

## **Radio Regulatory Council Summary of Minutes (923rd Meeting)**

1. Date and Time: Started at 15:00, Wednesday, October 3, 2007
2. Location: Conference Room 1002, 10th Floor, Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications
3. Attendees (honorifics omitted)
  - (1) Members of the Radio Regulatory Council  
Mitsutoshi Hatori (Chair), Takeo Inokuchi (Vice-Chair), Kashiko Kodate, Junichi Hamada
  - (2) Hearing Examiner of the Radio Regulatory Council  
Shuichi Nishimoto
  - (3) Secretary  
Shuji Ishida (Assistant Director of the General Affairs Division of the Telecommunications Bureau)
  - (4) MIC Representatives  
Terasaki (Director-General of the Telecommunications Bureau, Tanaka (Director-General of the Radio Department), and others
4. Minutes of the Meeting
  - (1) Draft MIC Ordinances to Partially Amend the Regulations for Enforcement of the Radio Law and to Partially Amend the Rules for Regulating Radio Equipment  
(Consultation No. 36 of October 4, 2007)

MIC provided the following explanation on the Draft MIC Ordinances formulated in conjunction with the introduction of radio equipment to be installed on ships or vehicles in regard to Inmarsat BGAN radio equipment. A question-and-answer session was subsequently held, as follows.

Since a hearing on Consultation No. 36 is obligatory under Article 99-12, Paragraph 1, of the Radio Law, the council named Shuichi Nishimoto as the hearing examiner presiding over the hearing procedure.

### a. MIC's Explanation

Radio equipment using antennas that have a function to automatically home in on artificial satellites and which permit relevant equipment to be installed on ships or vehicles is intended to

be introduced, in addition to existing mobile terminal radio equipment, in regard to the Inmarsat BGAN mobile satellite communication system. The intent is to deal with the demand for high-speed communications during sea or land movement. The objective of these amendments is to develop regulations related to the above purpose.

The Inmarsat system means the mobile satellite communication system whereby the International Maritime Satellite Organization, which was an international organization based on the Inmarsat Convention, started to provide services to ships on a worldwide basis in 1982 by using the L frequency band.

In the early days following the start of services by this system, the Inmarsat A system was used, which provided services only for ships. Subsequently, services for land mobile objects started in 1989, and those for aircraft began in 1990. Furthermore, in terms of technology, not only was a switch made from analog equipment to digital equipment, but steps were also taken to sophisticate data transfer and to reduce terminal sizes. At present, the BGAN system for land equipment is the fastest.

In the case of the BGAN equipment to be introduced this time, antennas having a function to automatically home in on artificial satellites are installed, thereby permitting the equipment to be used during the operation of ships or vehicles.

Explanations of these amendments are as follows: With regard to current Inmarsat BGAN radio equipment, technical conditions for antennas to be installed on ships and vehicles will be added to the existing regulations for Inmarsat BGAN radio equipment for Inmarsat mobile earth stations for mobile terminals. In addition, the Rules for Regulating Radio Equipment will be partially amended for the purpose of adding technical conditions for two types of antennas, which are antennas for radio equipment installed primarily on ships and antennas for radio equipment installed primarily on objects moving on land, such as automobiles.

These Draft MIC Ordinances will take effect on the date of promulgation.

## b. Key Questions and Answers

-In the case of the previously used system, in the course of establishing connection with the Internet, communication was interrupted when vehicles entered tunnels, and communication had to be initiated again from the beginning. What the system in

Consultation No. 36 in like manner was questioned. The reply stated that details would be confirmed.

(2) Other

MIC reported on the schedule of hearings pertaining to the certification of plans for opening specific base stations that use 2.5 GHz frequencies.

(Office responsible for the above wording: The Secretariat of the Radio Regulatory Council.)