

**Guidelines for Application for a Permit
under Section 7E of the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap. 106)
for Temporary Establishment, Maintenance and Use
of a Wireless Public Address System in the 88 – 108 MHz Band**

Under section 7E of the Telecommunications Ordinance (Cap 106), the Communications Authority (CA) may issue a permit to a person to carry out an activity prohibited under section 8 for a period not exceeding six months for the purpose of a field test, a demonstration, in connection with an event or for a purpose that the CA determines.

These guidelines are issued to provide practical guidance to persons who are interested in applying for a permit to temporarily establish, maintain and use a wireless public address system operating in the 88 – 108 MHz band for use in an event which is infrequently held. For the purpose of these guidelines, wireless public address system means a radiocommunications transmission system used to deliver audio signal for wireless reception by the participants in the event.

For the avoidance of doubt, these guidelines do not apply to the establishment, maintenance and use, etc. of the telecommunications system or radiocommunications apparatus used for sound broadcasting.

Application for the permit should be made in writing to:

Office of the Communications Authority
29/F, Wu Chung House
213 Queen's Road East
Wan Chai
Hong Kong
(Attn.: Senior Telecommunications Engineer (BS))

The application should be submitted to the Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) at least six weeks before the proposed use of the wireless public address system.

INFORMATION REQUIRED FROM APPLICANT

The applicant should provide the following information and documents:

- (1) A copy of the applicant's Business Registration Certificate and Certificate of Incorporation. For application in the name of an individual, please provide a copy of the relevant personal identification document.
- (2) The event where the proposed wireless public address system will be used.
- (3) The contact information of the responsible person of the proposed wireless public address system in the event that the CA may need to take the necessary remedial actions if there are reports of radio interference generated by the system.
- (4) The intended coverage area(s), which should be in a confined and outdoor location and should not cross any public street or unleased Government land.

(Note: For an indoor venue, a conventional public address system without the deployment of radiocommunications means should be a viable and simpler alternative.)

- (5) The technical proposal giving the details including but not limited to:
 - (i) a schematic diagram showing the system configuration;
 - (ii) a complete list of equipment to be used. The equipment deployed shall comply with the technical standards as specified by OFCA;
 - (iii) technical details of the transmitter and antenna to be deployed; and
 - (iv) a map showing the location of the transmitter and the antenna.

- (6) The operating hours, date and duration of the proposed wireless public address system including those for trial use before the event and for the event.
- (7) Duplicated copy of the relevant licence (e.g. Radio Dealers Licence (Unrestricted)) issued by the CA for a company or organization who will be responsible to supply, install and maintain the proposed wireless public address system.

PERIOD OF VALIDITY OF PERMIT

The period of validity shall be specified by the CA after considering the proposed operation duration. Pursuant to section 7E of the Telecommunications Ordinance, the period of validity of a permit shall not exceed six months.

FEE

Free of charge.

CONDITIONS FOR THE PERMIT

The permit shall be subject to such conditions as prescribed by the CA. The conditions may include without limitation the following:-

- (1) The applicant should operate the system on a non-commercial basis and should not promote commercially or advertise the use of the systems and its radio frequency channels. The applicant and its agents should seek the prior agreement of the CA before issuing any announcement or publicity about the operation of the system.

- (2) The applicant should not make use of the system to disseminate any message relating to business, news, propaganda and advertisement of any kind. The applicant should not use the system to relay the programme content of any broadcasting services.
- (3) The applicant should observe any relevant laws, regulations and codes of practice, including but not limited to the following requirements.
 - (i) the installation of antenna and their supporting framework should be capable of sustaining the wind loads specified in the Hong Kong Code of Practice on Wind Effects;
 - (ii) the antenna and their supporting framework should be erected at a level below the height limit provisions of the Hong Kong Airport (Control of Obstructions) Ordinance (Cap. 301);
 - (iii) the installation work and the operation of the system shall comply with “the Code of Practice for the Protection of Workers and Members of Public Against Non-Ionizing Radiation Hazards from Radio Transmitting Equipment”; and
 - (iv) the message to be transmitted shall comply with the Control of Obscene and Indecent Articles Ordinance (Cap. 390) as well as the Prevention of Child Pornography Ordinance (Cap. 579).
- (4) The applicant should maintain and operate the system in such a manner as not to cause interference with any other means of telecommunications, comply with any direction given by the CA for the purpose of avoiding interference and disconnect or remove any part of the system which, in the opinion of the CA, is interfering or is likely to interfere with working of any other telecommunications systems.

- (5) The system must be designed and operated with the intention for sending signals for reception by the participants of the event within the coverage area(s) specified by this permit. The system must be used only at such location(s) with emissions at such frequency channels and with such power and technical characteristics as specified in the permit.

For the avoidance of doubt, the issue of a permit for the operation of a wireless public address system shall not bind the CA to grant any licence or permit, or to assign any frequency for the future operation of the same system (or equipment thereof) or any other telecommunications systems or services by the applicant.

ENQUIRIES

Enquiries can be made by:

- (1) telephone at 2961 6333;
- (2) fax to 2803 5113;
- (3) email to dtv@ofca.gov.hk; or
- (4) mail to
Office of the Communications Authority
29/F, Wu Chung House
213 Queen's Road East
Wan Chai, Hong Kong

Office of the Communications Authority
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