

**Before the
FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
Washington, D.C. 20554**

In the Matter of

Petition for Rulemaking of the Wireless
Ethernet Compatibility Alliance To Permit
Unlicensed National Information Infrastructure
Devices To Operate in the 5.470-5.725 GHz
Band

RM-10371

To: The Commission

COMMENTS ON PROCEEDING RM-10371

I. INTRODUCTION

Compaq Computer Corporation “Compaq” hereby submits comments in the above captioned proceeding to encourage the Federal Communications Commission (“Commission” or “FCC”) to approve the Petition to allocate the 5.470-5.725 GHz band for use by radio local area network (“RLAN”) and other unlicensed service devices.

Compaq is a manufacturer of wireless LAN, PAN and WAN products, which is sold to customers both in the United States and in Europe. Currently, the wireless LAN product is capable of providing wireless transmissions at data rates of up to 11 Mbps. Provided that the Commission allocates additional spectrum in the 5 GHz band, however, Compaq would be able to increase the data transfer rates of the product to 54 Mbps and higher, also increased user density. The public would benefit from allocation of the additional spectrum because it would be able to utilize more fully the emerging resource intensive multi-media applications, as well as provide higher quality wireless services.

Moreover, if additional spectrum is allocated in the 5.470-5.725 band, Compaq would be able to produce wireless LAN product for distribution in both the domestic market and the European market without any modifications. Finally, Compaq anticipates that future revisions to wireless LAN product will allow the product to transfer data at even higher rates, but only if it is allowed to operate within a bandwidth that is greater than is now available.

We strongly believe action in accordance with the WECA petition would be in the public interest and ask the Commission to allocate the additional spectrum for use by RLAN and other wireless devices.

II. DISCUSSION

A. **Allocating additional spectrum is in the public interest due to increased competition in the wireless industry domestically and globally**

There is a wealth of information in the world. Access to this information requires a functional broadband infrastructure throughout the country, as envisioned by the Commission and the U.S. Congress. A substantial broadband infrastructure will facilitate new services, stimulate the economy, improve national productivity, improve educational opportunities, and advance economic opportunity for more Americans. The greater competition, and the new services, will benefit the public.

B. **Wireless LAN Product will require additional spectrum**

Wireless LAN Products have evolved considerably since 1980's. To ensure that it is competitive and standardized, we are considering implementations of the 802.11a standard for higher data transfer rates. Currently, 802.11a is limited to operate in smaller spectrum band, which imposes certain measures on its flexibility to mitigate the need for higher density and capacity, than HiperLAN standard in Europe. With the addition of 5.470-5.725 band 802.11a would be more capable system to compete and coexist with other wireless services.

C. **Allocating spectrum in the 5.470-5.725 band would allow Compaq to produce Wireless LAN 802.11a product for multiple markets without modification**

Compaq manufactures Wireless LAN product for the domestic market and for the European market. However, the products that are sold in Europe require certain modifications because they will operate in different spectrum bands, including the contemplated 5.470-5.725 GHz band. Thus, if the Commission grants the Petition for Rulemaking and allocates this additional band of spectrum for use by RLAN and other wireless devices, Compaq would be able to manufacture wireless LAN product for both markets without any modifications. This would allow Compaq to be more competitive domestically and internationally.

D. **The current rules for the 5.25-5.35 GHz band should be extended to the 5.470-5.725 GHz band.**

Compaq recommends that the rules for the 5.25-5.35 GHz band should be extended to the 5.470-5.725 GHz band so that wireless LAN products can best utilize the additional spectrum.

III. CONCLUSION

For the foregoing reasons, Compaq Computer Corporation respectfully requests the

Commission to grant the Petition for Rulemaking and to amend Part 15 of the rules, authorizing the use of the 5.470-5.725 GHz band by U-NII devices. The proposed rules should merely extend the current rules governing the operation of U-NII devices in the 5.25-5.35 GHz band to the newly authorized band.

Respectfully submitted,

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