Australian Government

acma
Australian Communications and Media Authority

ITU

International Training Program 2014

Equipment regulation

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Overview of presentation

- History of equipment regulation
- Overview of current arrangements
- Basic concepts
- Significant issues
- Recent developments and upcoming reviews
- Questions

History of equipment regulation

- 1901-1989
  - Government approval
    - Post Master General's Department and successors
    - Telecom
- 1989-1997
  - AUSTEL type approval
  - Industry self certification (radcomms equipment)
- 1997-
  - Industry self certification

What are we talking about?

- ACMA equipment regulatory arrangements typically focus on end-user equipment
  - Telephones, modems
  - Smartphones
  - Radio transmitters
  - Electrical and electronic equipment

- RF network equipment is subject to licensing arrangements
- Telecommunications network equipment typically not regulated by ACMA

Overview

- Primary regulatory controls apply at the point of supply of equipment to the market
  - Compliance obligations on suppliers (Australian importers and manufacturers) of equipment
  - Limited regulation of use of non-compliant equipment (radiocommunications)
- Compliant and labelled telecommunications equipment and cabling must be allowed to connect by network operator
  - Network operators may permit connection of non-standard telecommunications equipment and cabling

Basic concepts

- Equipment must
  - Comply with applicable technical standard
  - Bear compliance label prior to supply to market
- Suppliers of equipment and cabling must
  - Cause label to be applied (can be done by another person)
  - Hold appropriate records (eg. Test reports) demonstrating compliance

Overview #2

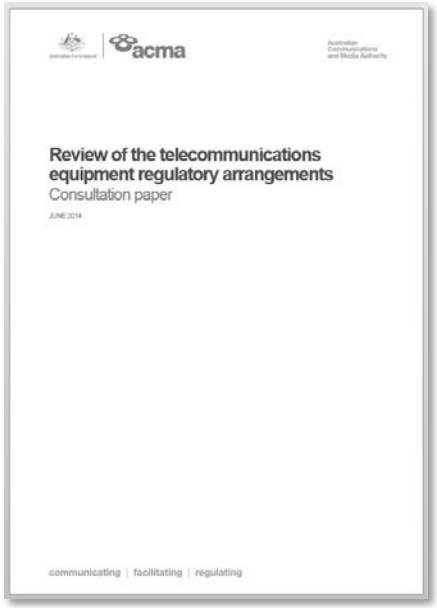
- End-user equipment regulated according to following categories
  - Radiocommunications transmitters
  - Electromagnetic energy (or electromagnetic radiation)
  - Electromagnetic compatibility (non-intentional emissions)
  - Telecommunications customer equipment and customer cabling
  - Broadcasting receivers

Significant issues

- Changes in technology
  - rate of change
  - equipment capability (e.g. after-market applications)
  - distinction between equipment and service
  - Resilience of equipment (e.g. Radiocommunications transmitters)
- Changes in supply market
  - Internet supply
  - Drop-shipping

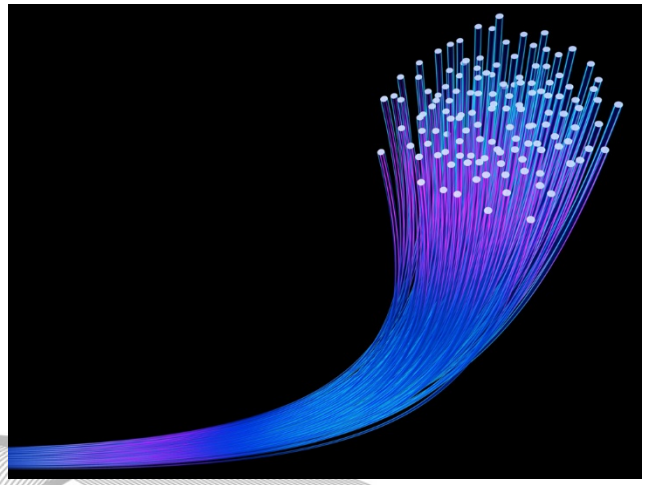
Recent regulatory developments

- Revised arrangements for supply of telecommunications customer equipment (due for implementation in 4Q 2014)
  - Greater flexibility for suppliers to rely on overseas compliance documentation
  - Simplified document
  - Reduce burden on suppliers
- Updated arrangements for EME and radiocommunications transmitters



NBN issues

- Compatibility of legacy equipment with fibre-optic networks
- Facilitating supply of VDSL2 equipment (fibre-to-the-node)
- VoIP equipment



- Implications of multi-technology mix, including:
  - Open access to HFC networks
  - Technical requirements for VDSL2 services