it specifies authorized points of communication in L-band¹ user terminal licenses. Doing so would facilitate the grant of authority to communicate with multiple Inmarsat spacecraft, would be fully consistent with existing Commission rules and policies, and would be similar to the mechanisms that the Commission already has implemented to streamline the earth station licensing process in other contexts. Significantly, the proposed ministerial change would not alter in any respect the manner in which the Commission authorizes the use of Inmarsat spacecraft to serve the United States.

Inmarsat proposes that L-band user terminal licensees be permitted to seek authority to communicate with all Inmarsat spacecraft that have been approved for U.S. service in the L-band, by designating "ISAT" as the desired point of communication. The term "ISAT" would refer to all Inmarsat spacecraft that are contained on a list to be maintained by the

¹ The L-band, as described in this petition, refers to Inmarsat's coordinated spectrum in the United States. The L-band encompasses frequencies from 1525-1544/1545-1559 MHz and 1626.5-1645.5/1646.5-1660.5 MHz. The frequencies 1525-1544 MHz and 1626.5-1645.5 MHz are referred to as the "lower L-band" and 1545-1559 MHz and 1646.5-1660.5 MHz are referred to as the "upper L-band."



File # SES-PDR-20080303-00367
with attached conf.
Call Sign _____ Grant Date 12/17/08
(or other identifier) _____
Term Dates _____
From _____ To: _____
Approved: Robert G. Nelson Chief Satellite Division

Inmarsat, Inc.
IBFS File No. SES-PDR-20080303-00367
Conditions to Grant

The petition of Inmarsat, Inc. ("Inmarsat") to add the Inmarsat 4F1 satellite at 143.5° East Longitude ("E.L.") and the Inmarsat 4F3 satellite at 97.65° West Longitude ("W.L.") to the International Bureau's ISAT List IS GRANTED. Accordingly, we amend the ISAT List to include the Inmarsat 4F1 satellite at 143.5° E.L. and the Inmarsat 4F3 satellite at 97.65° W.L. Earth station licensees with "ISAT" authority are authorized to communicate in the L-band with these Inmarsat satellites without having to file an application, subject to the following conditions:

1. Authority IS GRANTED pursuant to Section 25.210(j) of the Commission's rules, to permit operations of earth stations with the Inmarsat 4F1 satellite, maintained at ± 0.10 degree of the 143.5° E.L. orbital location, subject to the condition that this waiver and the operations it permits shall terminate in the event that a satellite is launched into a location such that its stationkeeping volume would overlap the Inmarsat 4F1 satellite's ± 0.10 degree stationkeeping volume, but would not overlap the Inmarsat 4F1 satellite's $\pm 0.05^\circ$ degree stationkeeping volume, unless Inmarsat has successfully coordinated its physical operations with those of the other spacecraft.
2. Authority IS GRANTED pursuant to Section 25.210(j) of the Commission's rules, to permit operations of earth stations with the Inmarsat 4F3 satellite, maintained at ± 0.10 degree of the 97.65° W.L. orbital location, subject to the condition that this waiver and the operations it permits shall terminate in the event that a satellite is launched into a location such that its stationkeeping volume would overlap the Inmarsat 4F3 satellite's ± 0.10 degree stationkeeping volume, but would not overlap the Inmarsat 4F3 satellite's $\pm 0.05^\circ$ degree stationkeeping volume, unless Inmarsat has successfully coordinated its physical operations with those of the other spacecraft.
3. Operations via the Inmarsat 4F1 and 4F3 satellites using a north-south inclination of as much as three degrees ARE GRANTED, conditioned on operations of the 4F1 and 4F3 complying with the inclined orbit requirements set forth in Sections 25.280(b)(1)-(3) of the Commission's rules.
4. Licensees must comply with the terms of any L-band operator-to-operator coordination agreement. In the absence of a continuing L-band operator-to-operator coordination agreement, operations of METs in the 1525-1559 and 1626.5-1660.5 MHz bands will be on a non-harmful interference basis until a future operator-to-operator agreement is concluded. In this instance, each licensee must notify the other operators in these frequency bands that it will be operating on a non-harmful interference basis. Each licensee must notify its customers that its operations are on a non-harmful interference basis.



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(or other identifier)

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From _____ To: _____

Approved: *[Signature]* Chief Satellite
Robert G. Nelson Division