



Maximum Permissible Exposure (MPE) Evaluation

**according to the OET Bulletin 65
(Edition 97-01)**

Evaluated equipment:

**The RipEX radio modem for data transmission in the 154 – 174
MHz frequency range**

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Evaluated equipment

The RipEX radio modem is designed for bi-directional data transfer in a radio frequency channel assigned from the specified frequency range. When transmitting, it generates an angle modulated, continuous, constant-envelope radio-frequency signal on the output (antenna) connector. The transmitted signal spectral width is limited to a single channel and never exceeds the respective channel spacing, which is 25 kHz or 12,5 kHz or 6,25 kHz. The maximum nominal output radio-frequency (RF) power of the RipEX radio modem is 10 Watts. The output RF power variation in extreme conditions is guaranteed by the manufacturer to stay within -3,0 dB to +2.0 dB limits. The RipEX radio modem main specifications for a frequency range around 160 MHz are in Table 1.

Table 1 – RipEX radio modem main technical parameters

Parameter	Value
Frequency range	from 154 MHz to 174 MHz
Channel spacing	6,25 / 12,5 / 25 kHz
Number of channels in the operating range	3200 /1600 / 800
Channel setting method	software
Supply voltage (nominal)	13,8 V
Supply voltage range	10 V to 30 V
Operating temperature range	-40 °C to +70 °C
Current consumption:	
Reception:	360 mA
Transmission 1W:	1,1 A
Transmission 10W:	3,0 A
Configurable RF output power range	from 0,1 W to 10 W
Antenna connector	TNC
RF output impedance	50 Ω

The RipEX radio modem is connected to the antenna by a coaxial cable. Since the antenna may be connected by a very short cable, the cable loss shall be considered negligible in the calculation.



MPE Calculations

According to the OET Bulletin 65 (Edition 97-01)

$$R = \sqrt{\frac{P \cdot G}{4 \cdot \pi \cdot S}}$$

Where:

S = Power density (in appropriate units, e.g. mW/cm²)

P = Power input to antenna (in appropriate units, e.g., mW)

G = Power gain of the antenna in the direction of interest relative to an isotropic radiator

R = Distance to the centre of radiation of the antenna (appropriate units, e.g., cm)

Tx Frequency = 154 MHz

The exposure at the lowest frequency of the operating range makes the worst case, since the limits given in §1.1310 of the FCC Rules increase with frequency (in the frequency range applicable to the evaluated equipment) whereas the radiation from RipEX radio modem will be constant.

Maximum peak power = 42.0 (dBm)

The maximum peak power is calculated as the nominal maximum power increased by the margin allowed by the applicable FCC standard (+2dB)

Antenna gain = 2.15 (dBi)

The antenna gain of the half-wave dipole is considered as the worst-case scenario. The areas of exposure never lie in the direction of the main lobe of the transmitting antenna. In fact, the higher the gain of the antenna is, the lower the radiation in the directions relevant for exposure evaluation will be.

S = 0.2 [mW/cm²]

The FCC limit for exposure of general population / uncontrolled exposure in the 154-174 MHz frequency range.

P = 15850 [mW]

The numerical value of maximum TX power

G = 1.64

The numerical value of half-wave dipole gain



The worst case scenario also assumes 100% duty cycle. Though the equipment assessed allows for that, it never happens in reality thanks to the packet-oriented transmission environment.

Calculated minimum separation distance from antenna, where the limit for general public / uncontrolled exposure is met, is:

$$R_u = 102 \text{ cm}$$

The distance, where the limit for occupation / controlled exposure is met, is:

$$R_c = 46 \text{ cm}$$

The distance, where the limits are met for typical directional and omni directional antennas typically used with RipEX radio modem. The safe distance for directional antennas is validated in the direction of the main beam centre, where it is nevertheless unreasonable to expect the presence of general public.

Table #1 – The distance where the FCC limits are met for typical antennas

154 - 174 MHz/ 2 m band /10 Watt RF power					
Antenna code	Antenna description	Gain G (dBi)	Gain G (-)	Distance where the FCC limits is met for	
				General Population/Uncontrolled Exposure (cm)	Occupational/Controlled Exposure (cm)
OV160.1	single dipole	4,6	2,9	134,9	60,3
OV160.2	stacked double dipole	7,6	5,8	190,5	85,2
SA160.3	3 element directional Yagi	7,6	5,8	190,5	85,2

Conclusion:

It is safe to assume that members of general public will never be present in the distance R_u (or lower) to a fixed installation of antenna of the evaluated equipment. Equally it is safe to assume that e.g. a member of staff performing mast maintenance will spend only negligible fractions of time in the R_c (or lower) distance to the transmitting antenna (the R_c distance actually corresponds with the physical size of the antenna itself). Consequently, in our opinion, the operation of the evaluated equipment would not make a significant environmental effect.