MEMORANDUM FOR DEPUTY CHIEF OF NAVAL OPERATIONS FOR INFORMATION WARFARE
DIRECTOR, COMMAND, CONTROL, COMMUNICATIONS AND COMPUTERS (C4)
CHIEF OF NAVAL RESEARCH
DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF NAVAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: Radio Receiver Frequency Assignments for Mission-Critical Systems

(c) SECNAV Instruction 2400.1A, “Electromagnetic Spectrum Policy and Management,” of December 19, 2014
(d) DoD Instruction 4650.01, “Policy and Procedures for Management and Use of the Electromagnetic Spectrum,” of January 9, 2009

The purpose of this memorandum is to establish Department of the Navy (DON) policy regarding radio receiver frequency assignments for mission-critical systems. Per reference (a), a mission-critical system is defined as: “A system whose operational effectiveness and operational suitability are essential to successful completion or to aggregate residual combat capability. If this system fails, the mission likely will not be completed. Such a system can be an auxiliary or supporting system as well as a primary mission system.”

Effective immediately, all radio receivers used in mission-critical systems operating within the United States and its Possessions (US&P) shall request a radio frequency assignment per references (b) through (d). Receivers associated with currently authorized transmitters or transceivers are exempt. Owners of non-mission-critical system receivers are encouraged, but not required, to request radio frequency assignment to identify their operations in applicable spectrum management databases. Frequency assignment for radio receivers shall be requested via the existing processes for radio transmitters. All radio receivers, including mission-critical system radio receivers, may operate pending frequency assignment.

Radio frequency assignments protect system operations from harmful interference. This policy enhances the DON’s capabilities to maintain comprehensive, relevant, accurate, and trusted spectrum data, and will be used to characterize spectrum-dependent systems and define the electromagnetic environment. This guidance will be incorporated in future revisions to reference (c).

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