



Final Document

Framework for the Authorisation of Amateur Radio Services

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1 Introduction

1.1 Relevant Legislation

The Authority is empowered by the provisions of the Telecommunications Act (2001), namely section 36(1), to licence any radio communication service and/or radio transmitting equipment, which states:

No person shall-

- (a) establish, operate or use a radio-communication service;*
- (b) install, operate or use any radiotransmitting equipment; or*
- (c) establish, operate or use any radio-communication service on board any ship, aircraft, or other vessel in the territorial waters or territorial airspace of Trinidad and Tobago, other than a ship of war or a military aircraft or satellite registered in Trinidad and Tobago*

without a licence granted by the Authority

Section 27 (2) of the recommended Radio Spectrum Regulations published by the Authority in 2005, states, inter alia:

(2) An applicant for an Amateur Station Licence shall, unless exempted by the Authority –

- (a) have passed the Radio Amateur Examination set by the Authority or any other Body recognised by the Authority for this purpose; or*
- (b) be in possession of an Amateur Radio Certificate acceptable to the Authority*
- (c) must, in order to qualify for a general licence, provide evidence of proficiency in sending and receiving of Morse code at 13 words per minute.*

1.2 Framework Objectives

The primary objectives of this framework are to:

- provide an effective regulatory framework for the licensing of Amateur Radio Services (ARS) in Trinidad and Tobago;
- stipulate the requirements for ARS applicants to be certified;
- ensure allocation of call-signs in an efficient, effective and transparent manner and consistent with the ITU recommendations;
- align the country's policy on ARS with international requirements, obligations and recommendations.

1.3 Review Cycle

This framework will be modified as deemed necessary by the Authority in order to adapt to the needs of the amateur radio industry and to meet changing circumstances and international trends/ standards. When the need for modification is identified, the Authority will announce its intention to review the document.

Questions or concerns regarding the maintenance of this document may be directed to the Authority via email at policy@tatt.org.tt.

1.4 The Consultation Process

In June 2006, the Authority sought the views and opinions of the general public and key stakeholders regarding the proposals made in the first draft of this document in accordance with the Authority's *Procedures for Consultations in the Telecommunications Sector of Trinidad and Tobago*. The consultation took place over a period of four (4) weeks. A Decisions on Recommendations (DOR) matrix (Annex A) was developed which summarizes the Authority's response to all of the comments and recommendations received in the first round of consultation.

In March 2008, the Authority sought the views and opinions of the general public and key stakeholders in a second round of consultation. The consultation took place over a period of four (4) weeks.

This final document takes into consideration the feedback received from the second round of consultation. Annex B summarises the Authority's decisions in relation to the comments and recommendations received from the second round of consultation in the form of a Decisions on Recommendations (DOR) matrix.

The consultation process adopted by the Authority in finalizing this Framework for the Authorisation of Amateur Radio Services was in accordance with the Authority's *Procedure for Consultation in the Telecommunications Sector of Trinidad and Tobago*.

1.5 Other Relevant Documentation

The licensing of Amateur Radio Services is consistent with other policies, plans and regulations prepared by the Authority including the following:-

- Framework for the Authorization of Telecommunications Networks and Services and Broadcasting Services in Trinidad and Tobago
- Recommendations for Radio Spectrum Regulations
- National Frequency Allocation Table
- Recommendations for a Spectrum Management Policy

1.6 Definitions

“Amateur Radio Operator” or “Radio Amateur” means a person who is duly qualified and licensed to use an Amateur Station.

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“Amateur Service” means a radiocommunication service for the purpose of self-training, interconnection and technical investigations carried out by amateurs, that is, by duly authorized persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest (ITU rr. 53)

“Amateur Station” means a station in the Amateur Service.

2 Background

Internationally, amateur radio operators have been allocated radio spectrum in various frequency bands to undertake non-commercial radiocommunications activity including experimental work. Many of the frequency allocations are on a secondary basis and may be shared with other users.

Amateur radio and Amateur-satellite are fully recognized radiocommunication services defined in the Radio Regulations of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The Amateur service is the oldest radio service and pre-dates regulation of radiocommunications.

The benefits of amateur radio include fostering technical radio skills that may be of subsequent value to the commercial or state sectors, as well as having a potential emergency response role.

Today, the Amateur service retains relatively narrow bands within the radio spectrum from 1.8 MHz through 250 GHz. These bands provide the whole range of radio wave propagation characteristics and, through experimentation, amateurs have greatly contributed to the understanding of propagation, high frequency single sideband radio, HF data communication systems, packet radio protocols and communication satellite design.

Amateur Radio continues to play an important and internationally-recognised role in disaster communications. It has a unique ability to provide radiocommunications independent of the telephone network or other radio services particularly in the first few days before relief agencies are at the scene and have set up disaster telecommunications services.

The amateur and amateur satellite services include self-training as an important purpose. This includes training of young people in radiocommunications. Radio amateurs have the

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opportunity of planning, designing, building, operating and maintaining a complete radio station which contributes to the telecommunications human resource of the country.

Today there are approximately three (3) million Amateur stations in operation worldwide. There are about twenty-five (25) Amateur Radio Satellites in orbit with an Amateur Radio Repeater and digital radio station in operation on board the International Space Station (ISS).

In Trinidad and Tobago there are approximately four hundred (400) Amateur Radio Operators who were previously licensed under the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance (WTO).

The Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago under this framework, is seeking to properly licence the amateur radio operators under the Telecommunications Act 2001, as amended in 2004.

3 Amateur Radio Services Regime in Trinidad and Tobago prior to the Telecommunications Act 2001

Prior to the proclamation of the Telecommunications Act on 30th June 2004, the applicable legal instrument for the licensing of radiocommunication equipment was the *Wireless and Telegraphy Ordinance* (WTO) of 1936.

Under the WTO, a licence was required for the use of any ‘wireless apparatus’ and as such, the licensing framework was driven by the equipment or “apparatus” used in the provision of the radiocommunication service.

The regulatory function was performed under the Ministry responsible for Telecommunications and licences were granted by the Minister.

3.1 Procedures under the previous regime

Under the Wireless Telegraphy Ordinance (WTO) **one** type of Amateur Radio Services licence was issued. This licence was called a Wireless Experimental Licence and was granted to Amateur Radio Operators in Trinidad & Tobago. It was renewable annually on the anniversary date of the licence.

The following criteria were used under the WTO for the certification of Amateur Radio Operators in Trinidad and Tobago:

- (1) Nationals or Residents holding City & Guilds Certificate for the Radio Amateurs Examination.
- (2) Nationals or Residents completing Morse Code Examination at a minimum of thirteen (13) words per minute. This examination was conducted by the then Telecommunications Division under the relevant Ministry in Trinidad and Tobago.

A person successfully completing the criteria at (1) and (2) above were granted a Wireless Experimental (Amateur Radio) licence. These applicants were issued call-signs with the prefix '9Y4'.

In 1990 another licence was introduced under the WTO called an Amateur Radio Grade 2 Licence. This was issued to applicants with the City & Guilds Certificate in Radio Amateurs Examination only, that is to say, these persons only satisfied (1) above and did not do a Morse code examination. Successful applicants were issued call-signs with the prefix '9Z4'.

Additionally, persons with other suitable qualifications which satisfied the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) recommendations for the issue of Amateur Radio Operator Licences were also eligible for licences. These persons were examined individually and included telecommunication or electronic engineers with a minimum of five years experience in the operation of transmitters.

3.2 Considerations

City & Guilds Institute of London, United Kingdom was the accepted and approved institution offering a Radio Amateur Examination and the accompanying certificate(s), which were required to qualify for an amateur licence in Trinidad and Tobago.

In 2004, the City and Guilds Institute discontinued the Radio Amateurs Examination. As a result, persons desirous of becoming amateur radio operators were no longer able to pursue the accepted and approved course of study to become amateur radio operators.

In the absence of the City and Guilds examination, the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB) introduced and now administers an examination for the certification of Radio Amateurs in the United Kingdom. This is done in conjunction with OFCOM (the regulator and competition authority for the UK communications industries) who together with the RSGB act as the certifying bodies for Radio Amateurs in the U.K.

In order to facilitate the other countries that relied on the City & Guilds examination, the RSGB also developed an international edition of their Radio Amateurs Examination with a syllabus equivalent to the former City & Guilds examination. This examination is currently conducted in Trinidad and Tobago.

In the United States the American Radio Relay League (ARRL) administers the Amateur Radio Examination and issues a certificate which is accepted by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) who is responsible for issuing Amateur Radio licences and call-signs. The ARRL also conducts these examinations in other countries once the relevant examiners are available in accordance with their regulations and requirement. These examinations are sometimes conducted in Trinidad and Tobago.

Due to the discontinuation of the City and Guilds Radio Amateurs Examination in Trinidad and Tobago, nationals and residents have sought, and taken, the RSGB or ARRL examination in an attempt to become amateur radio operators.

Consequently a number of persons holding amateur radio certificates from either the RSGB or ARRL have applied to the Authority seeking amateur radio licences.

4 New Framework for Amateur Radio Services in Trinidad & Tobago

The Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (TATT), as part of its mandate to liberalize and regulate the telecommunications sector, has begun the establishment of a regulatory framework that will be used to regulate the telecommunications industry, including Amateur Radio services.

The document [Recommendations for Radio Spectrum Regulations](#) which forms part of this regulatory framework categorically states that only Nationals and/ or residents of Trinidad and Tobago are eligible for an Amateur Radio Station/Operator Licence from the Authority. However, Reciprocal Amateur Radio Licences will be granted to foreign nationals who meet the Authority's requirements. This draft Framework for the Authorisation of Amateur Radio Services is consistent with these regulations and both documents together provide the complete set of requirements.

4.1 Types of Amateur Radio Service Licences

Based on Section 36 of the Telecommunications Act (2001), a licence is required to **operate** a radio communication system and a licence is also required to **install** any radiotransmitting equipment. Given the fact that not everyone who is qualified to operate amateur radiotransmitting equipment will necessarily own and /or install the equipment, two mutually exclusive types of licences will be necessary. These two licences can be granted in the form of one (1) licence document to facilitate a simplified process for Amateur applications and to allow Amateur Radio Operators to be covered in their licence should they acquire a station after their licence has been granted.

Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline

An Amateur Radio Operator/ Station Licence document will be issued which will incorporate two authorisations:

- (1) The **Operator Licence** which is required by those persons operating and using amateur radiotransmitting equipment only; and*
- (2) The **Station Licence** which is required by those persons who own and install amateur radiotransmitting equipment.*

4.2 Spectrum Allocations for Amateur Radio Services

Spectrum will be allocated for Amateur Radio licences in accordance with the Trinidad and Tobago Frequency Allocation Table (TTFAT). Any changes made to the allocation of bands for Amateur Services, will be reflected in the TTFAT and the relevant bands will be included in all licences issued. Spectrum allocated for Amateur Satellite operation will also be included in the licences.

Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline

Spectrum will be allocated for Amateur Radio Services in accordance with the Trinidad and Tobago Frequency Allocation Table (TTFAT).

4.3 International Amateur Radio Permit (IARP)

On June 8th 1995, the Inter-American Convention on an International Amateur Radio Permit was adopted. Trinidad and Tobago has agreed to *adhesion (AD)* of this convention which states the following in Article 1:

- 1. While reserving its sovereignty over the use of the radio spectrum within its jurisdiction, each State Party agrees to permit temporary operation of amateur stations under its authority by persons holding an IARP issued by another State*

- Party without further examination. A State Party shall issue permits to operate in other State Parties only to its own citizens.*
2. *State Parties recognize the International Amateur Radio Permit (IARP) issued under the conditions specified in this Convention*
 3. *No State Party, other than the issuing State Party, may levy fees or taxes on the IARPs.*
 4. *This Convention does not modify customs regulations concerning transportation of radio equipment across national borders.*

As a result the Authority will recognize IARP's and abide by this convention. Holders of the IARP will need to inform the Authority upon or before their arrival in Trinidad and Tobago. A maximum timeframe for which they are allowed to operate for with this permit without requiring a reciprocal licence will be determined by the Authority.

Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline

The Authority will recognise IARP holders and allow them to operate in Trinidad and Tobago on the designated Amateur bands in accordance the Frequency Allocation Table (TTFAT), the Telecommunications Act, 2001 and in accordance with the Inter-American Convention on IARP.

4.4 Certification Criteria for Amateur Radio Licensing

4.4.1 Amateur Radio certification requirement for licensing

Currently there are no local certification bodies for Amateur Radio Services in Trinidad and Tobago. In order to facilitate the licensing of Amateur Radio Services, the Authority will accept certification from certain foreign institutions. Currently the Authority accepts certification from the RSGB, the ARRL and Industry Canada Amateur Radio certification. These international certifications must be valid and active at the time of application to be considered by the Authority. The Authority will continue to review certification from internationally recognised institutions and will maintain a list of

accepted amateur radio certifications which will be posted on the Authority's website (www.tatt.org.tt).

Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline

Nationals and/or residents who hold Amateur Radio certificates from foreign institutions that meet the Authority's approval and appear on the Authority's approved list may apply for a Trinidad and Tobago Amateur Radio Licence.

4.4.2 Minimum certification requirement

In order for a foreign institution to be considered acceptable by TATT, it must first meet the International Telecommunication Union's (ITU) minimum requirement from ITU-R M.1544. This recommendation was made during the World Radio Conference, 2003 (WRC 03) and was proposed by the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) at the WRC 03 and was based on work that began since 1996.

The ITU-R M.1544 recommendation is as follows:

RECOMMENDATION ITU-R M.1544

Minimum qualifications of radio amateurs

(Question ITU-R 48/8)

(2001)

The ITU Radiocommunication Assembly,

considering

- a) that No. 1.56 of the Radio Regulations (RR) defines the amateur service as: “A *radiocommunication service* for the purpose of self-training, intercommunication and technical investigations carried out by amateurs, that is, by duly authorized persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest.”;
- b) that RR No. 1.57 defines the amateur-satellite service as: “A *radiocommunication service* using *space stations* on earth *satellites* for the same purposes as those of the *amateur service*.”;
- c) that certain minimum operator operational and technical qualifications are necessary for proper operation of an amateur or amateur-satellite station,

recommends

- 1** that administrations take such measures as they judge necessary to verify the operational and technical qualifications of any person wishing to operate an amateur station;
- 2** that any person seeking a licence to operate an amateur station should demonstrate theoretical knowledge of:
 - Radio regulations
 - international
 - domestic
 - Methods of radiocommunication
 - radiotelephony
 - radiotelegraphy
 - data and image
 - Radio system theory
 - transmitters
 - receivers
 - antennas and propagation
 - measurements
 - Radio emission safety
 - Electromagnetic compatibility
 - Avoidance and resolution of radio frequency interference.

Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline

TATT will establish, maintain and publish on its website, a list of approved amateur certifications that meet the ITU's minimum qualifications for Amateur Radio Licences. The Authority will continue to monitor recommendations made by the ITU and the IARU in respect of the minimum certification requirements for Amateur Radio Operators, and review its own licensing requirements accordingly.

4.4.3 Local Certification Bodies

Given the fact that there are currently no local amateur radio certification bodies in Trinidad and Tobago and based on the demand and interest in this field, the Authority recognises the need for a local examination.

Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline

The Authority supports the establishment of a local certification body and the administration of the respective examination by a recognised institution(s) for Amateur Radio certification under the Aegis of the Authority.

4.5 Amateur Radio Licence Term

Amateur Radio operator licences are essentially for those persons who use amateur radios, while the station licence is tied to the equipment. Since the Authority will grant a combined Operator/Station licence, they will both have the same term. Station licences are generally granted for a term of one (1) year.

Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline

Save and except for reciprocal amateur radio licences, all amateur radio operator/station licences shall be valid for a period of one (1) year in the first instance.

4.6 Renewal of Amateur Radio Licences

All amateur radio licences granted by the Authority may be renewed by the Authority, provided that all requirements are met. Given that Amateurs play an integral part in disaster management and relief and in order to minimise the administrative burdens of these licensees, Amateur Radio Licences may be renewed for a period of three (3) years. This three (3) year renewal term will be monitored and may be amended by the Authority through the relevant framework.

Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline

All Amateur Radio Licensees may apply for a renewal of their licence at least three (3) months, but no more than six (6) months, prior to its expiration. Renewals may be granted for a period of three (3) years after the first annual licence.

4.7 Reciprocal Amateur Radio Licences

4.7.1 Reciprocal Licence

Many visitors and tourists are interested in maintaining their amateur radio connectivity when in Trinidad and Tobago. The Authority recognises the importance and necessity of reciprocal Amateur Radio licences and at the same time wishes to maintain a certain minimum level of qualification for granting these licences. Therefore, Amateur Operators that meet the Authority's requirement may be granted a Reciprocal Licence.

Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline

Non-nationals and non-residents of Trinidad and Tobago who have been granted Amateur Radio Licences from a foreign administration recognised by the Authority, may apply for a reciprocal Amateur Radio Licence.

4.7.2 Reciprocal Licence Term

Since a reciprocal licence is a temporary licence, the term of such a licence will generally be short term and based on the length of stay of the Applicant in Trinidad and Tobago with a maximum period of one (1) year.

Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline

The term of a reciprocal amateur radio licence will generally be thirty (30) days or less. Applicants seeking a reciprocal amateur radio licence for a period in excess of thirty (30) days must show proof of the admittance period by the Immigration Division in Trinidad and Tobago. The maximum term of a reciprocal amateur radio licence shall be one (1) year. Reciprocal amateur radio licences shall not be renewed.

4.8 Class of Amateur Licences

Three classes of Amateur Licences are considered necessary for the orderly regulation of this sector. Since some amateur operators are not qualified to operate in the High Frequency (HF) bands of the Amateur frequency allocations by the various certifications available, a Basic Class Licence would cover such an applicant. For those operators qualified to operate on all Amateur bands, a General Class Licence will be granted. Since some amateur operators communicate using Morse code and it is important to determine whether the operator can communicate using Morse code or not a third, Advanced Class

Licence will be granted. The prefix of the call sign will be used to distinguish among the three classes of licenses.

Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline

There will be three classes of Amateur Radio licences:

- 1. Basic Class – for applicants not qualified to operate in the HF band;*
- 2. General Class- for applicants qualified to operate in all bands; and*
- 3. Advanced Class – for applicants qualified to operate in all bands and also qualified to use Morse code with a certification of at least thirteen (13) words per minute (wpm).*

4.9 Club Station Licences

For organisations that operate as Amateur Radio Clubs, Club Station licences will be granted. These licences will only be granted where a manager or director of the club is a licensed Amateur Operator with at least the same Class of licence requested by the Club.

Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline

The Authority will grant Club Station licences to relevant organisations. These licences will require that a director or manager of the club hold and be in compliance with an Amateur Radio Station/Operator licence with the same Class or higher than that applied for by the Club and who will be responsible for the organisation's compliance with all relevant amateur radio operations.

4.10 Amateur Call-Signs

4.10.1 Call Signs for Trinidad and Tobago Licences

Call signs will be issued with Amateur Radio Operator/Station licences and will consist of both a prefix and suffix. The Prefix should generally give an indication from which

country a message is originating. Trinidad and Tobago currently has the prefixes “9Y” and “9Z” assigned by the ITU. Since call signs will be used to determine the class of the licence, three prefixes are required. For Amateur licences the three prefixes used will be “9Y4”, “9Z4” and “9Z3”. The suffix will be in accordance with the ITU requirements. The Authority would facilitate where possible, a vanity call sign suffix when requested by the applicant.

Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline

Amateur Radio Licences will have call signs with the following three prefixes:

- 1. 9Y4 – for Advanced Class,*
- 2. 9Z4 – for General Class; and*
- 3. 9Z3 – for Basic Class.*

The suffix may be requested by the applicant but will generally be consistent with the Licensees’ initials, where possible.

4.10.2 Call signs for Reciprocal Amateur Licensees

Reciprocal call signs granted by the Authority will consist of a prefix, a “/” and the applicant’s call sign in his original licence.

Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline

Reciprocal Amateur Radio Licences will have call signs with the following formats depending on the class of the licence:

- 1. “9Y4/ACS” –Advanced or,*
- 2. “9Z4/ACS” – General or;*
- 3. “9Z3/ACS” – Basic;*

where ACS is the Alien Call Sign (i.e. the call of their original licence from the relevant country) of the licensee.

4.10.3 Special Call-Signs

Special amateur call-signs may be granted in respect of special events, when requested by authorised applicants. These will be for the period of the event and would only be issued to organisations and/or licensees who currently hold an Amateur licence from the Authority. These call-signs will have a prefix based on the class of the applicant's licence and a suffix that may represent or indicate the event. Special Events does not include a licensee's personal event.

Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline

Special Call-Signs may be issued by the Authority to facilitate easy identification for special events. The prefix would depend on the class of the licence and the suffix may be based on a request or an acronym representing the event.

APPENDIX A – Decisions on Recommendations – March 4th 2008

The following summarizes the comments and recommendations received from stakeholders on the first draft of this document (dated June 27th 2006), and the decisions made by TATT as incorporated in the revised draft dated March 4th 2008.

Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder Category¹)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
General Comments				
General Comment	Service Provider/ Club-TTARS	<p>The term Amateur used in the context of this Framework is generally an abbreviation for one of the following terms – Amateur Radio Service, or Radio Amateur Licensee.</p> <p>The term is used to underscore the non-pecuniary nature of the service but in no way diminishes the high level of knowledge that must be demonstrated especially where ITU-R M.1544 is adopted.</p>	We recommend that the word Amateur in the context of this Amateur Radio Services Framework, and indeed in any reference to functional elements of the Amateur Radio Service, be capitalized where used to refer to either the Amateur Radio Service or a Radio Amateur Licensee.	Noted.
Section 1				
1.1 Relevant Legislation No person shall... para.	Service Provider/ Club-TTARS	Typographical corrections - <u>underlined</u> in Recommendations column	...or other vessels in <u>t</u> he territorial waters...	Noted. Will correct accordingly.

¹ Regional regulatory or Governmental agencies, Existing service and/ or network provider and affiliates, Potential service and/ or network providers and affiliates, Service/ Network Provider Associations/ Clubs/ Groups, General Public

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Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder Category ¹)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
(c)			...or a military aircraft or satellite	
1.1 Relevant Legislation (reference to the <i>draft</i> Radio Spectrum Regulations)	Service Provider/ Club-TTARS	<p>Trinidad and Tobago Amateur Radio Society (TTARS) reminds the TATT of the modifications to Article 25, Section 25.5 of the ITU Radio Regulations, by the ITU WRC 2003, eliminating the previously existing obligation on administrations to require Morse proficiency testing for classes of license that convey privileges in the bands below 30 MHz, while permitting national administrations to exercise their own discretion on whether or not to maintain Morse testing in their national rules.</p> <p>TTARS continues to recommend:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - An ENTRY LEVEL class license with operational restrictions. This has been shown in other administrations to support quick but structured induction into the Amateur Radio community. <p>...and based on the developments of WRC-2003 and the actions of several other national administrations, TTARS</p>	<p>Implement changes to this Section, to the draft Radio Spectrum Regulations and to any other place to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Specify three classes of license – <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - ENTRY LEVEL - GENERAL - EXTRA - State that there are operating restrictions for ENTRY CLASS and that these restrictions along with the terms and conditions of the licenses will be issued in the license document. - State that there is no Morse code requirement for GENERAL class, 9Z4-prefix licenses, and that the terms and conditions of the licenses will be issued in the license document - State that there is a Morse code proficiency requirement of sending and receiving five (5) words per minute for the EXTRA class, 9Y4-prefix license, and that 	<p>Noted. A Club Station licence is proposed. A Club Station licence in a supervised environment will satisfy the goal of structured induction into the Amateur environment.</p>

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Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder Category ¹)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
		<p>further supports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - A GENERAL class, 9Z4-prefix license category, with no requirement for Morse code proficiency. - An EXTRA class, 9Y4-prefix license category with a Morse code proficiency requirement of sending and receiving Morse code at five (5) words per minute. This requirement will help to encourage Radio Amateurs to seek proficiency in Morse code. <p>(To wit: TTARS is largely repeating its earlier recommendations on the draft Radio Spectrum Regulations)</p>	<p>the terms and conditions of the license will be issued in the license document.</p>	
1.5 Other Relevant Documentation	Service Provider/ Club	<p>Amateur Radio is a unique, non-revenue generating, public service, and its strength is the experimental nature of its operations.</p> <p>There are several occasions where the regulations pertaining to Commercial Operations are apparently being applied to Amateur</p>	<p>We recommend that this Framework for the Authorisation of Amateur Radio Services be separated, without prejudice, from the Framework for the Authorisation of Telecommunications Networks and Services and Broadcasting Services in Trinidad and Tobago.</p>	<p>Comments noted. However the conditions to a licence whether it is commercial or otherwise is generally similar because it relates to the use of spectrum. Also the</p>

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Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder Category ¹)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
		<p>Radio inconsistent with international regulations and practices.</p> <p>To wit: The application for an Amateur Radio License includes several items drawn from the commercial arena. The introduction, albeit in draft, of the concept of Amateur Radio Operator and Amateur Radio Installer as two separate entities requiring two separate licenses is ultra vires international practice.</p>		<p><i>Framework for the Authorisation of Telecommunications Networks and Services and Broadcasting Services in Trinidad and Tobago</i>, is the overall framework for authorisation and contains some fundamental requirements and hence would be the overall guiding document.</p>
1.6 Definitions	Service Provider/ Club	<p>We have yet to encounter a definition of Amateur Radio Operator in the International Radio Regulations. We have encountered references to Radio Amateur, Amateur Radio Licensee, and Amateur Radio Service. Further, the term Amateur Radio Operator is deemed a colloquial expression and is deemed to be the cause of a fundamental defect – namely the proposal for licensing the individual separately from the station and/or</p>	<p>Updates to the Definitions as follows:</p> <p>“Radio Amateur” means a person who is duly qualified and licensed to keep install, erect and use amateur radio equipment.</p> <p>“Amateur Radio Service” means a radiocommunication service for the purpose of self-training, interconnection and technical investigations carried out by amateurs, that is, by duly authorized persons interested in radio technique</p>	<p>The Authority will adhere to the ITU-R Radio Regulations definitions.</p>

Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder Category ¹)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
		<p>equipment.</p> <p>Typically a Radio Amateur is licensed by local administrations to keep, install, erect and use amateur radio equipment. This is a fundamental aspect of the Amateur Radio Service.</p> <p>There is also another Definition to be added. That of the Amateur Satellite Service.</p>	<p>solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest. (ITU RR 1-10 § 53 (1990 Edition – revised 1994))</p> <p>“Amateur Satellite Service” means a radiocommunication service using space stations on earth satellites for the same purposes as those of the Amateur Radio Service.</p> <p>(ITU RR 1-10 § 54 (1990 Edition – revised 1994))</p>	
Section 2				
2. Background	Service Provider/ Club	<p>We feel that this section needs to be updated to highlight the international attention that has been focused on Amateur Radio based on the analyses and reviews of recent, internationally reported, disaster &/or emergency situations. Special reference is being made here to the deadly trio, hurricanes Katrina, Rita and Wilma and to the tsunamis in the Indonesia. There have been several statements from the Federal Emergency Management Agency in the US and in the international press regarding the important role played by Radio</p>	<p>Sixth (last) paragraph on page 7 should be updated to state:</p> <p>Amateur Radio continues to play an important and internationally-recognized role in disaster communications. ...</p>	Noted. Will be amended accordingly.

Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder Category¹)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
		Amateurs.		
Section 3				
3.2 Considerations	Service Provider/ Club	We repeat our concern over the use of the term Amateur Radio Operators and strongly recommend that this term be replaced throughout by Radio Amateur or Amateur Radio Licensee in any Framework or Regulation pertaining to the Service.	Replace all occurrences within this Framework (or any associated or relevant documentation) of the term, amateur radio operator, with the term, Radio Amateur.	See above comment.
Section 4				
4.1 Types of Amateur Radio Licenses	Service Provider/ Club	We disagree that the wording of the Telecommunications Act creates a requirement for a separate license to install and a separate license to operate any radiotransmitting equipment.	We feel that the statement "Given the fact that not everyone who is qualified to operate amateur radiotransmitting equipment will necessarily own and/or install the equipment" creates a fundamentally incorrect premise that a Radio Amateur does not have the knowledge required to install amateur radio equipment. This premise is contrary to ITU-R M.1544 quoted by TATT, and supported by TTARS, that recommends that – inter alia – any person seeking a license to operate a station shall demonstrate precisely such knowledge.	Noted. Will be amended accordingly.

Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder Category ¹)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
4.2.1 Amateur Radio Certification for licensing.	Service Provider/ Club	<p>It is very disturbing that TATT is willing to accept foreign qualifications for a national license but remains reluctant to endorse the Trinidad and Tobago Amateur Radio Society, the local IARU Member Society, to implement a local certification process.</p> <p><u>For over fifty-five (55) years</u>, the TTARS was a registered examination centre for all City and Guilds examinations and invigilated examinations for Amateur Radio as well as other trade examinations on behalf of City and Guilds.</p> <p>Subsequent to the discontinuation of the City and Guilds examination and certification, it is interesting to note that the UK, Canada and New Zealand all of whom previously utilised the City and Guilds examination and certification process, quickly ceded that process to the Radio Society of Great Britain (RSGB), the IARU Member Society in the UK.</p> <p>In fact, several foreign administrations have ceded the examination and</p>	<p>Update as follows:</p> <p>Certification by a national examination and certification body is required prior to applying for an Amateur Radio License.</p> <p>Only Returning Nationals or Returning Residents, where those persons have been living abroad for one (1) year or longer, may tender foreign certification when applying to the Authority for an Amateur Radio License.</p> <p>Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline:</p> <p>A locally issued certification is required prior to applying for an Amateur Radio License.</p> <p>Only Returning Nationals and/or Residents who have been living abroad for one (1) year or longer and who hold certificates from recognised foreign institutions that meet TATT's approval, may apply for a Trinidad and Tobago Amateur Radio License.</p>	<p>The Authority does not agree with the recommendation made. The Authority is seeking to endorse a competent local body for issuing and administering a local exam.</p>

Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder Category¹)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
		<p>certification process to their resident IARU Member Society.</p> <p>A similar proposal was made here in Trinidad and Tobago but at the time met with little support from TATT.</p> <p>Today, there are about one hundred and ninety (190) countries whose Amateur Radio Service certifications meet the ITU Minimum Qualifications of Radio Amateurs requirement. (ITU-R M.1544). Is it the intention of TATT to accept all of these countries' certifications? If not, what will be the criteria to choose which ones to accept? Will the selection policy be transparent / consistent?</p> <p>Are we to presume that with our own development and educational achievements, that Trinidad and Tobago is incapable of handling our own certification process?</p> <p>We feel that an immediate resolution to the non-availability of a national certification body for the Amateur Radio Service can be immediately addressed if TATT were to immediately recognise the Trinidad and Tobago Amateur Radio Society's</p>		

Framework for the Authorisation of Amateur Radio Services

Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder Category¹)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
		capability and willingness to shoulder this responsibility.		
4.2.2 Minimum certification requirement	Service Provider/ Club	<p>We maintain that foreign certifications should only be acceptable for nationals or residents provided that they are “returning residents” or “returning nationals” who have been living abroad for one (1) year or more.</p> <p>We support the minimum qualifications as recommended in ITU-R M.1544 for all certification bodies.</p>	<p>Update as follows:</p> <p>The examination and certification process must meet the requirements of ITU-R M.1544.</p> <p>Where foreign certifications are being considered for Returning Residents or Returning Nationals, the foreign examination and certification bodies must be recognised by their national administrations as a valid certifying body in order for TATT to consider foreign certification for the purposes of licensing returning residents or returning nationals.</p>	The ITU recommendation has already been incorporated. The Authority does not agree with the recommendation made.
4.2.3 Local Certification Bodies.	Service Provider/ Club	<p>This section as currently stated suggests a separate certification body. We feel that there is no need for a separate certification body.</p> <p>The existing practice is to cede this responsibility to the local IARU Member Society while requiring that the requirements of ITU-R M.1544 be met.</p> <p>The Trinidad and Tobago Amateur</p>	<p>We recommend:</p> <p>The Authority designates the local IARU Member Society, namely the Trinidad and Tobago Amateur Radio Society (TTARS) as the national examination and certification body for Amateur Radio having taken into account the Society's extended service and experience as a City and Guilds Examination Centre.</p>	See Decision for 4.2.1.

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Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder Category ¹)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
		<p>Radio Society (TTARS) stands ready, willing and able to shoulder this responsibility.</p> <p>With our long history as a City and Guilds Examination Centre and as the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU) Member Society for Trinidad and Tobago, with direct access to IARU assistance, TTARS can draw upon our past experience and the vast resources of the IARU in this and several other areas of development.</p>		
4.3 Amateur Radio License Term	Service Provider/ Club	<p>As we have already commented, we feel that there is no basis for two separate licenses. Consistent with that comment, we feel that there is undue complication in having multiple license terms.</p> <p>We feel that a term of five (5) years is adequate and support this term.</p> <p>We feel that consideration should be given to the issuing of long-term licenses, including lifetime licenses.</p> <p>(We also reprise previous comments that license fees should reflect nominal administrative fees and</p>	<p>Replace the paragraph entirely with: Amateur Radio Licenses are generally valid for a term of five (5) years. Variations to this term will be noted on the license.</p> <p>Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline: Except as otherwise noted by TATT, Amateur Radio Licenses shall be for valid for a period of five (5) years.</p>	The Authority is currently granting a licence for a one-year period in respect of Amateur Radio Services.

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Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder Category¹)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
		should not be calculated on a cost recovery basis.)		
4.4 Renewal of Amateur Radio License	Service Provider/ Club	Typographical error – correction <u>underlined</u>	All Amateur Radio licenses <u>s</u> may be renewed...	Noted. Will amend accordingly.
(Proposed NEW section) 4.5.3 International Amateur Radio Permit (IARP)	Service Provider/ Club	It is anticipated that Trinidad and Tobago, as a signatory to CITEL / RES. 141, I/E 88 - International Amateur Radio Permit (IARP), will recognise the IARP and also make arrangements for its issue, in the prescribed form and format, to licensed Radio Amateurs who request it.	Create a new section 4.5.3 titled: International Amateur Radio Permit (IARP) with the following text: TATT recognises the International Amateur Radio Permit (IARP) as issued by signatory countries of the CITEL convention, and grants holders of an IARP visiting to Trinidad and Tobago the right to keep, install, erect and use Amateur Radio equipment without further need for reciprocal licensing. TATT also issues the IARP to locally licensed Radio Amateurs upon receipt of the prescribed application.	The Authority will review and consider for inclusion.
4.6 Call-signs	Service Provider/ Club	We feel that this section is unduly convoluted and suggest dramatic simplification. There is no need to refer to the particulars of Morse Code certification here. Doing so is redundant and	Reword the section to read: Every Amateur Radio Licensee must be identified by a call sign. Call sign prefixes are used internationally to identify the issuing country. The call sign prefixes allocated to Trinidad and	The Authority will review this section to be consistent with other changes made in the Framework.

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		<p>makes updates to the Framework more tedious when for example the particulars are changed.</p>	<p>Tobago are 9Y4 and 9Z4 respectively. Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline: Locally licensed Radio Amateurs shall be identified by the "9Z4" prefix, except where proficiency in Morse code has been certified, in which case the prefix will be "9Y4". The remainder of the call sign will be unique to each applicant.</p>	

APPENDIX B - Decisions on Recommendations – May 20th 2008

The following summarizes the comments and recommendations received from stakeholders on the second draft of this document (dated March 4th 2008), and the decisions made by TATT as incorporated in the revised draft dated May 20th 2008.

Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder or Category²)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
General Comment				
The Amateur satellite service	Service Provider/ Club- TTARS	I don't see where a connection is made between having an amateur radio license and being permitted to operate in the amateur-satellite service, there are reasons for separately defining the two services in the ITU Radio Regulations, but no reason I can think off for not treating them as a single AR radio service domestically. It might be useful to have some language linking both services	A license in the Amateur Radio Service entitles the radio amateur operator to participate in the Amateur-Satellite service as well, consistent with the radio amateur operators privileges.	Section 4.2 has been modified to specify that the spectrum allocated to Amateurs include the Amateur Satellite bands.
Section 1				
1.1 Relevant Legislation	Service Provider/	{2} {C} Must, in order to qualify for a general licence, provide evidence of	An individual's ability to demonstrate Morse code proficiency does not	The Authority does not agree with this

² Regional regulatory or Governmental agencies, Existing service and/ or network provider and affiliates, Potential service and/ or network providers and affiliates, Service/ Network Provider Associations/ Clubs/ Groups, General Public

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Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder or Category²)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
	Club-REACT,EARS & TTARL	proficiency in sending and receiving of Morse code at 13 words per minutes.	further the development of Amateur radio. In addition, Morse does not accommodate individual contributions to the advancement of the radio art to enhance the value of the amateur radio service to the public. REACT, EARS &TTARL feel that knowing mores is not necessarily indicative of an individual's ability to contribute to the advancement of amateur radio, when emergency communication today is performed using voice, data,, digital modes like Olivia or video modes which is much faster than Morse code. REACT, EARS &TTARL views is clear no more Morse code and all 9Z4 Radio Amateur should be upgraded to 9Y4 because it is the same exam but no Morse code. With the turn of technology even the 9Z4 are doing Morse code now computer hook up to radio with software and you are on the air sending 20 wpm Morse or you can buy MFJ Morse code decoder and screen / keyboard hook up to you radio and you are on the air, so many options are now	recommendation. The Authority is of the view that a distinction should be made between amateur operators who are proficient in Morse code. It does not hinder the development of amateur technology in any way.

Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder or Category²)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
			available so please total drooping of Morse code now	
Section 3				
3.2 Considerations	Service Provider/ Club- TTARS	On page 11 and elsewhere reference is made to International "Telecommunications" Union should be Telecommunication (no "s")	"International Telecommunication Union' (ITU)	Error noted and corrected.
3.2 Considerations : Page 12 second paragraph	Service Provider/ Club- TTARS	Page 12 " Amateur" Radio Relay League should be "American"	" American Amateur Radio Relay League"	Corrected and now reads "American Radio Relay League".
Section 4				
4.4.1 Amateur Radio certification requirement for licensing. " ARRL"	Service Provider/ Club - TTARS	The "Certificate of Successful Completion" (CSCE) is the certification for obtaining an FCC Amateur Radio License, the examinations are handled by Volunteer Examination Coordinators (VEC) throughout the US 30% of the exams are handled by other than ARRL VEC as such it would be discriminatory to accept CSCE only	Accept the FCC Amateur Radio License for obtaining a T&T license, Other option accept the CSCE however this may require validation which may create difficulty,	A general sentence indicating that the international certifications must be valid and active at the time of application to be considered by the Authority has been added.

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Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder or Category²)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
		from ARRL The CSCE expires 365 days after issue as a result cannot be useful (or enforceable) after that period.		
4.4.3 Local Certification Bodies	Service Provider/ Club- REACT, EARS & TTARL	Given the fact that there are currently no local amateur radio certification bodies in Trinidad and Tobago and based on the demand and interest in this field, the Authority recognizes the need for local examination	REACT, EARS & TTARL are in full support of this but warning is the watchword. At this point in time there is no such body while the Trinidad and Tobago Amateur Society {TTARS} is seeking to be the local certification body, our view is that TTARS is not qualified. Also, the examination was done in pencil and lots of un answered questions were left out, hence the reason at present all amateur radio examination is done in pen, black or blue. Examination papers cannot be tampered with. REACT, EARS & TTARL is of the firm view that no Amateur Radio club, group or organization should be given reorganization Certification of amateur radio. Too much bad blood is among the clubs and this body should be neutral. Presently The said examination is done with the RSGB and is being	Noted.

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Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder or Category ²)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
			<p>conducted by the Trinidad and Tobago Amateur Radio League, at present all the league does is conduct the classes and collect the monies on behalf of the RSGB Marcel school of Electronics administers the RSGB examination while invigilators are appointed by RSGB and such exams are done in pen. In this way, no one can manipulate, it is free and fair and any one can sign up and do this examination.</p>	
4.5 Amateur Radio License Term	Provider/ Club - TTARS	Last sentence on page18 has "Stations License" I think "Station License was intended.	Correction required. "Station License"	Error noted and corrected. Please note that the Authority spells "licence" with a "c" in accordance with British English.
4.6 Renewal of amateur Radio Licences	Provider/ Club – REACT, TTARL & EARS	The Authority may renew all amateur radio licenses granted by the Authority, provided all requirements are met. Given that Amateurs play an integral part in disaster management and relief and in order to minimize the	Radio Amateurs are the first called in any disaster, when all else fail the Amateurs has the responsibility to ensure that communication is in place in all affected areas, inclusive of handling diplomatic and government	This document does not address fees. The Fee Regulations have already been approved by Parliament and is currently in force. While

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		<p>administrative burdens if these licenses, Amateur Radio Licenses may be renewed for a period of three {3} years. This {3}-year renewal term will be monitored and may be amended by the Authority through the relevant framework.</p>	<p>in bound and out bound communication traffic. An amateur plays a very pivotal role in this respect, with little or no recognition from state agencies. Radio Amateur is a very expensive hobby that many cannot afford; bearing in mind this is a voluntary service, which is necessary.</p> <p>TATT should immediately give Ten {10} year licenses with a one time payment fee or even Free, it is very incorrect to say the Amateurs have a three {3} year license, when they have to pay every year for this, if it was a one time fee payment then yes but you are given a three license and have to pay annually for the said license. In no way you can call this a three year license. According to legal counsel this must be corrected and set right a one time payment fee, then and then that TATT can say it is three year license.</p>	<p>the Authority recognises the important role Amateur Operators play in disaster management, the Authority has a mandate to ensure the orderly development of the telecommunications sector and hence has now introduced a renewal period of three (3) years as opposed to one (1) year which was the policy in place for all licences not tied to a Concession. A renewal require a licensee to indicate their interest to renew their licence and is not accompanied by a new licence document but an Authorisation indicating that the licence is still valid. The</p>

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Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder or Category²)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
				<p>requirement to pay annual licence fees is in the Telecommunications Act, 2001 and hence is a law that must be upheld. However this does not prevent the term of a licence from being longer than one year. The Fee Regulations would be reviewed after 3 years of it being enforced and your comments and recommendations can be made at that time.</p>
<p>4.6 Renewal of amateur Radio Licences</p>	<p>Provider/ Club - TTARS</p>	<p>It is our view that "renewal" does not imply that we should reapply annually for an AR license the requirement to do so seem to be onerous and time consuming on radio amateurs, we concede that a change in existing conditions such as "call sign or upgrade would make it necessary to reapply. Other than that if there are no infringement by the licensee he/she</p>	<p>To be consistent with the valuable service radio amateurs offer at their tremendous personal cost the need to further burden us with the additional cost for application fees, multiple visits to the authority is indeed not necessary.</p> <p>Recommend the authority issue an invoice for renewal, the receipt on</p>	<p>The renewal period for an Amateur Licence in now three years to remove the onerous burden on Amateurs. The Authority cannot issue a licence renewal or an invoice without a licensee indicating their desire to renew their</p>

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		should pay renewal license obtain receipt which is validation of license for the period granted. (e.g Drivers License)	payment would be validation that the license is current,	licence. The renewal application process is a simplified process with minimum paperwork to licensee and a short processing time.
4.72 Reciprocal Licence Term	Provider/ Club – REACT, TTARL & EARS	Since a reciprocal license is a temporary license ,the term of such a license will generally be short term based on the length of stay of the applicant in Trinidad and Tobago with a maximum period of one [1] year.	Once a licensed Radio Amateur comes to Trinidad and Tobago he or she should be granted a reciprocal within 24 hours. at present the time frame is too long, some times the Radio Amateur leave without getting their licenses. The time allocation is too long this need to be urgently addressed	The comments are noted. However the Authority has 90 days within which to process licence applications. However the Authority will endeavour to process these reciprocal licence applications within a reasonable timeframe.
4.8 Class of Amateur Licence	Provider/ Club – REACT, TTARL & EARS	Amateur Radio Services Framework Guideline. There will be three classes of Amateur Radio Licenses: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Basic Class- for applicants not qualified to operate in the HF band. 2. General Class- for applicants qualified to operate in all 	There should be only three classes of Radio Amateur License 9Y4, 9Z4 and 9Z3 Reference made to 1.1 Relevant Legislation see quote made on 9Z4. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Advance Class 9Y4 – for all qualified to operate in all bands, no Morse is required. 2. General Class 9Z4 – for applicant qualified to operate 	The Authority does not agree with this recommendation. Under the supervision of a licensed Amateur Operator another person may use the station in accordance with the licence.

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Document Sub-Section	Submission Made By (Stakeholder or Category²)	Comments Received	Recommendations Made	TATT's Decisions
		<p>bands; and.</p> <p>3. Advanced Class- for applicants qualified to operate in all bands and also qualified to used Morse code with a certification of at least thirteen [13] words per minute [wpm].</p>	<p>in the HF bands.50 watts power only.</p> <p>3. Basic Class 9Z3 – for school children attaining the age of 14 5 watts power applicant not qualified to operate in the HF bands.</p>	