



**Electromagnetic compatibility
and Radio spectrum Matters (ERM);
System Reference Document;
Short Range Devices (SRD);
Technical characteristics of wireless aids for
hearing impaired people operating in the VHF and
UHF frequency range**

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Foreword

This Technical Report (TR) has been produced by ETSI Technical Committee Electromagnetic compatibility and Radio spectrum Matters (ERM).

Executive summary

Developments in hearing health care have seen the dawn of the need to interconnect hearing aid devices wirelessly. This is referred to as a *body network configuration*, namely from the left ear to the right ear and vice versa, but also from hearing aids to nearby peripherals (such as mobile phones), control devices (such as remote controls for the hearing aid), relay stations and remote microphones. Some existing techniques for connecting to nearby peripherals such as inductive "Telecoil" systems do not meet today's information rich world and the present document seeks to provide this social service in an enhanced format.

The proponents of the present document believe that use of these radio systems may require minor amendments to the present regulatory framework for some target bands.

CEPT/ERC Recommendation 70-03 [i.1], annex 10 identifies frequencies for Radio microphones and Assistive Listening Systems including aids for hearing impaired. In parallel, ETSI has also published the Harmonized European Standard EN 300 422-2 [i.3].

The present document aims to describe the existing and near future technology employed in aids for hearing impaired people and requests access to additional spectrum in the VHF or UHF frequency range for operation of this equipment.

The purpose of producing the present document is to inform CEPT of the current state-of-the-art of the aids for hearing impaired and provide the ability of industry to quickly bring innovative and useful products that cater to hearing health to the market while avoiding any harmful interference with other services and equipment operating in the same band. A continuing license exempt regulation status for these types of applications is requested.

Introduction

The present document has been developed to support the co-operation between ETSI and the Electronic Communications Committee (ECC) of the European Conference of Post and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT).

Status of the System Reference Document

The present document has been developed by ETSI TC ERM TG17 WP 3. It has undergone coordination by ERM and two resolution meetings, following these the references to the 400 MHz band has been removed. The current version requests spectrum for a Telecoil Replacement Service (TRS).

EHIMA supports the objectives of the present document.