



REGULATORY FEES FACT SHEET

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th St., S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554

July 2004

WHAT YOU OWE – INTERNATIONAL AND SATELLITE SERVICES LICENSEES FOR FY 2004

This *Fact Sheet* pertains to: international public fixed licensees (Part 23), international (HF) broadcast licensees (Part 73), providers of international bearer circuits, earth station regulatees (Part 25), geostationary space station regulatees (Part 25) and direct broadcast satellite licensees (Part 100), and non-geostationary orbit satellite system licensees (formerly low earth orbit satellite systems) (Part 25).

Regulatory fees for these licensees are assessed based upon the nature of authorization (e.g. permit or license) held as of October 1, 2003. Licensees who have not yet begun providing services prior to October 1, 2003 are not required to pay regulatory fees this year. However, in instances where a service license or authorization is transferred or assigned after October 1, 2003, the fee must be paid by the party that is the licensee or holder of the authorization on the date that the fee payment is due.

Also, in instances in which an earth station's license limits its operational authority to a particular satellite system that is not yet operational, the regulatory fee payment for the earth station will not be due until the first satellite of the related system becomes operational pursuant to section 25.121(d) of our rules.

Earth Stations

Who Must Pay: VSAT and Equivalent C-Band Antennas: Earth station systems comprising very small aperture terminals making up authorized networks operating in the 12 and 14 GHz bands that provide a variety of communications services to other stations in the network. Each system, authorized pursuant to blanket licensing procedures in Part 25 of the Rules, consists of a network of technically-identical small fixed-satellite earth stations which often includes a larger hub station. Entities holding these types of authorizations will be assessed a regulatory fee per authorization or registration as well as a fee for each associated Hub Station.

Mobile Satellite Earth Stations: Under Part 25 of the Rules, mobile satellite service providers operate under blanket licenses for mobile antennas (transceivers) which are smaller than one meter and provide voice or data communications, including position location information, for

mobile platforms such as cars, buses or trucks.

Earth Station Antennas: Transmit/Receive and Transmit-Only Antennas: Persons authorized or registered under Part 25 to operate fixed-satellite earth station antennas that are operated by private carriers and common carriers to provide telephone, television, data, and other forms of communication. This category includes antennas used to transmit and receive and transmit-only. Also included in this category are telemetry, tracking and control (TT&C) earth stations and transportable earth stations.

Earth Station Antennas: Receive-Only Antennas: The Commission does not assess regulatory fees for receive-only earth station antennas.

Fee Calculation: \$200 per authorization or registration, as well as \$200 for each associated Hub Station.

Geostationary Orbit Space Stations and Direct Broadcast Satellite Service

Notice of Billing: Beginning this year, geostationary orbit space station and DBS licensees will receive a pre-printed regulatory fee bill (FCC Form 159-B Bill for Collection) from the Commission for their satellite space station authorization(s). Rather than submitting the traditional Form 159 Remittance Advice with payment, these licensees will complete the Form 159-B when making payment for their space station authorization(s).

Of course, satellite space station licensees will still be required to make regulatory fee payments for their other non-billed holdings (earth stations, international bearer circuits, etc.) and to do so they will need to use the traditional Form 159 Remittance Advice when making such payments.

Who Must Pay: Entities authorized to operate space stations in geostationary orbit¹ in accordance with section 25.121(d) and direct broadcast satellites (Part 100).

Fee Calculation: \$114,675 per operational station² in geostationary orbit. A fee payment is required "upon the commencement of operation of a system's first satellite as reported annually pursuant to sections 25.142(c), 25.143(e), 25.145(g), or upon certification of operation of a single satellite pursuant to section 25.121(d)". Multiple technically identical geostationary satellites co-located at the same orbital location will be considered one station for the purpose of per-space station regulatory fee calculation.

¹ Domestic and international satellites, positioned in orbit to remain approximately fixed relative to the earth, authorized to provide communications between satellites and earth stations on a common carrier or private carrier basis in accordance with section 25.121(d). Entities authorized to operate these space stations in accordance with section 25.121(d) will be assessed an annual regulatory fee of \$114,675 for each operational station in geostationary orbit on October 1, 2003.

² Stations operating in accordance with section 25.121(d) as of October 1, 2003.

Non-Geostationary Orbit Satellite Systems

Notice of Billing: Beginning this year, non-geostationary orbit satellite system licensees will receive a pre-printed regulatory fee bill (FCC Form 159-B Bill for Collection) from the Commission for their satellite system authorization. Rather than submitting the traditional Form 159 Remittance Advice with payment, these licensees will complete the Form 159-B when making payment for their satellite system authorization.

Of course, satellite space station system licensees will still be required to make regulatory fee payments for their other non-billed holdings (earth stations, international bearer circuits, etc.) and to do so they will need to use the traditional Form 159 Remittance Advice when making such payments.

Who Must Pay: Entities authorized to operate systems of satellites in non-geostationary orbit under Part 25 to provide communications between satellites and earth stations on a common carrier or private carrier basis.

Fee Calculation: \$131,400 per operational system³ in non-geostationary orbit. A fee payment is required "upon the commencement of operation of a system's first satellite as reported annually pursuant to sections 25.142(c), 25.143(e), 25.145(g), or upon certification of operation of a single satellite pursuant to section 25.121(d)".

International Bearer Circuits

Who Must Pay: Facilities-based common carriers with active international bearer circuits as of December 31, 2003 in any transmission facility for the provision of service to an end user or resale carrier. In addition, non-common carrier satellite operators must pay a fee for each circuit sold or leased to any customer, including themselves or their affiliates, other than an international common carrier authorized by the Commission to provide U.S. international common carrier services. Private submarine cable operators are also to pay fees for any and all international bearer circuits sold on an indefeasible right of use (IRU) basis or leased to any customer, including themselves or their affiliates, other than an international common carrier authorized by the Commission to provide U.S. international common carrier services.

For more information regarding compliance with regulatory fee payment requirements for international bearer circuits, refer to *FCC Public Notice: Compliance with Regulatory Fee Requirements by Cable Landing Licensees Operating on a Non-Common Carrier Basis (DA 04-2027, released July 6, 2004)*.

³ A LEO system consists of one or more satellites operating in a non-geostationary satellite constellation. Payment is required for any LEO System that has one or more satellites operating pursuant to sections 25.142(c), 25.143(e), 25.145(g), or upon certification of operation of a single satellite pursuant to section 25.121(d) as of October 1, 2003.

Fee Calculation: \$2.52 per active 64 KB circuit or equivalent.

International Public Fixed Radio Licensees

Who Must Pay: Licensees authorized as common carriers to provide radio communications between the United States and a foreign point via microwave, HF or troposcatter systems (other than satellite earth stations). This does not include service between the United States and Mexico and the United States and Canada using frequencies above 72 MHz.

Fee Calculation: \$1,750 per call sign.

International (HF) Broadcast Stations

Who Must Pay: Licensees of international (HF) broadcast stations, as authorized under Part 73, Subpart F of the Commission's rules.

Fee Calculation: \$745 per station license.

TYPE OF FEE	REGULATORY FEE PAYMENT	PAYMENT TYPE CODE
Earth Stations	\$200 per authorization, registration or Hub Station	0473
Geostationary Orbit Space Stations and Direct Broadcast Satellite Service Licensees	\$114,675 per operational station	0474
Non-Geostationary Orbit Satellite Systems	\$131,400 per operational system	0475
International Bearer Circuits	\$2.52 per active 64 KB circuit or equivalent. *See further guidance and table below.	0476
International Public Fixed Radio Service	\$1,750 per call sign	0477
International (HF) Broadcast Stations	\$745 per station license	0478

* Equivalent circuits include the 64 KB circuit equivalent of larger bit stream circuits (e.g., the 64 KB equivalent of a 2.048 MB circuit is 30) and analog circuits such as 3 and 4 KHz circuits used for international services. The number of equivalent 64 KB circuits for analog television channels is given by the following table:

ANALOG TELEVISION CHANNEL SIZE (MHz)	NO. OF EQUIVALENT 64 KB CIRCUITS
36	630

24	288
18	240

<u>Actual Speed</u>	<u>in 64 Kbps Units</u>
1 T-1	24
1 E-1	30
1 DS-3	630
1 STM	1,890
5 Gbps	60,480
10 Gbps	120,960

Special Instructions for Completing FCC Forms 159 & 159-C

In addition to the general filing instructions that accompany the Form 159, the following specific instructions apply to international and satellite services—except for when making regulatory fee payments for satellite space stations. Satellite space station licensees will receive a pre-printed bill (FCC Form 159-B Bill for Collection) from the Commission and should follow the filing instructions that accompany their Form 159-B bill when making payment for their satellite space stations.

Block (9) - Telephone Number:

- Enter the contact name and telephone number of the specific individual responsible for submitting the payment and supporting FCC Form 159 and Form 159-C.

Block (11) - PAYER FRN:

- Enter the fee payer's FRN number.

Block (21) - APPLICANT FRN:

- If different from payer, enter the applicant's FRN number.

Block (23A) - FCC CALL SIGN/OTHER ID:

- International bearer circuit regulatees should leave this block blank.
- Licensees of earth stations, international public fixed radio and international (HF) broadcast stations should enter their call sign.

Block (24A) - PAYMENT TYPE CODES:

- Enter **0473** for a fee payment for an earth station.
- Enter **0474** for a fee payment for a geostationary orbit space station.
- Enter **0475** for a fee payment for a non-geostationary orbit space station.
- Enter **0476** for a fee payment for a 64 KB or equivalent international bearer circuit.
- Enter **0477** for a fee payment for an international public fixed radio license.

- Enter **0478** for a fee payment for an international (HF) broadcast station license.

Block (25A) - QUANTITY:

- Fixed-satellite earth station licensees should enter the number of authorizations or registrations.
- All other earth station licensees (e.g., VSATs, mobile satellites and fixed-satellite antennas) should enter the number of authorizations or registrations or Hub Stations.
- Entities paying for international bearer circuits should enter the number of 64 KB or equivalent circuits.
- International public fixed radio licensees should enter the number of licenses.
- International (HF) broadcast station licensees should enter the number of licenses.

Block (27A) - TOTAL FEE:

- For earth station authorizations or registrations (payment type code **0473**), multiply the amount from Block 25A (Quantity) by \$200.
- For geostationary space station authorizations or registrations (payment type code **0474**), multiply the amount from Block 25A (Quantity) by \$114,675.
- For non-geostationary space station authorizations or registrations (payment type code **0475**), multiply the amount from Block 25A (Quantity) by \$131,400.
- For international bearer circuit payers (payment type code **0476**), multiply the amount from Block 25A (Quantity) by \$2.52.
- For international public fixed radio licensees (payment type code **0477**), multiply the amount from Block 25A (Quantity) by \$1,750.
- For international (HF) broadcast station licensees (payment type code **0478**), multiply the amount from Block 25A (Quantity) by \$745.

Block (28A) - FCC CODE 1:

- Leave this block blank.

Block (29A) - FCC CODE 2:

- For international bearer circuit payers ONLY, enter the company name. Otherwise, leave this block blank.

Block (30) - CERTIFICATION:

- Provide the printed name and signature of an individual owner/licensee or officer attesting to the accuracy and completeness of the information supplied.

Please include a daytime telephone number so that we can contact you if questions arise regarding your payment.

- FCC -