

19 RF Exposure

OVERVIEW

Human exposure to RF emissions from mobile devices (47 CFR §2.1091) may be evaluated based on the MPE limits adopted by the FCC for electric and magnetic field strength and/or power density, as appropriate, since exposures are assumed to occur at distances of 20 cm or more from persons. ANSI C95.1:2005 + Amd 1:2010 specifies a minimum separation distance of 20 cm for performing reliable field measurements to determine adherence to MPE limits. If the minimum separation distance between a transmitter and nearby persons is more than 20 cm under normal operating conditions, compliance with MPE limits may be determined at such distance from the transmitter. When applicable, operation instructions and prominent warning labels may be used to alert the exposed persons to maintain a specified distance from the transmitter or to limit their exposure durations and usage conditions to ensure compliance. If the use of warning labels on a transmitter is not effective or desirable, the alternative of performing SAR evaluation with the device at its closest range to persons under normal operating conditions may be used. The field strength and power density limits adopted by the FCC are based on whole-body averaged exposure and the assumption of RF field levels relate most accurately to estimating whole-body averaged SAR. This means some local values of exposures exceeding the stated field strength and power density limits may not necessarily imply non-compliance if the spatial average of spatially averaged RF fields over the exposed portions of a person's body does not exceed the limits.

COMPLIANCE WITH FCC 2.1091

47 CFR §1.1307

“(b)(1) Requirements. (i) With respect to the limits on human exposure to RF provided in §1.1310 of this chapter, applicants to the Commission for the grant or modification of construction permits, licenses or renewals thereof, temporary authorities, equipment authorizations, or any other authorizations for radiofrequency sources must either:

(A) Determine that they qualify for an exemption pursuant to §1.1307(b)(3);

(B) Prepare an evaluation of the human exposure to RF radiation pursuant to §1.1310 and include in the application a statement confirming compliance with the limits in §1.1310; or

(C) Prepare an Environmental Assessment if those RF sources would cause human exposure to levels of RF radiation in excess of the limits in §1.1310.

47 CFR §2.1091

“A mobile device is defined as a transmitting device designed to be used in other than fixed locations and to generally be used in such a way that a separation distance of at least 20 centimeters is normally maintained between the RF source's radiating structure(s) and the body of the user or nearby persons. In this context, the term “fixed location” means that the device is physically secured at one location and is not able to be easily moved to another location while transmitting. Transmitting devices designed to be used by consumers or workers that can be easily re-located, such as wireless devices associated with a personal desktop computer, are considered to be mobile devices if they meet the 20-centimeter separation requirement.”

The device will only be used with a separation distance between the antenna and the body of the user or nearby persons as shown in the table below and can therefore be considered a mobile transmitter per 47 CFR 2.1091(b).

COMPLIANCE WITH FCC KDB 447498 D01 General RF Exposure Guidance v06

"KDB 447498 D01 General RF Exposure Guidance v06" provides the procedures, requirements, and authorization policies for mobile and portable devices.

Devices operating in standalone mobile device exposure conditions may contain a single transmitter or multiple transmitters that do not transmit simultaneously are covered in section 7.1.

Devices containing multiple transmitters capable of simultaneous transmissions are covered in section 7.2.

LIMITS

Limits for General Population /Uncontrolled Exposure: 47 CFR 1.1310

Frequency Range (MHz)	Electric Field Strength (V/m)	Magnetic Field Strength (A/m)	Power Density (mW/cm ²)	Averaging Time (minutes)
0.3 - 1.34	614	1.63	*(100)	30
1.34 - 30	824/f	2.19/f	*(180/f ²)	30
30 - 300	27.5	0.073	0.2	30
300 - 1500			f/1500	30
1500 - 100000			1	30

f = frequency in MHz

* = Plane-wave equivalent power density

POWER DENSITY

The exposure level for the radio is evaluated at a 20 cm distance from the radio's transmitting antenna using the general equation:

$$S = \frac{EIRP}{4\pi R^2} \text{ re-arranged } R = \sqrt{\frac{EIRP}{S 4\pi}}$$

Where: S = power density (mW/cm²)

P = power input to the antenna (mW)

G = numeric power gain relative to an isotropic radiator

R = distance to the center of the radiation of the antenna (20 cm = limit for MPE estimates)

P*G = EIRP

Solving for S, the maximum power density 20 cm from the transmitting antenna is determined. This level is then compared to the applicable limit for the transmit frequency. If limits were not met at the 20 cm boundary the evaluation distance is increased until the limit is met as shown in the table below.

For co-located radios, the ratio of the calculated level to the limit is determined. The ratios for each co-located radio are summed. If the sum is less than or equal to one, then the device is excluded from testing and is deemed compliant.

ASSESSMENT

Frequency (MHz)	Maximum Conducted Power (mW)	Antenna Gain (dBi)	Power density at 20cm (S) (mW/cm ²)	Power density limit (S) (mW/cm ²)	Distance (R) cm required to be less than the power density limit
2402 - 2480	0.5	0.5	0.00011	1.0	0.2