

Pacific Region Information Circular 07-1

INFORMATION FOR RADIO EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS ON RESOURCE INDUSTRY RADIO CHANNEL PILOTS

Significant work has been completed on the Resource Road Radio Channel Project by Industry Canada and its provincial resource road partners; TruckSafe BC, BC Timber Sales and Ministry of Forests and Range. Plans are now in the works to implement new resource industry channels in the following two pilot areas of British Columbia:

- 1) Vancouver Island/Sunshine Coast, and
- 2) Tumbler Ridge.

Assignment of new channels to resource roads and loading/unloading operations in these two pilot areas will begin as early as July of 2007.

The purpose of this notice is to inform radio equipment suppliers of the new resource road radio frequencies and channel designations, their technical specifications, and other information you and your clients need to know.

CHANNEL OVERVIEW

The new channels for the pilot areas utilize 2 labels: **RR** and **LD**. Channels labelled RR will be used for resource road communications and LD channels for loading/unloading operations. The initial rollout will include 11 frequencies for resource roads, and 3 frequencies for loading channels. The 14 new frequencies will employ the use of 3 CTCSS tones. This configuration will provide for 42 distinct new channels for use in the pilot areas (33 RR and 9 LD channels.) See annex 1, "*Resource Road Pilot Channels and Conditions for Users*" for the specifics.

Channels should only be installed in the radios of operators travelling in the pilot areas. The 42 new resource road pilot channels are to be installed in addition to the existing fitment of resource road frequencies. These will continue to be required through the transition period.

New resource industry channel designations must only be utilized in locations where they are specifically posted for usage. Improper usage (e.g., general chit chat) will result in harmful interference being caused to other resource road and loading postings or other priority spectrum users. **Operators must be aware that because tones are employed, a channel that sounds clear may in fact be in use.**

TECHNICAL PARAMETERS for PILOT CHANNELS

Channels are narrow band (NB), 11 kHz. Radios must therefore have been approved under RSS 119 issue 5, or later, and when programming, **frequencies need to be set to NB, 11 kHz (15 kHz channel spacing.)** Check the technical specifications for the radio, or the online Radio Equipment List to confirm a radio is narrow band capable. Equipment not certified to operate NB must not be used. 16 kHz bandwidth (30 kHz channel spacing) must not be employed for new pilot channels.

Channels are low power, 5 watts maximum. All channels **must be programmed to transmit at 5 watts.** Power settings in excess of 5 watts are not be used in any circumstances (new channels only.)

Channels use tones. **Each channel must be programmed with the designated tone.** The CTCSS tone for **A** suffix channels is 114.8 Hz, **B** suffix is 123.0 Hz, and **C** suffix is 131.8 Hz.

Channels have distinct labels. All channels need to be programmed with an alphanumeric label identical to designations in annex 1. These labels will be consistent with the new sign postings. See annex 2 for examples of new resource road and loading channel signage. It is recommended that if the radio can accommodate, the new resource industry channel set be installed as a separate bank.

WHAT INDUSTRY CANADA NEEDS FROM RADIO EQUIPMENT SUPPLIERS

Industry Canada needs your help in order to update licences and to keep track of the pilot channel implementation rate. Installs of the new channels are to be recorded in a simple table Industry Canada will provide. The table (annex 3) is available in both electronic spreadsheet format and as a PDF which can be printed for manual recording. Details on users equipped with the new resource channels are to be provided to your nearest Industry Canada office by email, fax or mail. Further, **this information should be submitted on the 1st and 15th day of each month.** Note that no letter of permission is required from either MoF or BCTS prior to install of the new channels.

If a radio does not have a licence, radio suppliers and installers are obliged to facilitate the completion and submission of a radio licence application. See annex 4, *“Equipment Suppliers are Spectrum Managers Too”* for more information on your legal obligations.

A copy of annex 1, “Resource Road Pilot Channels and Conditions for Users” should be provided to each user fitted with the new channels.

INFORM YOUR CLIENTS

Industry Canada and its provincial partners will be hosting information sessions in and near the pilot areas to communicate this new information to radio users. Your help relaying this information, when clients come in, will help make the transition and environment safer for all resource road users.

If you have questions please contact us at 1-800-667-3780.





Annex 1

RESOURCE ROAD PILOT CHANNELS AND CONDITIONS FOR USERS

Industry Canada has instructed your Radio Equipment Supplier to install the resource road pilot channels using the channel label, frequency, and tone indicated below. Channels are specified narrowband with a maximum transmitter power of 5 watts.

The following channels must only be used in locations where each is specifically posted for usage. Improper usage, for example "chit chat," will result in harmful interference to other resource road and loading usages, or other priority radio spectrum users.

These resource road pilot channels will only be posted for usage in either the Vancouver Island/Sunshine Coast or Tumbler Ridge BC areas. Under no circumstances may they be used outside of posted locations or in the restriction zones identified.

Two way radios using pilot channels require a mobile radio licence. The use of amateur, marine or user programmable radios is not permitted.

Loading/Unloading Pilot Channels

Channel	Frequency	Tone
LD-1A	150.590	114.8
LD-1B	150.590	123.0
LD-1C	150.590	131.8
LD-2A	150.680	114.8
LD-2B	150.680	123.0
LD-2C	150.680	131.8
LD-3A	151.670	114.8
LD-3B	151.670	123.0
LD-3C	151.670	131.8

Resource Road Pilot Channels

Channel	Frequency	Tone	Restrictions
RR-10A	150.200	114.8	
RR-10B	150.200	123.0	
RR-10C	150.200	131.8	
RR-11A	150.365	114.8	Not to be used within 100 Kms of Abbotsford BC
RR-11B	150.365	123.0	Not to be used within 100 Kms of Abbotsford BC
RR-11C	150.365	131.8	Not to be used within 100 Kms of Abbotsford BC
RR-12A	151.520	114.8	
RR-12B	151.520	123.0	
RR-12C	151.520	131.8	
RR-13A	150.560	114.8	Not to be used within 100 Kms of Prince George BC
RR-13B	150.560	123.0	Not to be used within 100 Kms of Prince George BC
RR-13C	150.560	131.8	Not to be used within 100 Kms of Prince George BC
RR-14A	151.700	114.8	
RR-14B	151.700	123.0	
RR-14C	151.700	131.8	
RR-15A	150.545	114.8	
RR-15B	150.545	123.0	
RR-15C	150.545	131.8	
RR-16A	150.500	114.8	
RR-16B	150.500	123.0	
RR-16C	150.500	131.8	
RR-17A	151.370	114.8	
RR-17B	151.370	123.0	
RR-17C	151.370	131.8	
RR-18A	150.185	114.8	
RR-18B	150.185	123.0	
RR-18C	150.185	131.8	
RR-19A	150.530	114.8	
RR-19B	150.530	123.0	
RR-19C	150.530	131.8	
RR-20A	151.190	114.8	Not to be used within 100 Kms of Comox BC
RR-20B	151.190	123.0	Not to be used within 100 Kms of Comox BC
RR-20C	151.190	131.8	Not to be used within 100 Kms of Comox BC

If you have any questions contact Industry Canada at 1-800-667-3780.

Road Channel

RR-10A

150.200 MHz - 114.8 (Tone)

Road Channel

RR-10B

150.200 MHz - 123.0 (Tone)

Road Channel

RR-11A

150.365 MHz - 114.8 (Tone)

Loading Channel

LD-1A

150.590 MHz - 114.8 (Tone)

Loading Channel

LD-1C

150.590 MHz - 131.8 (Tone)

Loading Channel

LD-2B

150.680 MHz - 123.0 (Tone)



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Annex 3

If Available

Date Installed	Individuals Name	Company Name	Phone #	# of Radios	Area of Operation	Associated Account #	Associated Licence #



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Spectrum & Telecommunications Branch - SITT Pacific

NOTICE TO RADIO EQUIPMENT SUPPLIER

Equipment Suppliers Are Spectrum Managers Too

The radio spectrum is a finite natural resource that requires the help of the radio industry to maintain spectrum quality and ensure interference free access for the benefits of radio users and all Canadians.

For radio equipment suppliers, this means installing only approved equipment and authorized frequencies. For Industry Canada, this means building workable policies, providing usable tools and ensuring that everyone follows the rules.

While it is always the objective of the Spectrum Management Program to work in cooperation with our key clients to ensure timely access to the spectrum for their customers, it is also in our mandate to ensure those facilitating use of the radio spectrum do so in manner consistent with laws of Canada.

Section 4(1) of the **Radiocommunication Act** (RA) states in part:

"No person shall, except under and in accordance with a radio authorization, install, operate or possess radio apparatus....".

The definition of "install" encompasses not only those situations where the radio is physically installed, but also those situations where frequencies are installed or programmed in a radio for use by a customer. Additionally, while the **Act** itself contains the general prohibition (as noted above), the regulations made there under are even more specific.

The **Radiocommunication Regulations** (RR), Section 39 states:

"A person may install, place in operation, modify, repair, maintain or permit the operation of radio apparatus on behalf of another person only where, if a radio licence is required,
(a) that other person has obtained a radio licence; and
(b) the person does so in accordance with the terms of the radio licence."

Accordingly, as a radio equipment supplier, under the **Act** you have certain obligations to ensure that the person to whom you are supplying or programming radio equipment, has the appropriate radio authorization. Should you not do so, you could be placing yourself in an awkward legal position through a contravention of the RA Section 4(1) or the RR Section 39. You should note that in addition to being an offence under the Radiocommunication Act, contraventions of these sections are now ticketed offences in B.C. under the **Contraventions Act**.

In addition, the installation of unlicensed stations and unauthorized frequencies have a negative effect on the spectrum quality as it causes situations where new frequency assignments for your customers are based on inaccurate information. This can result in a host of difficulties for your valued customers, including them suffering from annoying interruptions or interference, to their causing hazardous situations such as industrial accidents or interference to critical safety communications.

The radio licensing process is the tool that helps manage the radio spectrum effectively, minimize radio interference and speed up the resolution of problems. Only with both of us working together to ensure user installations are consistent with radio authorizations, can we provide effective spectrum management and interference free access for your clients and all radio users.

For further information about this notice or other spectrum management inquiries, please contact your local Industry Canada office at 1-800-667-3780.