

VPS Memo

Citizens Broadband Radio Service (CBRS) is now Commercially Available

COMMISSION APPROVAL OF FOUR SAS PROVIDERS AND AUTHORIZATION OF COMMERCIAL UTILIZATION ANNOUNCED

Summary

On January 27, 2020, the FCC released its Public Notice, DA 20-110, in which the FCC has announced the completion of initial Commercial Deployment (ICD) phase and the approval of the Spectrum Access System (SAS) services of CommScope, Federated Wireless, Google, and Sony for Commercial Operations.

With this, the CBRS band is now commercially available to any prospective user. The FCC has also clarified the transition period. **Those with existing Part 90 3.65 GHz operations may need to act by April 20, 2020.**

Background

The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) expanded the existing 50MHz of shared spectrum in the 3650-3700MHz (NN Service) band by 100MHz. Combined, 3550-3700MHz, makes 150MHz of spectrum available and has formed the new Citizens Broadband Radio Service (CBRS) band. The FCC released its Report and Order, FCC 15-47, in which it defined the CBRS band, introduced the CBRS governing Part 96 rules, and sunsets the existing Part 90 rules.

On September 16, 2019, the FCC released DA 19-915, in which the FCC announced the Initial Commercial Deployment (ICD) phase, which tested the compliance and functionality of the Spectrum Access System (SAS) providers, allowing for FCC certification of their operations. The SAS operators included in the ICD phase were Amdocs, CommScope, Federated, Google and Sony. With the release of DA 20-110 on January 27th, 2020, the Commission has announced that CommScope, Federated, Google, and Sony have fulfilled the ICD phase obligations and can proceed with full Part 96 Commercial Operations.

Additional Information

The link to the full public notice is here:

<https://docs.fcc.gov/public/attachments/DA-20-110A1.pdf>

If you have any questions or require assistance with the transitioning from Part 90 to Part 96 operations, please feel free to contact any of the following VPS staff members for assistance:

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