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*Representing the Communication Services Industry*



# **Ofcom Business Radio Simple and Light Licences**

## **Code of Practice**

**For Licensees, Dealers, Suppliers and End  
Users**

**April 2009**

## Foreward

This code of practice has been developed by The Federation of Communication Services, in cooperation with Ofcom, so that the licensees of the Simple and Light Licences for Business Radio issued by Ofcom from December 2008 can effectively use the frequencies allocated.

This code is maintained on the website of the Federation of Communication Services- [www.fcs.org.uk](http://www.fcs.org.uk). Proposals for review or amendment or enquiries should be directed to [businessradio@fcs.org.uk](mailto:businessradio@fcs.org.uk).

A list of recognised dealers and suppliers may be found at [www.fcs.org.uk](http://www.fcs.org.uk)

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# 1 Introduction

This code of practice has been introduced to give guidance to Licensees, Suppliers and End Users who will be operating their systems under the Ofcom Simple and Light Licence categories.

The Simple and Light Licence categories were introduced in **December 2008** merging the Business Radio (On-site Local Communications), Business Radio (On-Site One-Way Paging and Speech Systems), UK General, Business Radio (Suppliers) and Business Radio (Self-Select) licences.

The new licences are called:

- Business Radio (Simple Site)
- Business Radio (Simple UK)
- Business Radio (Suppliers Light)

All licences are subject to the terms of the General Licence Conditions booklet (Version OF 195.1 and subsequent editions) available from the Ofcom website: <http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radiocomms/ifi/>

**Duration:** Simple and Light Licences will run for a period of five years between renewals

**Frequencies:** Licensees or their Suppliers will select a frequency from the list of available frequencies for the licence category- see sections 2-4 - which are also identified on the licence document issued by Ofcom

**Sharing frequencies** with other licensees: It is advisable that Licensees seek guidance from a recognised dealer or supplier, who will normally have information on current systems already deployed. This information will be used to ensure the most suitable available frequency assignment is selected. In coastal areas, particularly the South East of England, a directional antenna may be required to avoid causing interference.

**Technical parameters:** The equipment to be used for all licence categories must have a valid CE mark and comply with the UK IR2044 licensing requirements, which can be found on the Ofcom website at:

[http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radiocomms/ifi/tech/interface\\_req/ir2044.pdf](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radiocomms/ifi/tech/interface_req/ir2044.pdf).

Each licence type has different maximum power output and antenna height obligations, which are set out in sections 2-4 below

CTCSS/DCS tones can be used in each case and information can be found within the Ofcom Business Radio Technical Frequency Assignment Criteria (TFAC) on the Ofcom website.

## 2 Business Radio (Simple Site) Licence

The Business Radio (Simple Site) Licence replaces the following types of licences issued before December 2008:

- Business Radio (On-site Local Communications),
- Business Radio (On-Site One-Way Paging and Speech Systems)
- Business Radio (Self-Select)

The technical conditions for Business Radio (Simple Site) Licence are, except where specified by Ofcom:

- A maximum permitted ERP for base stations of 2 watts;
- A maximum permitted ERP for mobile stations of 2 watts; and
- A maximum permitted base station antenna height above ground level of 15 metres.

Licensees, End Users, or their designated suppliers will choose the frequency to be used from the list of frequencies in section 2.1 below. It is recommended that prospective Licensees go to a recognised Dealer or Supplier to obtain their individual systems. A recognised Dealer or Supplier will generally have access to current frequency usage in the area and will help to ensure that the most suitable frequency will be selected for the proposed site.

### 2.1 Business Radio (Simple Site) frequencies

26.23750 MHz	26.41000 MHz	26.43750 MHz	26.46250 MHz	26.54500 MHz	26.58800 MHz
26.61550 MHz	26.66950 MHz	26.72550 MHz	26.81550 MHz	26.86550 MHz	26.86500 MHz
459.05000 MHz	459.10000 MHz	459.12500 MHz	459.15000 MHz	459.17500 MHz	459.20000 MHz
459.22500 MHz	459.25000 MHz	459.27500 MHz	459.30000 MHz	459.32500 MHz	459.35000 MHz
459.37500 MHz	459.40000 MHz	459.42500 MHz	459.45000 MHz	459.47500 MHz	

#### 12.5 kHz PAGING and DATA frequencies available under the Simple Site Licence

49.00000 MHz	49.01250 MHz	49.02500 MHz	49.03750 MHz	49.05000 MHz	49.06250 MHz
49.07500 MHz	49.08750 MHz	49.10000 MHz	49.11250 MHz	49.12500 MHz	49.13750 MHz
49.15000 MHz	49.16250 MHz	49.17500 MHz	49.18750 MHz	49.20000 MHz	49.21250 MHz
49.22500 MHz	49.23750 MHz	49.25000 MHz	49.26250 MHz	49.27500 MHz	49.28750 MHz
49.30000 MHz	49.31250 MHz	49.32500 MHz	49.33750 MHz	49.35000 MHz	49.36250 MHz
49.37500 MHz	49.38750 MHz	49.40000 MHz	49.41250 MHz	49.48750 MHz	
159.63750 MHz	159.65000 MHz	159.66250 MHz	159.67500 MHz	159.70000 MHz	161.00000 MHz
161.01250 MHz	161.02500 MHz	161.03750 MHz	161.05000 MHz	161.06250 MHz	161.07500 MHz
161.08750 MHz	161.10000 MHz	161.11250 MHz	164.20000 MHz		

### 3 Business Radio (Simple UK) Licence

The Business Radio (Simple UK) Licence replaces the original Business Radio (UK General) licence issued before December 2008:

The technical conditions for this licence are:

- The maximum permitted ERP for mobile stations is 5 watts;
- Use of base stations is not permitted; and
- Equipment is to be 12.5 KHz bandwidth only.

The frequencies listed below are to be used in single frequency (Simplex) mode only.

#### Business Radio (Simple UK) frequencies

77.687500 MHz	86.337500 MHz	86.350000 MHz	86.362500 MHz	86.375000 MHz
164.050000 MHz	164.062500 MHz	169.087500 MHz	169.312500 MHz	
173.050000 MHz	173.062500 MHz	173.087500 MHz		
449.312500 MHz	449.400000 MHz	449.475000 MHz		

## 4 Business Radio (Suppliers Light) Licence

The Business Radio (Suppliers Light) Licence replaces the Business Radio (Suppliers) licence issued prior to December 2008

The technical conditions for this licence are:

- Maximum permitted ERP for base stations is 10 Watts
- Maximum permitted ERP for mobile stations is 25 Watts
- Maximum permitted base station antenna height above ground level is 20 metres

### 4.1 Business Radio (Suppliers Light) Licence frequencies

All frequencies are 12.5 KHz channel bandwidth except frequencies in **bold** which are 25 KHz channel bandwidth

<b>26.835000 MHz</b>	<b>26.920000 MHz</b>				
48.975000 MHz	48.987500 MHz				
68.625000 MHz	72.375000 MHz	81.125 000 MHz	85.875000 MHz		
158.787500 MHz	159.187500 MHz	159.250000 MHz	159.350000 MHz	159.400000 MHz	159.425000 MHz
159.450000 MHz	159.487500 MHz	159.500000 MHz	159.587500 MHz	159.625000 MHz	159.687500 MHz
163.287500 MHz	163.687500 MHz	163.750000 MHz	163.850000 MHz	163.900000 MHz	163.925000 MHz
163.950000 MHz	163.987500 MHz	164.000000 MHz	164.087500 MHz	164.125000 MHz	164.187500 MHz
167.200000 MHz	169.012500 MHz	169.137500 MHz	169.162500 MHz	169.187500 MHz	172.000000 MHz
453.687500 MHz	456.012500 MHz	456.337500 MHz	456.387500 MHz	456.462500 MHz	456.562500 MHz
456.687500 MHz	456.862500 MHz	456.925000 MHz	456.962500 MHz	456.987500 MHz	
460.187500 MHz	461.512500 MHz	461.837500 MHz	461.887500 MHz	461.962500 MHz	462.062500 MHz
462.187500 MHz	462.362500 MHz	462.425000 MHz	462.462500 MHz	462.475000 MHz	462.487500 MHz
<b>454.425000 MHz</b>	<b>461.425 000 MHz</b>				

Licensees using the frequencies for hire are encouraged to work to the Short Term Hire Code of Practice available on the FCS website: [www.fcs.org.uk](http://www.fcs.org.uk) .

## 5 Interference Management

Ofcom encourages the Business Radio Licensees and End Users to be responsible when managing interference issues. Interference can occur in a multitude of ways:

- The use of excessive power;
- Antenna heights that exceed the maximum set out in the licence;
- The use of equipment that does not meet the relevant technical standard;
- Equipment that is set up to deviate outside the assigned channel bandwidth;
- The frequency selected is already in use. This may have been alleviated if monitoring had taken place prior to the assignment being made;
- Unlicensed use. If the user or their recognised dealer or supplier identifies unlicensed use in these licensed frequencies then the Ofcom Field Operations team should be informed so that they can resolve the problem. See below.

It is recognised that the End User or Licensee may not have the technical expertise to sort out interference issues. Within the Simple and Light Licence category frequency assignment is by self selection and external technical assistance will be required. A Licensee or End User should in the first instance contact their dealer or equipment supplier for advice. A list of recognised dealers and suppliers can be found on the FCS website: <<http://www.fcs.org.uk/>>.

The End User or Licensee should, as a matter of course keep a log of the dates and times the interference occurs. The information gathered will help in resolving the issue.

If the problem remains unresolved, contact Ofcom on 0300 123 3333 for general enquiries or the Ofcom Licensing Centre on 020 7981 3131

If all avenues to eliminate the interference have been taken without success, then the only solution may be to change to an alternative frequency or consider buying an appropriate Ofcom Technically Assigned licence product if available.