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WCA Praises FCC's Notice Of Proposed Rulemaking To Set Rules For New Services In The 2.3GHz Band

WASHINGTON, DC (Dec. 19, 2007) – Andrew Kreig, president of the [Wireless Communications Association International](http://www.wcai.com) (WCA), today issued the following statement regarding the FCC's Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) on the rules to govern the operation of Wireless Communications Services in the 2.3 GHz Band:

“WCA applauds the Commission for seeking public comment on the WCS Coalition's proposed rules to govern the coexistence of WCS and DARS. As the founder of the WCS Coalition, WCA has long recognized the importance that the 2.3 GHz band plays globally, and can play in the US, in the delivery of wireless broadband services to consumers. Thus, WCA is pleased that the FNPRM seeks public comment on the WCS Coalition's proposed solutions to the two regulatory threats to the use of the 2.3 GHz band in America -- interference from DARS terrestrial repeaters and an oppressive out-of-band emissions limit.

“For the past six years, DARS has been operating its terrestrial repeaters under STAs. XM and Sirius have done so subject to an obligation to cure any interference that they may cause to WCS and knowing full well that their repeaters may have to be modified when the FCC adopts permanent rules to govern their operation. Today's FNPRM brings us closer to the day when DARS will be required to operate at the same reasonable of power levels as other terrestrial services. That, in turn, will allow American consumers for the first time to receive WCS-based wireless services without fear of DARS interference.

“When the WCS out-of-band emission rules were adopted over a decade ago, the Commission had no idea how WCS would evolve. Now we know -- WCS is poised to be one of the primary spectrum bands for mobile WiMAX services. Yet, its ability to provide those services is jeopardized by a spectral mask on low-powered mobile devices that is far more protective of DARS than necessary. The WCS Coalition's testing has demonstrated beyond question that adoption of the proposed rule revisions will permit WCS to provide mobile WiMAX services without jeopardizing service to DARS subscribers. The FNPRM sets the stage for the Commission to adopt a more reasonable spectral mask rule, one that allows the 2.3 GHz band to flourish in the US as a home to mobile WiMAX services.”

The WCS Coalition is led by WCA Counsel Paul Sinderbrand and Mary O'Connor of Wilkinson Barker Knauer, who are available to members of the press for further comment. To schedule an interview, please contact Susan Polyakova (susan@wcai.com).

About the Wireless Communications Association

Founded in 1988, the Wireless Communications Association represents the wireless broadband industry worldwide. Its 200+ member companies include leading solutions providers on six continents. WCA organizes the industry's premier annual convention WCA 2008 from April 21-23 in Washington, DC. For more information, visit: www.wcai.com. ##