

# Planning for Ultra-Wideband (UWB)

The potentially ubiquitous nature of low power Ultra-Wideband (UWB) applications, together with the growing availability and demand for devices which use UWB technology, has increased pressure on the ACMA to develop internationally harmonised regulatory arrangements.

As a result, the ACMA is now seeking comment on technical and regulatory issues associated with the introduction of UWB technologies.

UWB use of radiofrequency spectrum is characterised by the transmitted energy being spread over very large bandwidths. This can make the presence of a UWB device close to undetectable by conventional radiocommunications services. The very wide bandwidth of UWB devices means that their emissions can potentially include many radiofrequency bands whose use is licensed by other radiocommunications services.

The ACMA has released a discussion paper titled *Planning for Ultra-Wideband (UWB)* and is seeking comment on a range of technical and regulatory issues associated with the development of planning and licensing arrangements for UWB technologies initially in the 3.6–4.8 GHz and 6.0–8.5 GHz bands. For example, the paper investigates the possibility of authorising the use of low-power UWB devices under a class licence and recommends the development of an equipment standards regime that is consistent with international arrangements. In addition, other frequency bands are also being used by UWB devices. The ACMA will consider the development of arrangements for UWB operation in other frequency bands including those designated for spectrum licensing.

Interested parties are invited to comment on issues relating to the implementation of technical conditions for the operation of low-power, short-range UWB applications and to consider the licensing and regulatory arrangements to support the use of UWB devices in Australia. 📧

## Submissions

Submissions can be forwarded to the Manager of the Spectrum Engineering Section at email [freqplan@acma.gov.au](mailto:freqplan@acma.gov.au).

The discussion paper is available on the ACMA website at [www.acma.gov.au](http://www.acma.gov.au) (go to Home > About ACMA: News & media centre > Issues for comment > IFC 10/2010).