



*Radiocommunication Bureau*  
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Circular Letter  
CR/227

1 December 2004

## To Administrations of Member States of the ITU

**Subject:** Migration of the BR International Frequency Information Circular (BR IFIC) for Terrestrial Services from CD-ROM to DVD-ROM format

### To the Director-General

Dear Sir, Madam,

1. In accordance with the decisions of the World Radiocommunication Conference, Geneva, 1997 (WRC-97), the Bureau introduced the CD-ROM format for the consolidated BR publication "International Frequency Information Circular (BR IFIC)", which is published once every two weeks by the Radiocommunication Bureau, pursuant to the Radio Regulations (Nos. **20.1** to **20.6** and No. **20.15**) and various Regional Agreements.
2. With respect to the terrestrial services, this publication is referred to as BR IFIC (Terrestrial Services) and it contains the following information that is relevant for frequency management purposes:
  - the complete and up-to-date International Frequency List, in Access database format;
  - the complete and up-to-date versions of terrestrial frequency assignments/allotment Plans, in Access database format;
  - particulars of notices in process, under the provisions of the procedures of Articles 9 and 11 of the Radio Regulations;
  - particulars of notices in process, under the provisions of the various regional Agreements.

The BR IFIC also incorporates the latest version of the inquiry software **TerRaQ**, the software program **TerRaNV**, used to validate electronic notice files generated by the notifying Administrations, and the latest version of the **Preface**. The software package **TerRaQ** allows the query, display, printing and exporting of the data and in particular, administrations can identify easily and extract to file particulars of assignments which are included in the latest publication (Parts I, II and III) and the associated Special Sections (Parts A, B and C).

3. Due to the substantive volume of information included in the CD-ROM, the relevant information is compressed and therefore, for subsequent use, the users need a minimum of 3.5 gigabytes of disk space reserved for this publication. Such a requirement, together with the relatively lengthy installation process (usually 20 - 30 minutes for the installation of each BR IFIC), represents an inherent constraint for some users.
4. In view of the technological progress with the publication formats, the Bureau investigated the possibility of introducing the DVD-ROM format as an additional format for this publication. With Circular Letter CR/189 of 6 December 2002 the Member States and other subscribers of this publication were informed on the possibility of introducing the DVD-ROM format, as from 8 April 2003, for the publication "BR IFIC (Terrestrial Services)". With the same circular letter, the Bureau elaborated the advantages of the new format. The Bureau also indicated that such an option would be provided if a sufficient number of subscribers demonstrated an interest for this new format. This possibility was also announced with the associated publication notice (No. 282-03 of 19 December 2002). However, due to the limited interest of the Member States on this additional format, the Bureau had to postpone the introduction of this format. The membership was informed accordingly (see Addendum 1 to Circular Letter CR/189 of 28 March 2003). In this respect the Bureau indicated that the matter would be reconsidered if and when the conditions change.
5. In the last 12 months the Bureau has received queries from several Member States as to when the BR will offer this new format, given the increased availability of DVD readers, and indicated that they would be interested in the new format. Based on these indications and on the developments in the PC platforms, the Bureau considers that the conditions for migration towards the DVD-ROM format are now met and therefore it has decided to introduce the new format as from 1 April 2005. In the initial period (1 April – 30 September 2005) the administrations of the Member States and the other subscribers of the BR IFIC (Terrestrial Services) will receive this publication in two formats (CD-ROM and DVD-ROM), which will enable them to familiarize with the new format and to adapt their platforms to the new format, if necessary. As from 1 October 2005, the publication BR IFIC (Terrestrial Services) will be available in the DVD-ROM format only.
6. The Bureau takes this opportunity to summarize the advantages of the DVD-ROM format insofar as the publication BR IFIC (Terrestrial Services) is concerned:
  - 6.1 When using the DVD-ROM format the subscriber has the possibility of consulting the BR IFIC directly from the DVD-ROM, without the necessity of installing some 3.5 gigabytes of data on the hard disk and without undergoing the relatively lengthy installation procedure of unzipping the compressed files.
  - 6.2 For the use of the DVD-ROM format, the subscriber would need the same software as required for the CD-ROM format (a personal computer running on Windows NT, Windows 2000, Windows XP, or higher, with Microsoft Access Version 2000 or higher), as well as a DVD-ROM reader. Irrespective of the format, this publication requires a minimum of 24 megabytes of memory (RAM), with 32 megabytes recommended. A minimum of 3.5 gigabytes of disk space is required for CD-ROM publication (or DVD-ROM publication with the data copied on the hard disk). For DVD-ROM publication with the data kept on the DVD-ROM only about 400 megabytes of disk space is required. Although it will work properly with a VGA monitor, the software associated with this publication provides for detailed graphics (such as maps showing the locations of selected assignments), and obtaining the full benefit of these detailed graphics will require a monitor with higher resolution.
7. As far as the publication of the BR IFIC (Space Services) is concerned, the Bureau wishes to indicate that the current publication format (CD-ROM) could cope with the current volume of

information on this publication, as well as with the anticipated volume in the foreseeable future. As there is no urgency in migrating this publication towards DVD-ROM, it will continue to be published in CD-ROM format. Given the fact that platforms equipped with DVD readers could also read CD-ROM formats, the subscribers to the consolidated publication would have no difficulties in reading the consolidated publication (Terrestrial and Space Services). On the other hand, the subscribers who opted only for the BR IFIC (Space Services) could continue to use this publication with no changes in their platforms.

8. Further information on this subject is available from the following contacts:

- Queries concerning the data published in the BR IFIC (Terrestrial Services): Mr. A. Méndez, phone +41 22 730 5574, fax +41 22 730 5785, e-mail: [brmail@itu.int](mailto:brmail@itu.int).
- Specific queries concerning BR IFIC on DVD-ROM format and associated hardware and software requirements: Mr. J. Boursy, phone: +41 22 730 5952, fax: +41 22 730 5785, e-mail [terrasofthelp@itu.int](mailto:terrasofthelp@itu.int).

Yours faithfully,

V. Timofeev  
Director, Radiocommunication Bureau

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