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Federal Communications Commission
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This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action. See MCI v. FCC, 515 F.2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

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COMMISSION ADOPTS SPECTRUM SHARING PLAN TO PROMOTE THE EFFICIENT USE OF SPECTRUM

Washington, D.C. – Today, the Federal Communications Commission adopted a spectrum sharing plan for low earth orbit satellite systems (Big LEOs) in the 1.6 GHz and 2.4 GHz bands. The spectrum sharing plan will further the Commission’s goal of efficient spectrum utilization by increasing the number of providers offering services to consumers over the same spectrum, and will promote the deployment of more innovative services to consumers. In particular, the Commission adopted the following:

- In the 1.6 GHz or “L-band,” mobile-satellite service (MSS) operators with satellite systems that utilize code division multiple access (CDMA) and time division multiple access (TDMA) technologies will share 3.1 megahertz of spectrum at 1618.25–1621.35 MHz. Previously, only CDMA MSS operators had access to this spectrum. The plan adopted today encourages CDMA and TDMA MSS operators to coordinate spectrum use amongst themselves.
- In the 2.4 GHz or “S-band,” the Commission allocated the 2495-2500 MHz band to fixed and mobile except aeronautical mobile services, in order to provide additional spectrum to the 2500-2650 MHz band to accommodate the relocation of MDS channels 1 and 2 under a band plan adopted today in a companion item in WT Docket No. 03-66 (FCC 04-135). As a result, the Commission moved the band in which S-band MSS operators may provide ancillary terrestrial component (ATC) operations from 2492.5-2498 MHz to 2487.5-2493 MHz. CDMA MSS will continue to be permitted to operate in the 2495-2500 MHz band on a shared basis.

The Commission also issued a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking to explore whether CDMA and TDMA MSS operators feasibly could share an additional 2.25 megahertz of spectrum at 1616.0-1618.25 MHz.

Action by the Commission June 10, 2004, by Report and Order, Fourth Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (FCC 04-134). Chairman Powell, Commissioners Abernathy, Copps, Martin, and Adelstein.

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IB Docket No. 02-364 and ET Docket No. 00-258.

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