



EU Market surveillance in the field of radio and telecommunication equipment according the R&TTE Directive (Directive 1999/05/EC)



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Introduction

- ADCO R&TTE group is the administrative cooperation group of under the R&TTED;
- Membership is open to market surveillance authorities (MSA), EU Commission and ECO;
- It stimulates:
 - the exchange of information between MSA;
 - Best practices in the field of market surveillance;
 - a harmonised common approach in the market surveillance;
- It liaises with other relevant bodies (TCAM, ECO, R&TTECA, EMC ADCO, ETSI, ...)
- 3 plenary meetings a year



New Legislative Framework (NLF)

- The [New Legislative Framework](#) (adopted in 2008) improves the internal market for goods.
- It includes provisions related to Market Surveillance, especially in the [Regulation \(EC\) 765/2008](#)
- Market surveillance has to ensure :
 - that only compliant products will be placed on the market and do not endanger consumers and workers, or the protection of other public interests;
 - a fair competition between market players.



Regulation (EC) 765/2008

- This regulation sets out requirements for market surveillance relating to the marketing of products:
 - sets out clear obligations for EU countries to carry out market surveillance and to prohibit or restrict the marketing of dangerous or non-compliant products;
 - provides market surveillance authorities the powers to obtain all necessary documentation from manufacturers to evaluate product conformity, to enter manufacturers' premises and take samples for testing, and in extreme cases to destroy products;
 - includes clear obligations for EU countries to ensure cooperation at national and international level.



6th cross-border R&TTE market surveillance campaign on Mobile Phone Repeaters (2014)



Background

In several countries, mobile phone repeaters used by private persons interfered with mobile phone networks, mainly because they were:

- installed and/or tuned wrongly;
- non compliant to the R&TTED
 - technically;
 - missing, misleading or incomplete information to the user.



Purpose of the campaign

- Target mobile phone repeaters available on the market for private persons, and
 - determine the compliance level against specific requirements (reference = applicable harmonised standards)
 - be used as discussion basis to determine if the current applicable harmonised standard should be completed
- Take appropriate actions against non compliant products
- Propose, depending on the results, further actions
- Improve cooperation and information exchange between MSA



Carrying out the campaign

- Timing
 - January 2014 - official start of the campaign,
 - January – June – activities of MSA
 - Adoption of the report at 48th ADCO R&TTE meeting
 - November - presentation of the report to TCAM WG
- 14 MSA participated to the campaign
- Assessments carried out:
 - 47 products checked:
 - 42 administrative
 - 41 technical



Additional test methodology from Finland

- The Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority (FICORA) carried out an additional test in order to assess the probability of interference, when the repeater is brought into oscillation.
- The tests were carried out in a shielded room.
- The test showed that even compliant repeaters could start to oscillate in certain circumstances:
 - measured output level of the oscillation up to 20dBm;
 - effects on the mobile phone network could be observed on distances of up to 19km.



Conclusions (1)

Assessed repeaters:

- 83% were manufactured in Far East countries;
- 86% are broadband;
- 83% amplify signals in the 900 MHz frequency band;
- were mostly placed on the market by Internet;
- had a too low compliance against checked elements:
 - overall : 2 of 31
 - administrative : 1 of 10
 - technically: 1 of 4
(Mainly intermodulation attenuation and out-of-band gain).



Conclusions (2)

- Mobile phone repeaters equipped with sophisticated features that avoid harmful interferences (e.g. automatic gain control, anti oscillation circuits, ...) had a higher compliance rate compared to those that did not had such functionalities.
- Selective repeaters showed a better compliance rate compared to broadband repeaters (100% for the 5 band selective repeaters against 16% for the 31 broadband repeaters)



Conclusions (3)

- Users are insufficiently informed on the precautions that should be taken (installation, maintenance and use) :
 - about 2 out of 3 had information on the risk of oscillation inside user manuals;
 - about 1 of 2 user manuals explained how to avoid oscillation;
 - about 1 out of 2 were provided with information for the user explaining the need for a license from an authorisation.



Conclusions (4)

- Manufacturers often used the CE-mark on non-compliant products.
- The current set of applicable harmonised standards for mobile phone repeaters is not fit for mobile phone repeaters for the mass market intended for installation and use by consumers.
- The popularity of repeaters could rise in the coming years because of better insulated/absorbed buildings and the popularity of smartphones.



Recommendations (1)

- MSA to continue to check such products and take all appropriate measures to ban non compliant products from the market.
- Cooperation between MSA and customs to be increased to stop non compliant products already at the border.
- Regulators to analyse the current regulations for the use of mobile phone repeaters by end users.
- Consumers should be educated in relation to the interference problems of repeaters.



Recommendations (2)

- New harmonised standards for mobile phone repeaters for the mass market that include specific features to avoid harmful interference should be developed by ETSI.
- Cooperation at national level between interference management and market surveillance authorities to be improved to detect rapidly non compliant products and to ban them from the market.



More information on campaigns

- [First Joint Cross Border R&TTE Market Surveillance Campaign on compliance with the administrative requirements of the R&TTE Directive \(performed in 2002-2003\)](#)
- [Second Joint Cross Border R&TTE Market Surveillance Campaign on Short Range Devices \(performed in 2005-2006\)](#)
- [Third Joint Cross Border R&TTE Market Surveillance Campaign on Private Mobile Radio \(PMR\) and 2.4 GHz products \(performed in 2008-2009\)](#)
- [Fourth Joint Cross Border R&TTE Market Surveillance Campaign on low power FM transmitter \(performed in 2009\)](#)
- [Bilateral campaign to assess the conformity of 39 Tablet PC conducted by The Market Surveillance Authorities \(MSA\) of Germany \(Bundesnetzagentur\) and the Netherlands \(Agentschap Telecom\) \(performed in March-July 2012\).](#)
- [Fifth Joint Cross Border R&TTE Market Surveillance Campaign on WLAN 5 GHz \(performed in 2013\)](#)
- [Report on the Sixth Joint Cross Border R&TTE Market Surveillance Campaign on mobile phone repeaters \(performed in 2014\)](#)



Future campaigns



7th Cross border market surveillance campaign

- Having completed the 6th cross border market surveillance campaign, ADCO R&TTE agreed to carry out a new campaign.
- Target of the campaign:
Remotely piloted aircraft system (RPAS)
- The 7th campaign was proposed for a EU founding, but due to the administrative work (filling in the grant and management of the campaign, especially the role of cashier), ADCO R&TTE will not take part.
- The 7th campaign will start in January and results should be presented in TCAM WG in November.



Possible future campaign

- FM Maritime Forum Group (ECC) is asking to have a campaign on AIS-SART equipment
- Basically such equipment is placed on the market under the Marine Equipment Directive
- AIS-SART equipment are currently also placed on the market under the R&TTE Directive
- FM Maritime Forum Group expressed some doubts about the compliance of these equipment.
- Issue under discussion and clarification



Other issues



ADCO R&TTE is also currently working on:

- Jammers
- Risk assessment in the field of radio and EMC
- Cooperation with customs
- eCommerce and fulfillment centers
- Cooperation with US and Canada





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