

Information Note for Amateur Station Call Sign Assignment

1. Introduction

A call sign is a unique combination of letters and numbers assigned to a radiocommunications user to identify a station for all radiocommunications including test calls, conforming to the Radio Regulations which complement the Constitution and Convention of the International Telecommunication Union. Amateur call signs for Hong Kong have the prefix VR2. The detailed formats are as follows: -

- (A) VR2 followed by a letter 'U' to 'Z', then followed by any combination of 2 letters (available for selection by all applicants).
- (B) VR2 followed by a letter 'A', 'B' or 'C', then followed by any combination of 2 letters (available for selection by applicants who have passed a qualified local Morse test (speed 5 wpm)).
- (C) VR2 followed by any combination of 2 letters ranging from 'AA' to 'WZ' (available for selection by applicants who have passed a qualified local Morse test (speed 12 wpm or above)).

2. General Principles and Procedures for Call Sign Assignment

The Office of the Communications Authority (OFCA) will assign appropriate call sign to an amateur station licensee in accordance with the Morse proficiency level to which the licensee reached. The following principles and procedure will be adopted for the assignment of call signs -

- (a) OFCA will publish in OFCA's website three lists of spare call signs for the three Morse proficiency levels. The lists will be updated regularly.
- (b) Amateur station applicant or licensee may submit application for a call sign that is available on the appropriate list. Three choices of the preferred call signs can be made from the appropriate list of call signs and the selections must be put down with priorities on the application form.
- (c) OFCA will make the assignment in accordance with the selections.
- (d) If the selected call signs have been assigned already or if the applicant has not indicated the choices of call signs in the application form, OFCA will make the assignment from the list of spare call signs in alphabetical (descending) order.
- (e) If OFCA received more than one application for the same call sign and the call sign is available, the call sign will be assigned to the applicant with the earliest date of submission. If more than one applications have the same submission date, OFCA will assign the call sign to the applicant who gives higher priority to the selection. If the priorities given by more than one applicants are the same, OFCA will determine the assignment by lucky draw.
- (f) The drawing of call signs will be conducted by OFCA internally and will be properly recorded. The result will be final.

3. Grace Period for Released Call Signs

In order to avoid inconvenience to the amateurs, the released call signs will only be made available for selection by the applicants after a lapse of two years. The released call signs will be highlighted on the lists of spare call signs.