

## UK SPECTRUM MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK REVISED

### OVERVIEW OF THE PROPOSED STEPS IN 2004-2005

Ofcom has announced its intention to revise its spectrum management framework to be compatible with an approach that promotes greater freedom for spectrum users. Companies and individuals holding licences to operate wireless transmission services would be allowed to buy and sell their rights in an open market. In summary, the proposition focuses on trading mechanisms, liberalization of use, access, and innovation. This will be achieved in accordance with the following schedule:

- 1) **August 2004:** Publication of the statement on spectrum trading.
- 2) **September 2004:** Publication of detailed consultation on spectrum liberalization. This will set out proposals for removing unnecessary restrictions on licences, so that licensees can change the use of spectrum.
- 3) **September 2004:** Publication of draft spectrum trading regulations governing the manner in which the new spectrum trading market must operate, together with details of the proposed Ofcom Spectrum Registry and a statement on Ofcom's approach to ensuring effective competition in the spectrum market.
- 4) **November 2004:** Publication of Ofcom's proposed Spectrum Framework Review.
- 5) **December 2004:** Publication of a draft roadmap on the approach to mobile and wireless broadband services.
- 6) **December 2004:** Launch of spectrum trading and liberalization for specific licence classes (analogue public-access mobile radio, national paging, data networks, national and regional private business radio, common base stations, fixed wireless access, scanning telemetry, fixed terrestrial links)
- 7) **From 2005:** Addition of tradeable licence classes and liberalization of restrictions on change of use.

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Adapted from: Office of Communications (OFCOM),

([http://www.ofcom.org.uk/media\\_office/latest\\_news/nr\\_20040806](http://www.ofcom.org.uk/media_office/latest_news/nr_20040806)) (6 August 2004)