INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION

Radiocommunication Bureau
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Circular Letter	22 October 2012
CR/338	

To Administrations of Member States of the ITU

Subject: Submission of Appendix 4 information for space services to the
Radiocommunication Bureau and the update of related BR space software and
databases

Reference: Appendix 4 of the Radio Regulations as revised by WRC-12 (Geneva, 2012)

To the Director-General

Dear Sir/Madam,

1   Introduction

1.1   The World Radiocommunication Conference (Geneva, 2012) (WRC-12) revised
Appendix 4 of the Radio Regulations, with application as from 1 January 2013.

1.2   The Radiocommunication Bureau is pleased to inform your Administration that a
restructured Space Network System database version 7.0 (SNS 7.0) and an accompanying software
package of updated electronic notification software applications (Space Applications Manager
(SAM), capture (SpaceCap), query (SpaceQry), conversion (SRSConvert6to7), publication
(SpacePub) and validation (SpaceVal)) of BRsoft version 7.0 (BRsoft 7.0), fully reflecting all the
modifications and additions made by WRC-12 to Appendix 4, will be available soon in
November 2012 for testing (for more information see paragraph 2.5 below)

1.3   <u>As from 1 January 2013, administrations are required to use the new BRsoft 7.0 when
submitting space service notices</u> to the Bureau under Articles **9** and **11** and Appendices **30**, **30A** and
30B of the Radio Regulations.

1.4   The purpose of this Circular Letter is to provide users with information and guidance on
BRsoft 7.0 relating to space services.

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2 Description

2.1 The new version of the SpaceCap 7.0 software application includes all new and modified Appendix 4 data items as revised by WRC-12. It will enable administrations to submit all notices to the Bureau under Articles **9** and **11** and Appendices **30**, **30A** and **30B** and Resolutions **49 (Rev. WRC-12)** and **552 (WRC-12)**, in application of the procedures of the Radio Regulations in force relating to space services.

2.2 The new validation software application SpaceVal 7.0 carries out checks on the Appendix 4 data as revised by WRC-12. It can be used in stand-alone mode to validate any relevant electronic Appendix 4 filing that is in the SNS 7.0 MS-Access database format, or in online mode using SpaceCap software application (version 7.0 or later). The results of the validation may be viewed and printed using the Bureau's SpaceQry, SpacePub or SpaceCap software applications (version 7.0 or later).

2.3 Administrations not using BRsoft to prepare their filings should ensure that the resulting database conforms to the format published in SECTION III, Chapter 1 of the Preface (Space services). Electronic notices submitted to the Bureau that receive a fatal error from SpaceVal as a result of non-conformity to the SNS 7.0 structure will be returned to the notifying administration.

2.4 As noted in § 3.4 of the Rules of Procedure on receivability, administrations are encouraged to run the validation software (SpaceVal 7.0) themselves prior to submitting electronic Appendix 4 notices to the Bureau in order to identify and overcome any difficulties in the notices before they are submitted.

2.5 BRsoft 7.0 including SpaceCom, Space Plans System (SPS) and the Graphical Interface for Batch Calculations (GIBC) compatible with SNS 7.0 will be available in November to administrations and other users for testing purposes from the ITU website: http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/go/space-software/en and on the BR IFIC (space services) on DVD.

2.6 As from 1 January 2013, administrations are requested to use the new BRsoft 7.0 when submitting to the Bureau Appendix 4 notices to the Bureau under Articles **9** and **11** and Appendices **30**, **30A** and **30B** and information under Resolutions **49 (Rev. WRC-12)** and **552 (WRC-12)**. As from that date, SpaceVal 7.0 or a subsequent version will be the validation software used by the Bureau when assessing the completeness of Appendix 4 notices. Before submitting such notices to the Bureau as of that date, administrations are encouraged to run SpaceVal 7.0 or as subsequent version in order to identify and overcome any difficulties in the notices.

2.7 In the covering letter for submission of Appendix 4 data to the Bureau, administrations are kindly requested to report to the Bureau any difficulties encountered in the use of the SpaceVal software, particularly when it concerns any unresolved "*Fatal*" error messages in the validation report.

2.8 The Bureau is adjusting its internal procedures and software in order to publish Special Sections and other filings on the BR IFIC (space services) on DVD in SNS 7.0 format. With implementation, as from and including BR IFIC (space services) 2735/08.01.2013, the IFICXXXX.mdb. SPS_ALL_IFICXXXX.mdb and 30B_XXXX.mdb will be made available in SNS 7.0 format.

2.9 The Bureau recognizes the potential practical drawbacks for administrations using SpaceCap 7.0 and SpaceVal 7.0 software applications in SNS 7.0 format when submitting notices to the Bureau while at the same time querying and printing Special Sections and data from the BR IFIC (space services) in SNS 6.0 format. To facilitate matters, administrations are advised to use the BRsoft conversion tool SRSConvert6to7. This SNS database conversion program is a software utility which allows the user to convert the data contained in an existing SNS 6.0 database

into the new version SNS 7.0 format. This conversion is valid for any SNS 6.0 database produced by the SpaceQry, or SpaceCap software packages, as well as the SRS database (SRSxxxx.mdb) and Space IFIC databases (IFICxxxx.mdb, SPS_ALL_IFICxxxx.mdb and 30B_XXXX.mdb) supplied by the Bureau.

2.10   Administrations may keep both the BRsoft 6.0 and BRsoft 7.0 electronic notification software applications for the purpose of updating their local databases and for querying and printing the information published on the BR IFIC (space services) on DVD until it is changed to "full" SNS 7.0 format. Version 6.0 and version 7.0 of SAM, SpaceCap, SpacePub, SpaceVal and SpaceCom may co-exist on the same pc without any interference. It should be noted that the SpaceQry 7.0 software replaces SpaceQry 6.0 and although intended for use with version 7.0 databases, will still read and perform most queries on version 6 databases. However, it should also be noted that SPS 7.0 and GIBC 9.0 software package replaces SPS 6.0 and GIBC 8.0 respectively and only work with version 7.0 databases.

2.11   Subsequently, when using SpaceCom to comment on a BR IFIC version 6 database the administration has the option of continuing to use SpaceCom 6.0 to prepare its comments or alternatively to convert the BR IFIC version 6.0 database to a version 7.0 database and then use SpaceCom 7.0 to prepare its comments.

2.12   Administrations are reminded that the Bureau maintains an up-to-date support website with useful information and "Frequently Asked Questions" in order to assist users in successfully validating their notices, at http://www.itu.int/ITU-R/go/space-support/en.

2.13   Administrations are also reminded that the Bureau will continue to accept the submission of graphical data in GIMS GXT files up to 31 December 2012. After that date only GIMS mdb format diagrams shall be receivable (for more information see BR Circular Letter CR/337 dated 10 September 2012 at: http://www.itu.int/md/R00-CR-CIR-0337/en).

2.14   The Bureau is available to assist administrations in submitting Appendix 4 notices. Queries of a general nature relating to submissions and validation rules may be addressed to the ITU contact person, Mr. Attila Matas, telephone: +41 22 730 6105, fax: +41 22 730 57 85, e-mail: matas@itu.int.

Queries relating to the software's installation and functionality may be addressed to the ITU contact person, Mrs Barbara Warren, telephone: +41 22 730 5789, fax: +41 22 730 57 85, e-mail: barbara.warren@itu.int.

Yours faithfully,

François Rancy
Director, Radiocommunication Bureau

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