

MPHPT
COMMUNICATIONS NEWS

November 17, 2003, Vol. 14, No. 15

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Biweekly Newsletter of the Ministry of Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications, Japan

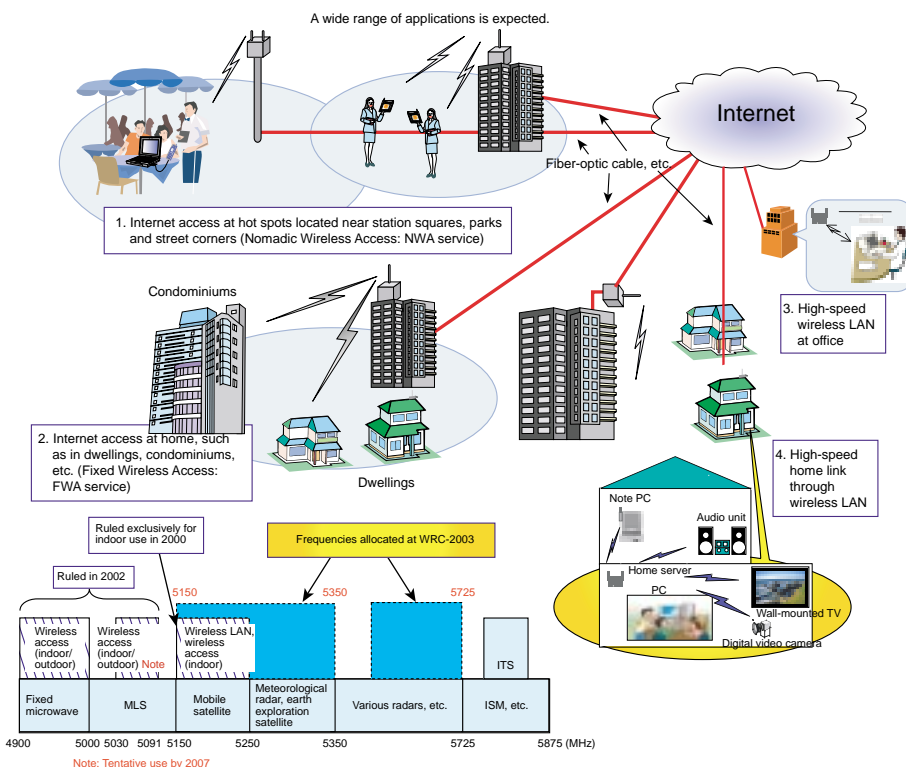
Inquiry Made of Telecommunications Council Concerning "Technical Conditions for 5-GHz Band Wireless Access System"

On October 29, 2003, MPHPT made an inquiry of the Telecommunications Council (Chair: Mr. AKIYAMA Yoshihisa, Chairman of Kansai Electric Power Co., Inc.) concerning "Technical Conditions for 5-GHz Band Wireless Access System."

In recent years, wireless LAN systems have been rapidly introduced, for which a simplified access environment to the Internet at affordable price levels is deployed at home and office. In parallel with development of high-speed ADSL and deployment of FTTH, additional frequency allocations have been urged in order to respond to demands for higher speed wireless access systems and hot-spot services.

Under these circumstances, at the World Radiocommunication Conference 2003 (WRC-03) held in July 2003, 5 GHz bands (5150 - 5350 MHz and 5470 - 5725 MHz) for wireless access systems, including wireless LAN systems, were allocated on a global basis. In line with these allocations, MPHPT inquired of the Telecommunications Council

about the technical conditions, etc. of wireless facilities, for establishing domestic legal frameworks for wireless access systems, including wireless LAN systems, in those frequency bands. The Telecommunications Council will compile the outcomes as a report around October 2004.



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Applications for Experiments Using WINDS Invited

MPHPT, through its Satellite Application Experiment Promotion Conference (Chair; Prof. YASUDA Yasuhiko, Waseda University) is inviting various applications from participants to run experiments using WINDS (Wideband InterNetworking Engineering Test and Demonstration Satellite), which is due to be launched in FY2005; on October 30, 2003, the ministry announced the requirements for said applications.

In 1997, MPHPT set up the Satellite Application Experiment Promotion Conference, comprising specialists from industry, academia and the government, in order to verify the practical performance of satellite communications technology and promote the development of satellite applications.

In line with the ministry's announcement, the Conference, so as to contribute to the development of multiple applications, also announced the requirements for applicants on October 30,

2003.

WINDS is a high-performance experimental satellite that enables gigabit-class communications and will be used for R&D of satellite communications networks that can complement terrestrial Internet communications networks, making use of a satellite's wide coverage, multicast ability and disaster resistance.

Guidelines for applying to carry out experiments

1. Invitation for application experiments

With the aims of advancing satellite communications and contributing to development of applications, the "Satellite Application Experiment Promotion Conference" invites application experiments through use of WINDS.

Satellite communications circuits will be used for basic experiments by the Japanese institutes for satellite develop-

ment (the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) and the Communications Research Laboratory (CRL)) as well as widely opened to experiments (application experiments) for R&D to be conducted by universities, research institutes, public bodies, corporations, etc. in Japan and foreign countries. Proposals for joint experiments are also acceptable. The proposals will be examined by the Conference.

2. Time period for application experiments

After the initial checkout of WINDS to completion of operations thereof

3. Major conditions for participation in application experiments

- 1) Experiments shall be ones for advancing satellite communications and contributing to development of applications.
- 2) Participants in the experiments shall,

Figure 1. Coverage of MBA and APAA (Plan)

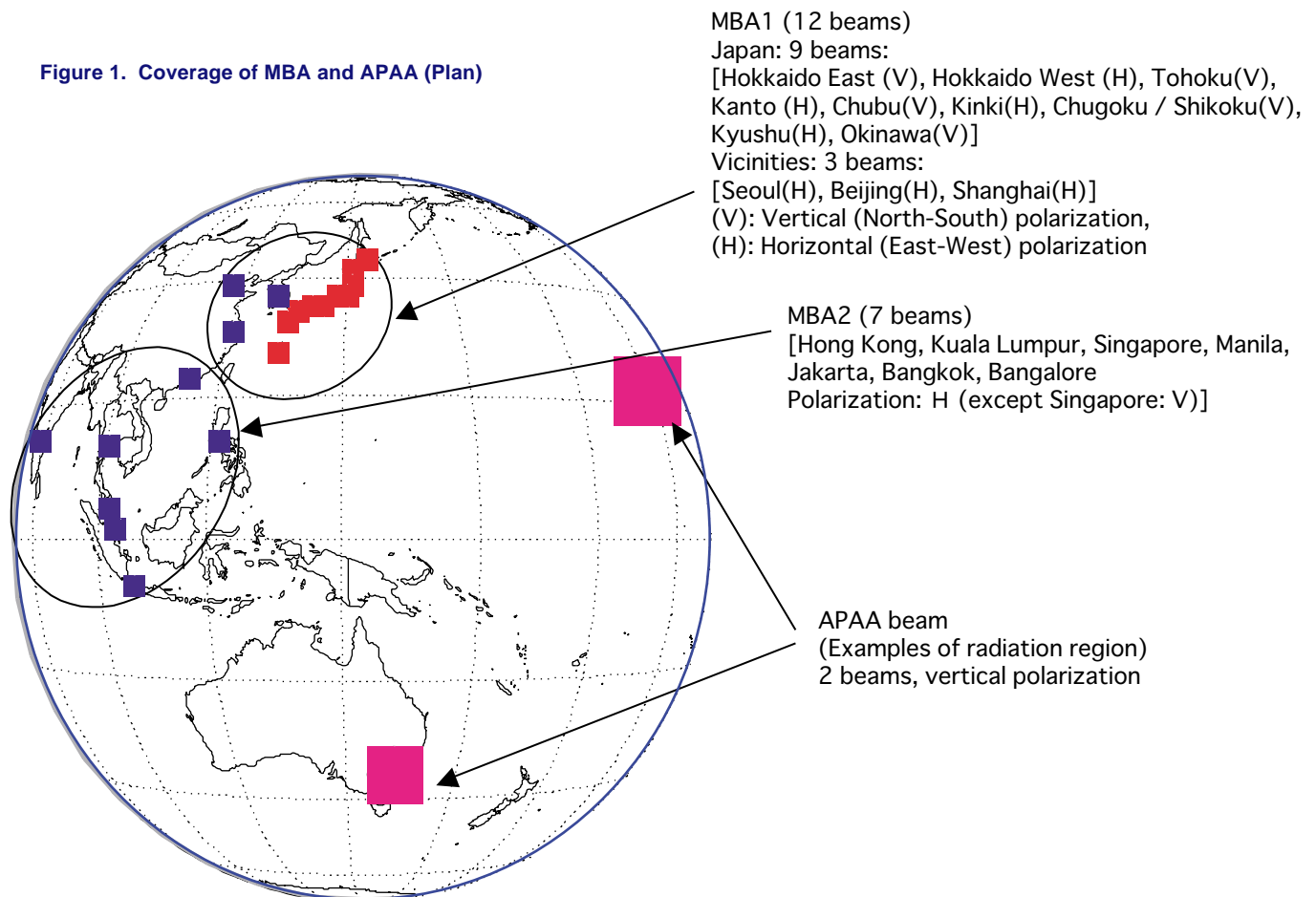
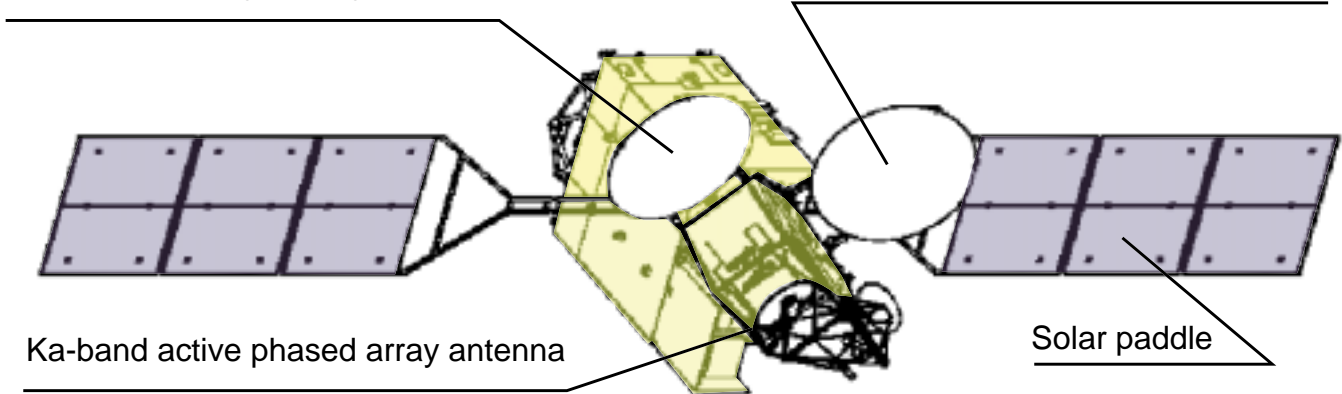


Figure 2. Overviews of WINDS in orbit

Ka-band multi-beam antenna (MBA1) to Japan and neighboring area

Ka-band multi-beam antenna (MBA2) to South-East Asia



upon operations of earth stations, etc., abide by technical standards and operation methods as specified under radio laws and regulations, etc. (in cases of participants in a foreign country, radio laws and regulations in said foreign country).

3) The experiments shall not be used for commercial purposes.

4. Matters to be noted by participants in the experiments

There are cases where time ranges of experiments, schedules, etc. may be restricted due to the status of WINDS,

namely basic experiments and other application experiments.

5. Facilities for experiments

Facilities for experiments are as follows:

- 1) Participants may use WINDS transponders free of charge.
- 2) Earth station facilities shall be prepared in principle by participants.
- 3) Costs generated upon implementation of experiments shall be borne by participants.

6. Procedures for application

Procedures for application are as follows:

- 1) Those wishing to participate in an experiment shall submit the application documents.
- 2) The application documents must arrive between April 1, 2004, and April 30, 2004.

(For detailed information including the application documents, please see the next website:

http://www.soumu.go.jp/joho_tsusin/eng/Releases/Telecommunications/news031030_1.html (English))

Overview of WINDS

Characteristics of WINDS (Target)

| | |
|------------------------------|---|
| Orbit | Geostationary Earth Orbit (GEO): 143 degrees East Longitude (tentative) |
| Mass | Approximately 2,700kg (In orbit, at the beginning of mission life) |
| Size | 2m x 3m x 8m (Solar Array Paddles deployed: 21.5m) |
| Design Life | 5 years (targeted life) |
| Power | More than 5,200W |
| Attitude Control | 3-axis stabilized |
| Accuracy of Attitude Control | pitch and roll: ± 0.05 degrees; yaw: ± 0.15 degrees |
| Launch Vehicle | H-II A |
| Launch Site | Tanegashima Space Center |
| Launch Date | FY2005 |

Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) Decides to Hold Asia Broadband Summit

The 27th Session of the Management Committee of APT

The 27th Session of the Management Committee (27th MC) was held in Macao Special Administrative Region, People's Republic of China from October 21 through 24, 2003. At the 27th MC, a work program, annual budget, etc. were approved by Members after discussions thereon.

In addition, the 27th MC decided to convene the Asia Broadband Summit (Asia Pacific Ministerial Conference on Broadband & ICT Development) in 2004 for the commemoration of APT's 25th Anniversary. At the Summit, with the purpose of deploying broadband platforms at an early stage in the Asia-Pacific region, telecommunications ministers from around the Asia-Pacific region will convene and deliberate upon broadband policies, regulations, technologies, etc. in order to announce action guidelines for the introduction of broadband platforms.

At the MC, a work program for 2004 was adopted that includes i) holding of an "Asia Pacific Telecommunication Development Forum (ADF)" for bridging the digital divide, ii) frequency coordination in the wireless service field, iii) standardization activities, iv) holding of the "APT Wireless Forum" for the purpose of effective collaboration on activities for human resources development, etc.

[Results of 27th MC]

1) Holding of the "Asia Broadband Summit"

The Asia Broadband Summit will be held in Bangkok, Thailand, in July 2004, with the purpose of enabling all people in the Asian region to have access to broadband and to use applications and content making the most of broadband features. Ministers in charge of telecommunications will get together at the Summit and adopt action guidelines for the introduction of broadband platforms in the Asia-Pacific region. In parallel

with the Summit, the "Asia-Pacific Telecommunication Development Forum" will be convened.

2) Holding of the "APT Wireless Forum"

The "APT Wireless Forum" with the attendance of stakeholders will be held in the Republic of Korea for the purposes of i) coordinating radio-related activities of frequency coordination, standardization activities, study groups, human resources development, etc. at APT, and ii) efficiently implementing radio-related activities.

3) Implementation of security-related activities

It was decided that with respect to security-related activities, "Workshop on ENUM," "Workshop on IDN" and "Workshop on CERT best practices" be convened and that upon implementing human resources development programs, one of APT's major activities, security and e-governments shall be focused upon.

Notes:

- 1: ENUM (Telephone Number Mapping) is a communications protocol that allows a user to use various types of communications, including telephony, e-mail, etc., over IP-based networks through use of a telecommunications number.
- 2: IDN (Internationalized Domain Name: multilingual domain names): In the past, characters to be used in web addresses were limited to alphanumeric ones (ASCII characters: e.g., soumu.go.jp). At present, however, in addition to alphanumeric ones, characters used in various countries and economies have been in use (e.g., Japanese and Chinese characters). Midst international trends for facilitating access to the Internet, introduction of IDNs is in progress (Japanese-language domain names are part of these IDNs).
- 3: CERT (Computer Emergency Response Team) is a generic term of organizations for responding to

computer security incidents and for raising the public awareness of computer security issues.

[Outline of APT]

1. Purpose

The Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) was established in May 1979 as a regional telecommunications organization under the auspices of the Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP). The objective of APT shall be to foster the development of telecommunications services and information infrastructure throughout the region with a particular focus on the expansion thereof in less developed areas. APT offers human resources development programs through training and seminars, regional policy coordination on standardization and wireless communications, and resolutions of regional telecommunications disputes.

2. Members

- Members: 32 countries
- Associate Members: 4 economies
- Affiliate Members (Companies/Organizations): 96 (telecommunications carriers, manufacturers, industry organizations: including 26 Japanese companies/organizations)

3. APT Secretariat

Headquarters: Bangkok, Thailand
 Secretary General: Mr. Amarendra Narayan (India)
 Deputy Secretary General: Mr. G. Hugh Railton (New Zealand)
 and 20 staff members including Mr. TANUMA Tomoyuki (Program Officer)

4. The General Assembly, the Management Committee

- The General Assembly ordinarily meets every three years (the latest assembly was held in 2002), and establishes general policies as well as principles in order to achieve the ob-

jectives of the Telecommunity. The Management Committee

- The Management Committee meets once a year. It pursues the policies and principles of the General Assem-

bly, supervising the Secretariat's function while reviewing as well as providing approval for work programs, for the annual budget and for accounts; in addition it draws up regu-

lations, etc.

Chairman: Mr. YAMADA Toshiyuki (Director-General, Institute for Information and Communications Policy, MPHPT, Japan)

Renewed Licenses Granted to Broadcasting Stations

On October 29, 2003, MPHPT granted renewed broadcasting station licenses to the broadcasters that had filed for renewal of their broadcasting stations; and those licenses came into force as from November 1, 2003.

NHK and other broadcasters filed applications for renewal of licenses for broadcasting stations and broadcasting satellite stations, the five-year valid term of which would become invalid as of October 31, 2003, with MPHPT. In accordance with the provisions of the Radio Law (Law No. 131 of 1950), MPHPT decided to grant the renewed broadcasting station licenses under specified conditions.

These broadcasting station licenses were handed from the Minister to representatives of 16 broadcasters, including NHK, headquartered in Tokyo; and broadcasters headquartered in other areas than Tokyo were granted licenses from relevant Directors-General of Regional Bureau of Telecommunications and Okinawa Office of Posts and Telecommunications

Upon granting these renewed licenses, written requests in the name of the Minister for Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications were handed to the broadcasters. In particular, private broadcasters are requested to i) abide by the Broadcast Law and the standards of broadcast programming, ii) broadcast captioned (or closed captioned) programming and explanatory programming as many as possible, iii) enhance and increase programming on disasters, and iv) make active efforts to introduce digital broadcasting.

Following broadcasters were granted renewed licenses:

1. NHK (Japan Broadcasting Corp.)
2. The University of the Air Foundation
3. 196 general terrestrial broadcasters
4. 5 satellite broadcasters including WOWOW

For details refer to the Japanese website at:

http://www.soumu.go.jp/s-news/2003/031029_1.html

Conditions for renewed licenses

1. NHK (standard television broadcasting stations: general broadcasting) and general broadcasters (standard television broadcasting stations)

<Conditions>

Upon edition and broadcasting of broadcast programming, as described in the application form, the programming quota shall stand at a minimum of 10% being educational programming and a minimum of 20% being cultural programming.

2. NHK (standard television broadcasting stations: educational broadcasting)

<Conditions>

Upon edition and broadcasting of broadcast programming, as described in the application form, the programming quota shall stand at a minimum of 75% being educational programming and a minimum of 15% being cultural programming.

3. NHK (satellite broadcasting stations: BS 1)

<Conditions>

Upon edition and broadcasting of broadcast programming, as described in the application form, the programming quota shall stand at a minimum of 10% being educational programming and a minimum of 20% being cultural programming.

5. NHK (satellite broadcasting stations: BS 2)

<Conditions>

Upon edition and broadcasting of broadcast programming, while ensuring roles of broadcasting for eliminating poor reception, the programming quota shall stand at a minimum of 30% being educational programming and a minimum of 20% being cultural programming, as described in the application form.

6. NHK (satellite broadcasting stations: high-definition television broadcasting)

<Valid term>

The valid term of the license shall be December 31, 2007.

<Conditions>

When the Minister for Public Management, Home Affairs, Posts and Telecommunications designated the day before the license expires as the day (limited to the day of January 1, 2007, or later) when broadcasting commences in order to smoothly shift to digital broadcasting, this license shall expire as of said day.

7. World Independent Networks Japan (satellite broadcasting stations)

<Valid term>

The valid term of the license shall be October 31, 2004.