

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES TRADE REPRESENTATIVE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20508

October 7, 2003

Mr. Leong Keng Thai
Deputy Chief Executive/Director-General (Telecoms)
Infocomm Development Authority of Singapore
8 Temasek Boulevard
#14-00 Suntec Tower Three
Singapore 038988

Dear Mr. Leong:

I have the honor to inform you that the Government of the United States of America is prepared to implement Phase I and Phase II of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation Mutual Recognition Arrangement for Conformity Assessment of Telecommunications Equipment (APEC Telecom MRA) with the Government of Singapore for equipment subject to the telecommunications and Electro-Magnetic Compatibility (EMC) regulations of the United States.

The United States confirms that it is prepared to initiate participation in the general provisions, Appendix A, Appendix B (Phase I Procedures) and Appendix C (Phase II Procedures) of the APEC Telecom MRA with Singapore. The exchange of these letters will constitute the official agreement to commence the implementation of the APEC TEL MRA between our two economies. The text of the APEC Telecom MRA is an integral part of this letter.

Specifically, the United States will apply the Phase I Procedures for the recognition of a test laboratory designated by Singapore and for the acceptance of test reports prepared by such recognized Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) for equipment subject to the telecommunications and EMC regulations of the United States. The United States will also apply the Phase I procedures for the designation of a CAB to test equipment subject to the telecommunication and EMC regulations of Singapore.

In addition, the United States will apply the Phase II Procedures for the recognition of a certification body designated by the Singapore and for the acceptance of the certification results of equipment certified by such recognized CAB for equipment subject to the telecommunications and EMC regulations of the United States. The US will also apply the Phase II Procedures for the designation of a CAB to certify equipment subject to the telecommunication and EMC regulations of Singapore.

Attached is the list of Technical Regulations for which the United States will accept the results of conformity assessment of a Singapore recognised CAB. Any modifications to this list will be notified in accordance with the general provisions of APEC Tel MRA.

I am pleased to inform you that the Federal Communications Commission is the telecommunications regulatory authority of the United States responsible for recognizing CABs. Mr. William Hurst (whurst@fcc.gov) is the contact for the FCC for the purposes of this arrangement. The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) of the US is the designating authority responsible for designating CABs. Mr. Jogindar Dhillon (dhillon@nist.gov) is contact person for NIST responsible for the activities under this mutual recognition arrangement.

From the date of the exchange of these letters, the United States may designate testing laboratories and certification bodies in accordance with the general provisions, Appendix A, Appendix B, and Appendix C of the APEC Telecom MRA. The United States understands that designation and recognition of CABs will occur only after the necessary training and exchanges of technical criteria and related information for accrediting CABs has taken place.

Sincerely,

Ralph F. Ives
Assistant U.S. Trade Representative for
Southeast Asia, Pacific and APEC Affairs

Attachments: Annex I – List of the FCC Technical Regulations

cc: APEC TEL WG Chair
Chairman of MRA Task Force Group

ANNEX I

TO PHASE I PROCEDURES

LIST OF TELECOM AND EMC REGULATIONS OF THE US GOVERNMENT

The technical regulations for which the U.S. Government will accept test reports from recognized Conformity Assessment Bodies (CABs) designated by other parties are:
(Note: CFR stands for United States Code of Federal Regulations)

- 1) The Rules and Regulations for Electromagnetic Compatibility (EMC) requirements are contained in the Rules parts of the Federal Communications Commission shown below:

Administrative Provisions	47 CFR Part 2
Electromagnetic Requirements	47 CFR Parts 15 and 18

Web site: www.fcc.gov/oet/info/rules/

- 2) The U.S. FCC Rules and Regulations for Telephone Terminal Equipment are contained in:
 - a. The FCC Rule parts shown below:

Administrative Provisions	47 CFR Parts 2
Telephone Terminal Equipment	47 CFR Parts 68

Web site: www.fcc.gov/wtb/rules.html

- b. Technical criteria published by the Administrative Council for Terminal Attachments (ACTA). (See CFR §68.7)

Web site: <http://www.part68.org/documents.cfm>

Note: The requirements for telephone terminal equipment were privatized and transferred to the Administrative Council for Terminal Attachments in the Report and Order in CC Docket 99-216, adopted by the FCC in November, 2000. The FCC does not require laboratories performing measurements on telephone terminal equipment to be accredited. The FCC no longer accepts applications for Part 68 certification. However, certification of telephone terminal equipment to Part 68 may be performed by Telecommunication Certification Bodies (TCBs).

- 3) The U.S. FCC Rules and Regulations for Licensed Radio Service Equipment are contained in the FCC Rule Parts shown below:

Administrative Provisions	47 CFR Part 2
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Commercial Mobile Radio	47 CFR Part 20
Domestic Public Fixed	47 CFR Part 21
Domestic Mobile	47 CFR Part 22
Personal Communication Service	47 CFR Part 24
Satellite Communications	47 CFR Part 25
Broadcast	47 CFR Part 73
Auxiliary Broadcast	47 CFR Part 74
Cable Television Radio	47 CFR Part 78
Maritime	47 CFR Part 80
GMDSS	47 CFR Part 80W
Private Land Mobile	47 CFR Part 90
Private-Fixed Microwave	47 CFR Part 94
Personal Radio Services	47 CFR Part 95 F
IVDS	47 CFR Part 95
Amateur Radio	47 CFR Part 97
Radio Frequency Devices	47 CFR Part 15
Fixed Microwave Services	47 CFR Part 101

Web site: www.fcc.gov/wtb/rules/html

Note: The FCC does not require laboratories performing measurements on licensed radio service equipment to be accredited; however, to submit an application for certification to a TCB the laboratory must demonstrate competency to perform the tests.