

July 2008

## Proposed Licensing Rules for AWS Bands

On June 20, 2008, the FCC released a Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking seeking comment on proposed service rules for the Advanced Wireless Service (AWS) spectrum in the 1915-1920 MHz, 1995-2000 MHz, and 2155-2180 MHz bands.

AWS is a wireless technology used for mobile data services, video and messaging. The FCC's intent is to promote the deployment of

ubiquitous availability of broadband across the country.

The FCC seeks comment on permitting uplink and downlink transmissions; adopting a single nationwide license as well as open eligibility; requiring a mandatory coverage of 35 to 50% of the population; and allowing licensees to disaggregate, partition, and lease the spectrum.

## Prepaid Calling Card Regulations

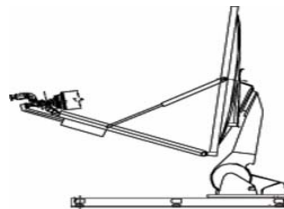
Prepaid calling cards provide the ability to place long-distance calls without pre-subscribing to an interexchange carrier (IXC). A user just dials a toll free number and enters a PIN to reach the service provider's switch and make a long-distance call. The calling card is then debited for the amount of the call.

Prepaid calling card service providers are subject to several regulatory requirements, including:

1. Reporting prepaid calling card Percentage of Interstate Usage (PIU) factors to those carriers from which they purchase transport services.
2. Submitting quarterly certifications to the FCC, signed by a company officer, under penalty of perjury, stating: a) Percentage of interstate, intrastate, and international traffic; b) total calling card revenue; and c) that the company is contributing to the Universal Service Fund (USF).

## Routine vs. Non-Routine Licensing

The FCC places VSAT license applications in two categories: Routine and non-Routine. Routine applications are granted without a detailed technical review, while non-routine applications are reviewed by the FCC on a case-by-case basis. *Continued on page 2.*



**Did You Know** The Law Office of Raul Magallanes processes trademarks for telecom products and services?

A trademark includes a word, symbol, or name intended to be used in commerce to distinguish the products or services manufactured, sold, or provided by others.

**On Your Radar Screen** Are any of your telecom contracts up for renewal?

Telecom contracts contain critical clauses that should be carefully re-negotiated at every opportunity to advance your business cause and to minimize the risk to your operations.

### In this issue:

Proposed Licensing Rules for AWS Bands	1
Prepaid Calling Card Regulations	1
Routine vs. Non-Routine Licensing	1
WiMax Licensing in the 3650 to 3700 MHz	2
What is Satellite Link Analysis?	2
What is Satellite Link Analysis?	2

### Facts of Interest:

- You can find registered trademarks at <http://tess2.uspto.gov/bin/gate.exe?f=tess&state=8rkhtk.1.1>
- You can search FCC VSAT licenses at <http://fjallfoss.fcc.gov/myibfs/welcome.do> by going to the upper right hand corner under Quick Search.
- Radio waves behave and propagate differently at different frequencies.

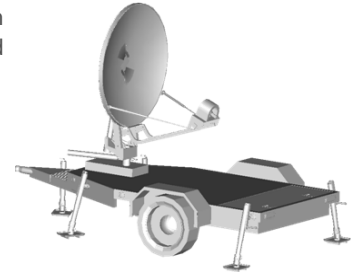
July 2008

## Routine vs. non-Routine (continued)

VSAT application for digital SCPC services are processed routinely, and thus expeditiously, if they don't request rule waivers and they meet four main requirements:

1. Uplink Spectral Density Limits. Measured at the antenna feed, the limits are: -2.7 dBW/4KHz for C-band and -14dBW/4KHz for Ku-band.
2. Radiation Pattern Limits. Antennas must comply with the envelopes outlined in 47 CFR 25.209 for various antenna radiation patterns.

3. Antenna Diameter Limits. Antennas must have a diameter equal or greater than 4.5m for C-band and 1.2m for Ku-band.
4. Downlink Satellite Carrier Density Limits. 10dBW/4KHz for Ku-band.



## WiMax Licensing in the 3650-3700 MHz Band

The FCC has established rules for the operation of fixed services in the 3650-3700 MHz band utilizing technology with contention-based protocols. The rules, which are found in 47 CFR 90 Subpart Z, allow for non-exclusive, nationwide licensing to encourage multiple entrants.

The rules allow fixed and base-station-enabled mobile terrestrial operations. Furthermore, the FCC maintains the

Fixed Satellite Service (FSS) and Fixed Service (FS) allocations in that band.

The 3650MHz band is well suited to wireless internet service providers to provide broadband services such as WiMax. This band is intended to allow for the expansion of advanced telecommunications services and technologies.

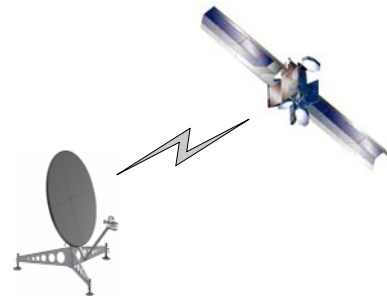
## What is Satellite Link Analysis?

Satellite Link Analysis involves a negotiation among the ground earth stations and the satellite transponder regarding several factors including: (1) power levels; and (2) end-to-end performance for a given bandwidth commitment.

Once frequency bands and earth station antenna sizes have been established, the satellite link analysis becomes a tradeoff of (1) input power to the Uplink Earth Station; (2) Effective Isotropic Radiated Power (EIRP) from the satellite transponder; and (3) link performance (Eb/No or S/N) measured at the Downlink Earth Station.

*By Jerry Armes, President of Aurastar Information Systems.*

*Aurastar has a satellite network design tool that includes link analysis as one of its functions. An evaluation copy may be requested by contacting Aurastar at [info@aurastar.com](mailto:info@aurastar.com).*



## VSAT Licensing in Mexico

VSAT licensing in Mexico is regulated by two agencies: The Secretary of Communications and Transport (SCT) and the Commission of Federal Telecommunications (COFETEL).

SCT is essentially the ministry of telecommunications responsible for awarding VSAT licenses and frequencies, but does so on recommendations from COFETEL.

COFETEL is an autonomous body, within SCT, responsible for establishing standards as well as regulating, promoting, and overseeing telecommunications in Mexico.

The Law Office of Raul Magallanes, has procured and can provide assistance with Mexican VSAT licenses to clients wishing to operate single a VSAT site or a network of sites in Mexico.