

FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20554

APR 17 1991

IN REPLY REFER TO:

Mr. Robert Jones
Director General
Radio Regulatory Branch
Department of Communications
300 Slater Street
Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
K1A 0C8

Dear Mr. Jones:

Subject: Cross-border Roaming of Certain MSS/RDSS Mobiles

1. Purpose:

This letter is pursuant to the Department of Communications (DOC) - Federal Communications Commission (FCC) meeting in Ottawa on December 6, 1989. We are confirming the preliminary discussions concerning U.S. vehicles crossing the U.S./Canadian border into Canada with mobile radio equipment authorized for use with Qualcomm Inc. (Qualcomm) and Geostar Positioning Corporation (Geostar). These networks are currently authorized by the FCC.

2. Scope:

The arrangement described herein is intended to provide interim authority for the operation of Mobile Satellite Service (MSS) and Radiodetermination Satellite Service (RDSS) mobiles of one country while temporarily located in the other country, pending the development of a more formal exchange of letters encompassing such operation of mobiles for all U.S. and Canadian MSS and RDSS networks. Under this interim arrangement, it is expected that commercial arrangements will be developed between our respective MSS and RDSS operators cited above. Such commercial arrangements will, of course, be subject to the usual regulatory approval process of both countries. Notwithstanding anything in this arrangement, it is understood that the principles of the 1972 and 1982 Exchanges of Letters between our two countries regarding use of domestic satellite systems are maintained.

3. Overview of Authorized U.S. Networks:

Qualcomm is authorized to operate mobile units in the U.S. with an MSS system, on a secondary basis, in the 11.7-12.2 GHz and 14.0-14.5 GHz frequency

bands. Geostar is authorized to operate RDSS units in the U.S. in the 1610-1626.5 MHz and 2483.5-2500 MHz bands, and is also authorized to operate an interim RDSS downlink in the 3700-4200 MHz band.

4. Proposal:

It is our understanding that the DOC will allow mobile radio equipment, licensed by the FCC, in U.S. vehicles temporarily located in Canada, to operate via an MSS or RDSS network authorized to provide service in Canada. It is our further understanding that DOC will not require individual licensing of such radio units in these U.S. vehicles, recognizing that the FCC authorizes these operations under a blanket license.

Likewise, it is agreed that the FCC will allow the operation of mobile radio equipment authorized by the DOC, in Canadian vehicles temporarily located in the U.S., to operate via an MSS or RDSS network authorized to provide service in the U.S. It is further agreed that should the DOC adopt a blanket licensing scheme in the future, the FCC would not require individual licensing for such operation in the U.S.

This proposal pertains to the satellite networks identified in section 3 above. When other MSS or RDSS services are to be covered by the interim arrangement set out in this letter, and your reply letter, they will be dealt with by a further exchange of letters.

We believe that this reciprocal arrangement is consistent with the principles and purposes of the existing convention between the United States and Canada for operation of mobile radio stations, entitled: Convention Between the United States of America and Canada Relating to the Operation by Citizens of Either Country of Certain Radio Equipment in the Other Country, February 8, 1951, (3 U.S.T. 3788, Article II/Canadian Treaty Series 1952 No. 7).

If this proposal is acceptable, the arrangement proposed in this letter and your reply will take effect immediately thereafter, so as to facilitate the development of future commercial arrangements between the MSS and RDSS service providers in both countries.

Sincerely,



Richard M. Firestone
Chief, Common Carrier Bureau



Mr. Richard M. Firestone,
Chief, Common Carrier Bureau,
Federal Communications Commission,
1919 M St. N.W.
Washington D.C.
USA

Your file Votre référence

Our file Notre référence

DOSS 5010-3-8

7 May 1991

Dear Mr. Firestone:

Subject: Cross-border Roaming of Certain MSS/RDSS Mobiles

1. Purpose:

Thank you for your letter of 17 April 1991, regarding an interim arrangement under the Canada/ USA Treaty Series 7 (U.S.T. 3788), dated 8 February 1951, concerning licensing requirements for the cross-border roaming of mobiles operating with certain mobile satellite and radio-determination satellite networks. As you proposed in your letter, this letter will constitute our agreement to the interim arrangement, pending the development of a formal Exchange of Letters addressing all Canadian and U.S. MSS and RDSS networks.

2. Overview of Authorized Canadian Networks:

The Department has authorized the following networks to provide Geostar and Qualcomm-type services in Canada:

- SaTel, associated with Geostar Positioning Corp., is authorized to operate mobile units in the radio-determination satellite service (RDSS) initially through the US Geostar satellite using 1610-1626.5 MHz and 2483.5-2500 MHz bands, with temporary downlinks in the 3700-4200 MHz band, until the availability of suitable Canadian facilities; and

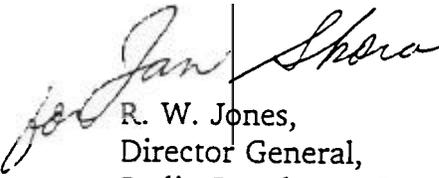
- Canadian Satellite Communications Inc. (Cancom), associated with Qualcomm Inc., is authorized to operate mobiles in the MSS in the 11.7-12.2 GHz and 14.0-14.5 GHz bands, initially using the US satellite until the availability of suitable Canadian facilities.

3. Agreement:

Pursuant to your letter and as an interim measure, it is agreed that the Department will respect the licensing of US mobiles operating with the networks identified in these letters, and will not require any additional licensing to allow their operation in Canada, in support of approved commercial arrangements reached between the respective US and Canadian MSS or RDSS operators. This action is in recognition of similar actions by the Commission as outlined in your letter.

In light of the above, on behalf of the Department, I concur with your proposal and agree that the provisions of these two letters shall come into effect immediately. Thank you for your collaboration on this matter, and should a problem arise in the implementation of this arrangement, please contact me at (613) 990-4817.

Yours sincerely,


R. W. Jones,
Director General,
Radio Regulatory Branch