

# Spectrum Issues

The FCC and the Homeland Security Policy Council (HSPC) seek to ensure the availability, protection, and continuation of spectrum-based telecommunications services and networks. This work includes focusing on maritime, aeronautical, broadcast, satellite, and terrestrial wireless services.

The FCC and the HSPC seek to encourage development of new technologies such as **ultrawide band** which can be used for applications such as Ground Penetrating Radars (to find buried cables or anything else underground), through-wall imaging (to locate people in buildings), and other communications, and **WiFi**, which can be used to link computers wirelessly. The FCC and the HSPC also seek to encourage new and flexible uses of spectrum with homeland security applications.

The FCC has an important role in international spectrum matters and participates in World Radio Communications conferences. At these conferences, over 150 nations worldwide establish allocations for spectrum use, including public safety and homeland security applications for use by FCC public safety licensees, FCC commercial licensees, and U.S. government services.

The FCC and the HSPC are working to increase access to spectrum and resolve public safety spectrum issues, including *interoperability, access, and interference*.

- The FCC is working to correct the causes of interference between commercial wireless and public safety radio communications systems.
- The FCC is working to promote more efficient spectrum use among current operators and to address spectrum access issues for various uses, including those that are vital to ensure the safety of life and property and the nation's security.
- The FCC is working to enhance interoperability of public safety radio systems so that users on different bands can talk to one another.

*This document is for consumer education purposes only and is not intended to affect any proceeding or cases involving this subject matter or related issues.*

