

ITU AND UNITED STATES SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT STRUCTURE

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ABSTRACT

Radio frequency management in the United States is derived from the Communications Act of 1934 and provides a system of dual management. This public law created the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), an independent Government agency directly responsible to the Congress, to be responsible for regulating non-federal government and international telecommunications. The FCC assigns radio frequencies to all public users including local governments and industry.

Under the same public law, the President has authority to assign frequencies to all Federal Government agencies. By Executive Order that authority is delegated to the Director of the Office of Telecommunications Policy, Executive Office of the President (OTP).

The Interdepartment Radio Advisory Committee (IRAC) with representatives of 18 Federal agencies advises the OTP on spectrum management matters. The FCC maintains a liaison contact with the IRAC.

The Spectrum Management Support Division of the Office of Telecommunications, Department of Commerce provides OTP and the IRAC with computer services and technical support.

In the United States frequency management policies are based on rules and regulations of the ITU. The Department of State is the link for international frequency coordination.

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