



Radiocommunication Bureau (BR)

Circular Letter
CR/453

29 November 2019

To the Administrations of ITU Member States and ITU-R Sector Members

Subject: **Use of active and passive sensor class of station symbols E1, E2, E3 and E4**

Reference: a) Preface to the BR IFIC Space services
b) Circular Letter CR/137 dated 14 February 2000
c) Circular Letter CR/256 dated 15 May 2006

The circular letter [CR/256](#) dated 15 May 2006 provided information and guidance to administrations on the use of the class of station symbols that applies to active and passive sensors in the Earth Exploration-Satellite Service (EESS) and the Space Research Service (SRS). In the letter, administrations were also invited to use these class of station symbols when submitting to the Bureau notices with active and passive sensor applications.

These class of station symbols E1, E2, E3 and E4, as defined in the Preface to the BR IFIC (Space Services), were created in response to a request from the scientific and research community in the framework of ITU-R Study Group 7. As such, active and passive sensors can be distinguishable from other EESS/SRS applications in advance publication information (API) and notification information.

By this circular letter, the Bureau is pleased to inform administrations that, when carrying out examination under No. **11.31** in frequency bands allocated specifically to the EESS/SRS (active/passive), satellite networks filed using a class of station related to EESS or SRS but not limited to active or passive sensors use (e.g. EH, EW) will no longer be considered as in compliance with the table of frequency allocation.

In frequency bands allocated to EESS/SRS (active/passive), only appropriate active and passive sensors classes of station (E1, E2, E3 and E4) will be considered as compliant with the table of frequency allocation and will receive a favorable finding under No. **11.31**. In this regard, the assignments used for calibration of active sensor signals in these frequency bands and operating with an associated earth station should instead be notified using class of station EH or EW and accompanied by a request for recording under the conditions of No. **4.4**.

The annex to this circular letter summarizes the possible class of stations symbols that have to be associated with the various EESS/SRS sub-categories in order to receive a favorable finding under No. **11.31**. Administrations are however reminded that the class of stations symbols have to be selected in conformity with the actual operations of the frequency assignments.

Administrations are encouraged to submit modifications of assignments currently recorded in the Master International Frequency Register for active and passive sensor applications under class of station EW or EH to E1, E2, E3 and E4, as appropriate. Since this type of modifications will not lead to any potential increase of interference caused by the modified assignments or of protection requirements of these assignments, their date of protection will remain unchanged as a result of the modification.

Moreover, as this type of modifications does not entail detailed regulatory or technical examination by the Bureau, such requests will not be subject to cost recovery.

The Bureau remains at your Administration's disposal, via the brmail@itu.int address, for any clarification you may require in relation to this circular letter.



Mario Maniewicz
Director

Annex (1 page)

Distribution:

- Administrations of ITU Member States
- Members of the Radio Regulations Board
- ITU-R Sector Members

ANNEX

Class of stations symbols to be associated with the various EESS/SRS sub-categories

(Valid from the date of this circular letter)

Article 5 Allocation	Class of stations
Earth exploration-satellite without indication of direction of transmission	E3, E4, EM, EW (ED, EK, ER)
Earth exploration-satellite (Earth-to-space)	EM, EW (ED, EK)
Earth exploration-satellite (space-to-Earth)	EM, EW (EK, ER)
Earth exploration-satellite (space-to-space)	EM, EW (ED, EK, ER)
Earth exploration-satellite (passive)	E4
Earth exploration-satellite (active)	E3
Meteorological-satellite	EM (ED, EK, ER)
Space Research without indication of direction of transmission	E1, E2, EH (ED, EK, ER)
Space Research (Earth-to-space)	EH (ED, EK)
Space Research (space-to-Earth)	EH (EK, ER)
Space Research (space-to-space)	EH (ED, EK, ER)
Space Research(passive)	E2
Space Research(active)	E1