

RECOMMENDATION ITU-R SNG.1710

Satellite news gathering carriers universal access procedures

(2005)

Scope

This Recommendation provides guidelines for satellite access for the purpose of satellite news gathering, as recommended by carriers and broadcasters. These are not meant to apply to the commissioning of new earth stations, but mainly for activation of uplinks from existing earth stations, in order to avoid unintentional access and the potential interference caused by those incorrect accesses.

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

- a) that satellite news gathering (SNG) services are offered on several radiocommunication satellites;
- b) that the use of SNG is expanding in all parts of the world;
- c) that the proliferation of the use of SNG stations has caused an increase in unintentional interference to other satellite users;
- d) that all SNG operators do not apply the same procedures to access the satellite,

recommends

- 1** that the SNG operators in the field should follow the universal access procedures described in Annex 1.

Annex 1**Universal access procedures, frequency division multiple access services****1 Definitions**

1.1 FDMA: Frequency division multiple access. Mode of operation where several carriers with different frequencies are loaded onto a single transponder. Differentiated from time division multiple access (TDMA) services which follow their own access procedures

1.2 ESO: Earth station operator

1.3 LOC: Space segment lessee operating or control centre (either a broadcasting organization, a union or consortium of broadcasters, a telecom operator, a national agency or any other third party)

1.4 SOOC: Satellite operator's management/operations centre

1.5 TES: Transportable earth station (a fixed earth station that is not permanently dedicated to an orbital slot, should be treated the same way)

1.6 FES: Fixed earth station that is dedicated to an orbital slot (most of the time with fixed settings for specific carriers)

1.7 ATIS: Automatic transmitter identification system.

2 Purpose

This Recommendation defines the procedures all ESO should follow in order to access satellites. This document also describes the criteria for obtaining line-up exemptions in specific cases.

2.1 Customer access requirements

All ESOs who receive authorization (either directly from the satellite provider or through a third party LOC) to transmit to a satellite should contact the SOOC of that satellite provider prior to access so that the initial uplink can be verified, monitored, and documented by an SOOC controller. However, before calling the SOOC, the ESO should always first call the LOC to verify authorization and check for schedule changes.

English is the universally accepted language for SNG operations. All uplink ESOs should be able to communicate and follow instructions given to them in English. Other languages may be used at the discretion of the satellite operator, subject to prior agreement.

The telephone numbers of the LOC and the SOOC should be obtained when reserving the satellite transponder capacity.

2.1.1 Before the satellite access, the ESO should call the LOC in order to check the following:

- exchange of earth station identification/registration code and telephone numbers for emergency contacts;
- confirmation of expected transmission time (due to possible overruns of previous transmissions);
- satellite, transponder, uplink/downlink frequency, and bandwidth allocations.

2.1.2 During the satellite access, the SOOC controller should check the following:

- earth station registration code;
- confirmation of correct transmission time (to be in line with the LOC check above);
- satellite, transponder, and frequency slot allocations;
- uplink polarization;
- carrier power level, signal quality, etc.

2.1.3 During the access procedure, the ESO will be required to:

- transmit signals of differing power levels (both modulated and unmodulated);
- peak the transmit antenna;
- rotate/adjust the transmit antenna polarizers;
- call the SOOC with enough time to allow the controller to complete the entire access procedure, including cross-polar verification. Failure to do this may result in access delays.