Update on Canadian GNSS Activities

9th International Committee on GNSS Meeting

Prague, Czech Republic
November 10-14, 2014
FGCB Working Groups

- Develop an assessment of the risks and potential effects of GNSS disruptions on Canadian Critical Infrastructure and recommend measures to prevent and mitigate risks and vulnerabilities.

- Develop a Canadian approach for GNSS interference monitoring, detection and mitigation.

- Develop a GNSS disruption alerts and communicate GNSS problems within the Canadian government departments and GNSS users.

- Develop a coordinated approach to GNSS infrastructure investment across the Government of Canada that considers life-cycle of instrumentation, the advent of new GNSS systems and technologies and evolving user requirements.
GNSS and Critical Infrastructure

“Critical infrastructure refers to processes, systems, facilities, technologies, networks, assets and services essential to the health, safety, security or economic well being of Canadians and the effective functioning of government. Critical infrastructure can be stand-alone or interconnected and interdependent within and across provinces, territories and national borders. Disruptions of critical infrastructure could result in catastrophic loss of life and adverse economic effects.”

The ICT Sector is composed of both physical and cyber infrastructure.

It may be divided into the following sub-sectors:
- Telecommunications including cable, wireless and satellite infrastructures
- Information Technology
- Broadcasting
Amendments to the Radiocommunication Act

• On October 23rd, 2014 the Economic Action Plan 2014 Act, No. 2 (Bill C-43) was tabled in Parliament

• If approved, will:
  – Explicitly prohibit jammers
    • Exemptions to the prohibition provided by the Minister of Industry;
  – Introduce an administrative monetary penalty regime;
  – Modernize wording relating to the powers of inspectors and the requirements to obtain warrants
    • Authorize inspectors to request information in writing and to seize non-compliant devices
Amendments to the Radiocommunication Act

– Provide for the enforcement of rules, standards and procedures established for competitive bidding systems for radio authorizations; and
– Authorize the Minister of Industry to share information with domestic and foreign bodies for the purpose of regulating radiocommunication.

• Royal Assent is anticipated in December, 2014.
• Status of Bill C-43 is available online at: http://www.parl.gc.ca/LegisInfo/ BillDetails.aspx?Language=E&Mode=1&billId=6732518
RA and Jammers

Section 2 of the Act has been amended to define a jammer:

• The definition captures any device (or combination of devices) that:
  – Transmit, emit or radiate electromagnetic energy, and
  – Have been designed to cause, causes or capable of causing interference/obstruction to radiocommunication.

• It will exclude any device for which:
  – Standards have been set under 5(1)(d) or 6(1)(a), or
  – Radio authorization has been issued.
RA and Jammers

• Prohibition: Section 4 of the Act is amended to explicitly prohibit jammers:
  – No person shall install, use, possess, manufacture, import, distribute, lease, offer for sale or sell a jammer.

• Exemption: The Minister may exempt any person or entity from the above prohibition or paragraph 9(1)(b) for the purposes of:
  – National security, public safety, customs/immigration, national defence, international relations, investigation/prosecution of offences, protection of property, prevention of serious harm to any person.
  – Any other purpose prescribed by regulation.
Administrative Monetary Penalties

• The new section 15 establishes the AMPs regime.
  – an additional enforcement tool for Industry Canada

• What are AMPs?
  – Administrative Monetary Penalties (AMPs) are penalties assessed and imposed directly by a regulator.
  – To promote compliance with the Act, not to punish.
  – Under the Act, the Minister will be able to issue penalties for violations related to radio authorization, spectrum auctions, equipment technical standards, and jammers.
Administrative Monetary Penalties

• To whom can AMPs be issued?
  – AMPs will be imposed on individuals and businesses that have committed violations under the Act. These entities may be licensed, or unlicensed but conducting activities specifically prohibited by the relevant sections of the Act.

• What are the penalties?
  – For individuals: $25,000 maximum for the first violation, $50,000 maximum for subsequent violations; and for corporations and other entities: $10,000,000 and $15,000,000 respectively
  – Penalty assessment factors: scope and nature, history, benefits received, ability to pay, any factors established by IC, and any other relevant factors.
THANK YOU

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