

11. MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE EXPOSURE

FCC RULES

§1.1310 The criteria listed in Table 1 shall be used to evaluate the environmental impact of human exposure to radio-frequency (RF) radiation as specified in §1.1307(b), except in the case of portable devices which shall be evaluated according to the provisions of §2.1093 of this chapter.

TABLE 1—LIMITS FOR MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE EXPOSURE (MPE)

Frequency range (MHz)	Electric field strength (V/m)	Magnetic field strength (A/m)	Power density (mW/cm ²)	Averaging time (minutes)
(A) Limits for Occupational/Controlled Exposures				
0.3–3.0	614	1.63	*(100)	6
3.0–30	1842/f	4.89/f	*(900/f ²)	6
30–300	61.4	0.163	1.0	6
300–1500			f/300	6
1500–100,000			5	6
(B) Limits for General Population/Uncontrolled Exposure				
0.3–1.34	614	1.63	*(100)	30
1.34–30	824/f	2.19/f	*(180/f ²)	30

TABLE 1—LIMITS FOR MAXIMUM PERMISSIBLE EXPOSURE (MPE)—Continued

Frequency range (MHz)	Electric field strength (V/m)	Magnetic field strength (A/m)	Power density (mW/cm ²)	Averaging time (minutes)
30–300	27.5	0.073	0.2	30
300–1500			f/1500	30
1500–100,000			1.0	30

f = frequency in MHz

* = Plane-wave equivalent power density

NOTE 1 TO TABLE 1: Occupational/controlled limits apply in situations in which persons are exposed as a consequence of their employment provided those persons are fully aware of the potential for exposure and can exercise control over their exposure. Limits for occupational/controlled exposure also apply in situations when an individual is transient through a location where occupational/controlled limits apply provided he or she is made aware of the potential for exposure.

NOTE 2 TO TABLE 1: General population/uncontrolled exposures apply in situations in which the general public may be exposed, or in which persons that are exposed as a consequence of their employment may not be fully aware of the potential for exposure or can not exercise control over their exposure.

IC RULES

IC Safety Code 6, Section 2.2.1 (a) A person other than an RF and microwave exposed worker shall not be exposed to electromagnetic radiation in a frequency band listed in Column 1 of Table 5, if the field strength exceeds the value given in Column 2 or 3 of Table 5, when averaged spatially and over time, or if the power density exceeds the value given in Column 4 of Table 5, when averaged spatially and over time.

Table 5
Exposure Limits for Persons Not Classed As RF and Microwave Exposed Workers (Including the General Public)

1 Frequency (MHz)	2 Electric Field Strength; rms (V/m)	3 Magnetic Field Strength; rms (A/m)	4 Power Density (W/m ²)	5 Averaging Time (min)
0.003–1	280	2.19		6
1–10	$280/f$	$2.19/f$		6
10–30	28	$2.19/f$		6
30–300	28	0.073	2*	6
300–1 500	$1.585f^{0.5}$	$0.0042f^{0.5}$	$f/150$	6
1 500–15 000	61.4	0.163	10	6
15 000–150 000	61.4	0.163	10	$616\,000/f^{1.2}$
150 000–300 000	$0.158f^{0.5}$	$4.21 \times 10^{-4}f^{0.5}$	$6.67 \times 10^{-5}f$	$616\,000/f^{1.2}$

* Power density limit is applicable at frequencies greater than 100 MHz.

Notes: 1. Frequency, f , is in MHz.
2. A power density of 10 W/m² is equivalent to 1 mW/cm².
3. A magnetic field strength of 1 A/m corresponds to 1.257 microtesla (μT) or 12.57 milligauss (mG).

EQUATIONS

Power density is given by:

$$S = \text{EIRP} / (4 * \text{Pi} * D^2)$$

where

S = Power density in W/m²

EIRP = Equivalent Isotropic Radiated Power in W

D = Separation distance in m

Power density in units of W/m² is converted to units of mW/cm² by dividing by 10.

Distance is given by:

$$D = \text{SQRT} (\text{EIRP} / (4 * \text{Pi} * S))$$

where

D = Separation distance in m

EIRP = Equivalent Isotropic Radiated Power in W

S = Power density in W/m²

In the table(s) below, Power and Gain are entered in units of dBm and dBi respectively and conversions to linear forms are used for the calculations.

LIMITS

From FCC §1.1310 Table 1 (B), the maximum value of S = 1.0 mW/cm²

From IC Safety Code 6, Section 2.2 Table 5 Column 4, S = 10 W/m²

RSS-102 Clause 2.5.2 RF exposure evaluation is required if the separation distance between the user and the device's radiating element is greater than 20 cm, except when the device operates as follows:

- below 1.5 GHz and the maximum e.i.r.p. of the device is equal to or less than 2.5 W;
- at or above 1.5 GHz and the maximum e.i.r.p. of the device is equal to or less than 5 W.

RESULTS

Band	Mode	Separation Distance (cm)	Output Power (dBm)	Antenna Gain (dBi)	Duty Cycle (%)	Source Based EIRP (mW)	FCC Power Density (mW/cm ²)	IC Power Density (W/m ²)
2.4 GHz	WLAN	20	17.1	4.0	100	129.1	0.03	0.257
5 GHz	WLAN	20	18.4	6.0	100	272.9	0.05	0.543

The device operates above 1.5 GHz with a maximum EIRP less than or equal to 5 Watts as a mobile device with a minimum separation distance of 20 cm, therefore it is exempt from routine RF Exposure Evaluation under RSS-102.