



# *GPS Interference Detection & Mitigation Activities*

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中國工程院

CHINESE ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING



NATIONAL ACADEMY  
OF ENGINEERING

## Shanghai GNSS Workshop

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Office of Space and Advanced Technology

U.S. Department of State



## *Overview*

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- U.S. Spectrum Management Process
- Interference Threats and U.S. Regulations
- National Space Policy and Interference Detection and Mitigation
  - Planned “Patriot Watch” Program
- International Activities

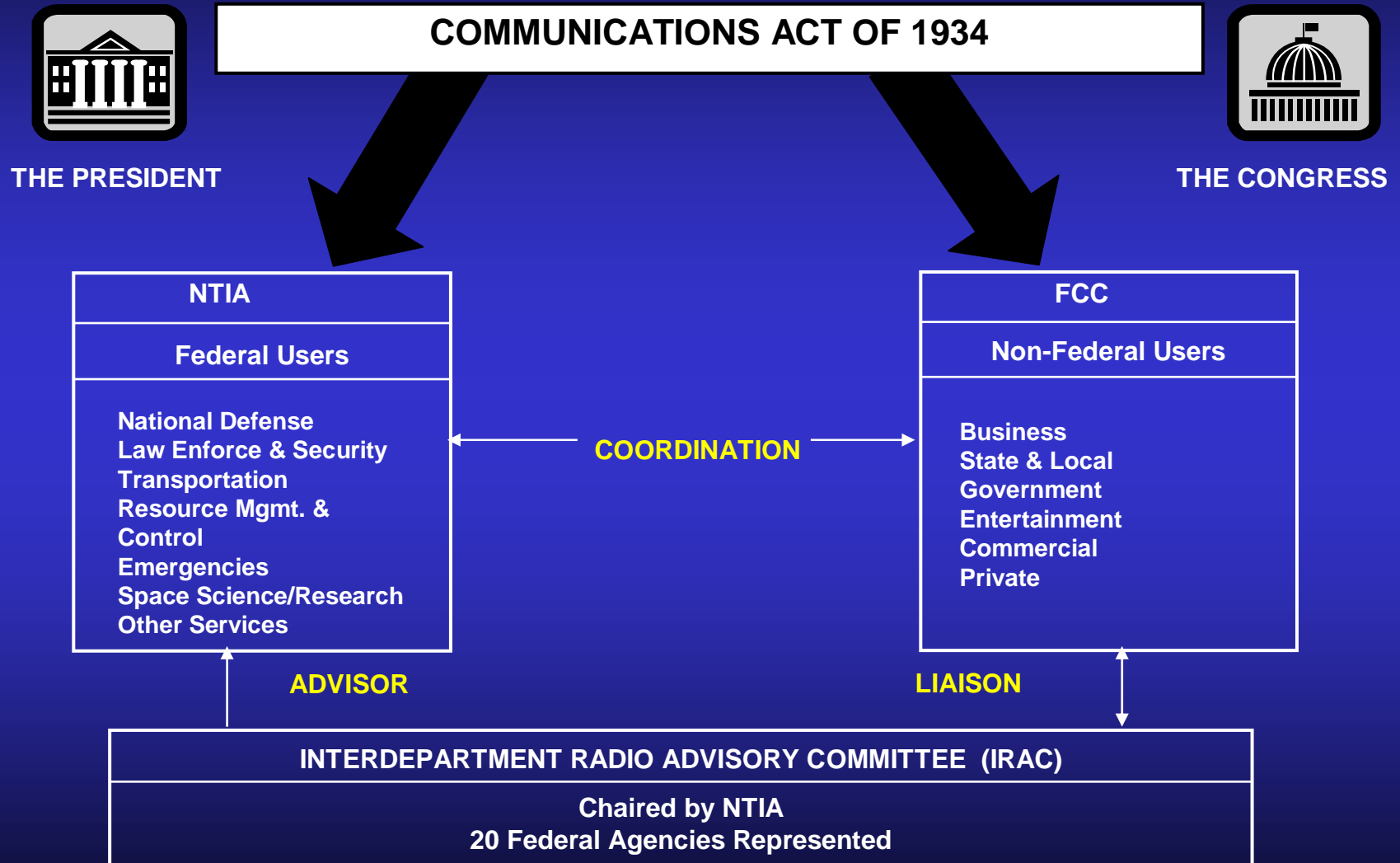


# *U.S. Domestic Spectrum Management Process*

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- In the United States, responsibility for spectrum management including **frequency allocations** is divided between Federal Government uses and other uses
- The National Telecommunications and Information Administration (**NTIA**) is responsible for Federal Government uses, while the Federal Communications Commission (**FCC**) is responsible for all other uses
- Where responsibilities overlap, the **FCC** and **NTIA** reach a consensus through coordination

# United States Spectrum Management





# Existing/Emerging Global Threats



GPS and GSM Jammer



U.K. £150



1 Watt Jammer

Links between Criminal & Terrorist activity are indisputable

## GPS Navigation Devices Can Be Duped

By Scott Stovner  
 Like flat-screen televisions, cell phones and computers, global positioning system (GPS) technology is becoming something people can't imagine living without. So if such a ubiquitous system were to come under attack, would we be ready?

It's an uncomfortable question, but one that a group of Cornell researchers have considered with their research into "spoofing" GPS receivers.

GPS is a U.S. navigation system of more than 30 satellites circling Earth twice a day in specific orbits, transmitting signals to receivers on land, sea and in air to calculate their exact locations. "Spoofing," a not-quite-technical term first coined in the radar community, is the transmission of fake GPS signals that receivers accept as authentic ones.



Ted Harshbarger, right, discusses with Mark Pitar, left, how a GPS receiver can be "spoofed," based on the researchers' work at Cornell. Robert Schaefer/Cornell University Photography



Obama Heats Are: Scrutinizing

Aug 08, FCC cites Colorado business for selling GPS jammers to counter GPS vehicle trackers

## Police Turn to Secret Weapon: GPS Device

By Mike Hennessey  
 Kinston Post Staff Writer

Someone was staking out women in Fairfax County and Alexandria, grabbing them from behind and sometimes punching and molesting them before running away. After logging 11 cases in six months, police finally identified a suspect.

David Lee Koltz Jr., who had served 17 years in prison for rape, lived near the crime scenes. To tie one out, it fell to the assistant police pulled out their secret weapon: They put a Global Positioning System device on Koltz's van, which allowed them to track his movements.

Police said they soon caught Koltz dragging a woman into a wooded area in Falls Church. After blaring on Feb. 3, the string of assaults suddenly stopped. The break in the case relied largely on a crime-fighting tool they would rather not discuss.

"We don't really want to give any info, we have we use it as an investigative tool to help the bad guys," said Officer Shelley Buerdick, a Fairfax police spokeswoman. "It is an investigative tool, and it is a very non-investigative tool."

Across the country, police are using GPS devices to snare thieves, drug dealers, sexual predators and killers, often without a warrant or court order. Privacy advocates said tracking suspects electronically is a

See GPS DEVICES, A12, C-1



## *Regulations in the U.S.*

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- U.S. Federal statutes and regulations generally prohibit the manufacture, importation, sale, advertisement, or shipment of devices, such as **jammers**, that fail to comply with FCC regulations
- U.S. Federal Statutes – Communications Act
  - 47 U.S.C. § 301 Unlicensed (unauthorized) operation prohibited
  - 47 U.S.C. § 333 – Willful or malicious interference to authorized communications prohibited
  - 47 U.S.C. § 302a(b) Manufacturing, importing, selling, offer for sale, shipment or use of devices which do not comply with regulations are prohibited



# *Regulations in the U.S.*

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- Telecom Agency Rules - FCC
  - 47 C.F.R. § 2.803(a) - marketing is prohibited unless devices are authorized and comply with all applicable administrative, technical, labeling and identification requirements.
  - 47 C.F.R. § 2.803(e)(4) - marketing is defined as “sale or lease, or offering for sale or lease, including advertising for sale or lease, or importation, shipment, or distribution for the purpose of selling or leasing or offering for sale or lease.”





# FCC Education Campaign



## JAMMING CELL PHONES AND GPS EQUIPMENT IS AGAINST THE LAW!

In recent years, the number of websites offering "cell jammers" or similar devices designed to block communications and create a "quiet zone" in vehicles, schools, theaters, restaurants, and other places has increased substantially. While these devices are marketed under different names, such as signal blockers, GPS jammers, or text stoppers, they have the same purpose. We remind and warn consumers that it is a violation of federal law to use a cell jammer or similar devices that intentionally block, jam, or interfere with authorized radio communications such as cell phones, police radar, GPS, and VLE. Despite some marketers' claims, consumers cannot legally use jammers within the United States, nor can retailers lawfully sell them.

**Why are jammers prohibited?** Use of jamming devices can place you or other people in danger. For instance, jammers can prevent 9-1-1 and other emergency calls from getting through or interfere with law enforcement communications (ambulance, fire, police, etc.). In order to protect the public and ensure access to emergency and other communications services, without interference, the FCC strictly prohibits the use, marketing, manufacture, and sale of jammers.

**What happens if you use a jammer?** Operation of a jammer in the United States is illegal and may subject you to substantial monetary penalties, seizure of the unlawful equipment, and criminal sanctions including imprisonment.

**Want to file a complaint or need more information?** To file a complaint alerting the FCC's Enforcement Bureau to illegal cell, GPS, or other jamming devices, please visit [www.fcc.gov/complaints](http://www.fcc.gov/complaints) or call 1-888-CALL-FCC. Additional information about jammer enforcement is available at [www.fcc.gov/eb/jammerenforcement](http://www.fcc.gov/eb/jammerenforcement) or by emailing the Enforcement Bureau at [jammerinfo@fcc.gov](mailto:jammerinfo@fcc.gov).

Issued by the Enforcement Bureau of the Federal Communications Commission

[www.fcc.gov/eb/jammerenforcement/](http://www.fcc.gov/eb/jammerenforcement/)





# *National Space Policy*

## *Radiofrequency Spectrum and Interference Protection*

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- The United States Government shall:
  - Protect global access to the radiofrequency spectrum required to support the use of space by the United States Government, its allies, and U.S. commercial users
  - Address requirements for radiofrequency spectrum in the acquisition of space capabilities
  - Ensure necessary regulatory frameworks remain in place over the lifetime of a system;
  - Identify impacts to government space systems prior to reallocating spectrum
  - Enhance capabilities and techniques, in cooperation with civil, commercial, and foreign partners, to identify, locate, and attribute sources of radio frequency interference
  - Take necessary measures to sustain the radiofrequency environment in which critical U.S. space systems operate
- Invest in domestic capabilities and support international activities to detect, mitigate, and increase resiliency to harmful interference to GPS



# *Critical Infrastructure and Key Resources (CIKR) Sectors*



[Agriculture and Food](#)



[Banking and Finance](#)



[Chemical](#)



[Commercial Facilities](#)



[Communications](#)



[Critical Manufacturing](#)



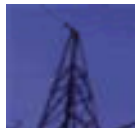
[Dams](#)



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# ***U.S. Interference Detection & Mitigation Initiatives***

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- **DATA**: Collect, analyze, store, & disseminate interference incidents from all reporting sources
- **TOOLS**: Coordinate U.S. domestic capabilities to identify, analyze, locate, attribute, & mitigate sources of interference to the GPS & its augmentations
- **ACTION**: Develop & maintain capabilities, procedures & techniques, & routinely exercise civil contingency responses to ensure continuity of operations in the event that access to GPS signal is disrupted or denied



# *Planned U.S. “Patriot Watch” System*

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- **System-of-Systems, open architecture, multi-phased approach to provide near real-time monitoring of GPS:**
  - Detect Electro-Magnetic Interference (EMI)
  - Detect suspected Purposeful Interference (PI)
  - Support protection of U.S. 18 CIKR Sectors.
  - Sensor placement based on PNT CIKR Criticality
  - Persistent monitoring for situational awareness
  - Designed with government & commercial hardware and software
  - Operational when GPS systems are “stressed”
  - Timely response to anomalies



# *“Patriot Watch” Concept*

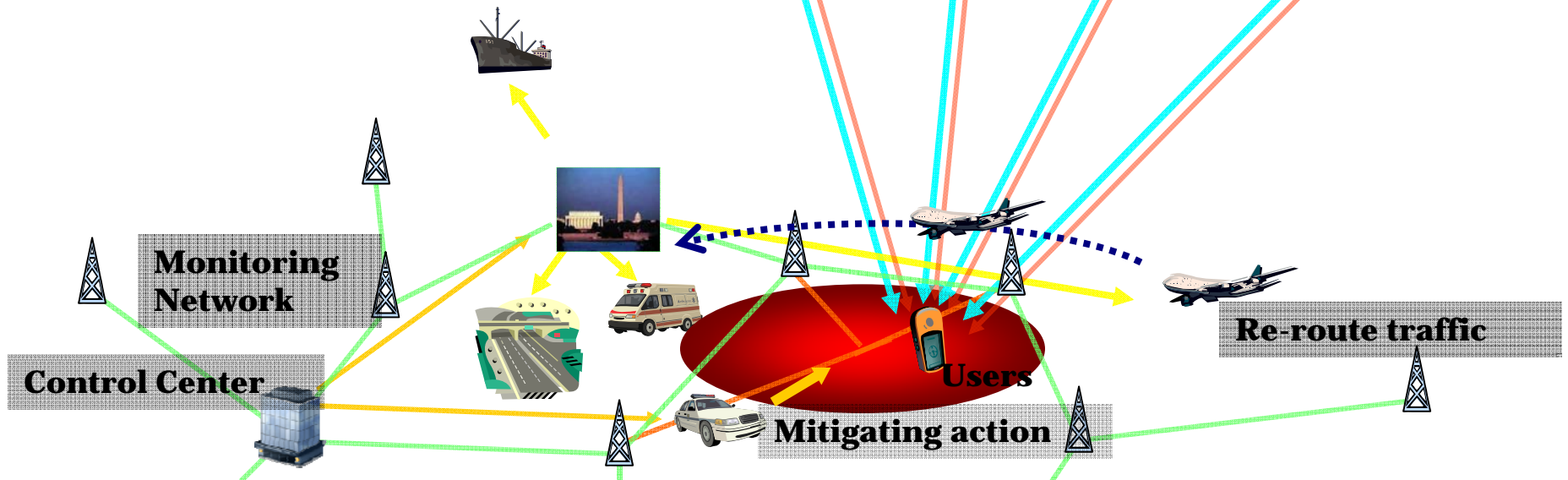
**National capability to detect & mitigate GPS interference in the U.S.**

**Leverage technologies to rapidly detect and locate interference**

**Provide standard response process and protocols to notify of abnormality**

**Establish command & control authority to mitigate events**

## **GPS Satellites**





# *International Spectrum Management*

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- U.S. Law (22 USC 2707) assigns responsibility for the *formulation, coordination, and oversight of foreign policy* related to international communications and information policy to the Secretary of State
  - In coordination with the FCC, NTIA, and U.S. Trade Representative
  - Includes the determination of U.S. positions and the conduct of U.S. participation in negotiations with foreign governments and international bodies
- International Spectrum Management activities fall under Communications and Information Policy (EEB/CIP) within State



## ***ICG-5 Accomplishments Interference Detection and Mitigation***

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- Spectrum protection has been a proposed areas of work for the ICG since its first meeting
- Proposals were made at ICG-5 to:
  - Prevent the availability of unlawful interference devices (jammers) in the open market
  - Identify national and international regulations on spectrum protection, their possible inconsistency and necessary improvement
  - Detect and neutralize interference sources at the national level and the identify possible international cooperation opportunities
- Recommendations:
  - Focus on proposals to address interference detection and mitigation and draft a study plan for consideration by the ICG
  - Member States are encouraged to take appropriate action regarding “privacy jammers”





## *Summary*

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- Protecting the spectrum used by GPS and the resolution of interference issues is a national policy priority and is covered by existing FCC regulation
- Civil infrastructure use of GPS drives requirement to build a **national IDM capability**
  - **“Patriot Watch”** will provide situational awareness for Homeland Security and Homeland Defense
- Collaboration has been and continues to be a key element on building a successful system





# *LightSquared & GPS*

- Plans to provide a nationwide wireless broadband network integrated with satellite coverage
  - Combine existing mobile satellite communications services with a ground-based wireless communications network that uses the same L-band radio spectrum as the satellites
  - Network will operate in a radio band immediately adjacent to the GPS frequencies (1525-1559 MHz)
  - Concern that ground-based transmissions may interfere with GPS signal
- 18 November 2010 - Request submitted to FCC for modification of its (ancillary terrestrial component) ATC authority
- 26 January 2011 - FCC Order & Authorization
  - Conditional approval to build out its ground-based wireless network
  - Requires addressing GPS concerns



# *LightSquared & GPS Interference*

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- FCC required that LightSquared create a working group with the GPS community to address interference concerns
  - Final report to be submitted by 15 June 2011
  - Process must be completed to the Commission's satisfaction before commencement of commercial service
- U.S. Government's National Space-Based PNT Systems Engineering Forum (NPEF) is conducting its own testing of the potential interference to GPS from the terrestrial network

[www.pnt.gov/interference/lightsquared/](http://www.pnt.gov/interference/lightsquared/)