International Amateur Radio Union Region 1

Europe, Middle East, Africa and Northern Asia Founded 1950

General Conference, Davos, 11 to 16 September 2005

SUBJECT	Enlargement of DX Weak signal communication segment on 144 MHz		
Society	CRC	Country:	Czech Republic
Committee:	C5	Paper number:	Discussion paper
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Dear friends.

For discussion part of Davos Conference we are additionally submitting common proposal of Czech Radioclub and others on VHF bands active teams concerning the future of weak signal DX communication on the 2m amateur radio band.

We believe that the present 2m bandplan established at the conference in San Marino should be re-discussed, because the usage of different modes has rapidly changed within the last two years.

The usage of digital modes for DXing has been growing rapidly especially thanks to the famous WSJT software by K1JT. It is clear that the currently allocated DX segments for these services are not sufficient any more. On the other hand, due to the cheap and widely available Internet access, the band allocation for Packet Radio nodes is used to a smaller extent then before.

Based on these facts, we advise to establish a committee, which would consider the reallocation of different communication modes on the 144MHz amateur radio band from larger perspective and submit a new comprehensive bandplan for next IARU Reg I. VHF Interim Conference. This new allocation should respect the increasing weak signal DX digital Tropo, MS and EME communication and the decreasing needs of other type of communication in the 144 MHz band, particularly the Packet Radio node links.

We are convinced that we should manage our resources effectively and not keep several hundreds kHz almost unused, while the growing DX operation as well as the contest activity have serious problems with the very narrow DX segment, especially in Central Europe.
For example, due to the narrow band for the JT65b EME operation nobody observes the current digital service segment boundaries any more. Also the 400 kHz contest segment is unsufficient for the current activity.

In the table below you can see our proposal for the new 2m band allocation plan, which has gained more than 80 % support in the poll among Czech VHF enthusiastic operators.
We also believe, that the reconsideration of the 144 MHz band allocation plan can support the further growth of the activity on this band not only in Region I.

144 - 145 MHz band plan (OK1VPZ / OK2KKW proposal)			
Frequency [MHz]	**Maximum Bandwidth (-6dB)**	**Mode**	**Usage**
144.000 144.025	500 Hz	Telegraphy	EME CW exclusive
144.025 144.105	500 Hz	Telegraphy	144.050 Telegraphy calling 144.100 Random MS CW calling
144.105 144.130	500 Hz	Telegraphy, MGM (JT65 EME)	All narrowband DX modes
144.130 144.140	500 Hz	JT65 EME	JT65 EME exclusive
144.140 144.150	500 Hz	Telegraphy, MGM (JT65 EME, FAI)	PSK31,FAI & EME JT65 and Telegraphy activity
144.150 144.160	2700 Hz	Telegraphy, MGM, SSB (JT65 EME, FAI)	FAI & EME activity SSB
144.160 144.450	2700 Hz	SSB, Telegraphy	144.195 - 144.205 SSB MS calling 144.300 SSB calling - center of activity
144.450 144.495	2700 Hz	SSB, Telegraphy, MGM (FSK 441 MS)	144.470 FSK 441 MS random calling
144.500 144.795	20kHz	All mode	144.500 SSTV calling 144.525 ATV SSB calling 144.600 RTTY calling 144.630-144.690 linear transponders 144.700 Fax calling 144.750 ATV FM calling
144.795 144.895	12kHz	MGM	144.800 APRS 144.825 - 144.895 packet radio
144.900 144.995	500 Hz	Telegraphy, MGM	Beacons exclusive