

**SURUHANJAYA KOMUNIKASI DAN MULTIMEDIA MALAYSIA
MALAYSIAN COMMUNICATIONS AND MULTIMEDIA COMMISSION**

GUIDELINE FOR TRIAL SYSTEMS

1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (MCMC) has received many requests and applications from licensees and potential licensees, as well as potential users from among them government, corporate, business and educational users to conduct field trials, technical trials and commercial trials on new systems, equipment and applications.
- 1.2 The trials for licensees to introduce new systems, equipment or applications have been undertaken even before the establishment of MCMC, i.e. during the earlier regulatory regime.
- 1.3 For instance, the trials for IMT-2000 and DTTB systems and their applications were undertaken in 1991 and both the licensees and non-licensee were granted permission to import their equipment and devices for demonstration during exhibitions or conferences or during their own showcasing events. In all these cases, they were given "special approval" from SIRIM.
- 1.4 For all the above purposes, temporary Apparatus Assignment (AA) were issued by MCMC for durations of anything between 3 months to one year, with the possibility of extension upon agreement by the various parties involved.

2.0 PROCESS

2.1 Definition of a Trial System

"Trial System" means an evaluation of a particular system or product over a specific period of time and confined to [a] specific and limited geographic location[s].

The term "trial" may also be applied to cases of the installation of equipment or systems for the purpose of demonstration on a regular or on-going basis; for experimentation for the purpose of research and development; and, for continuous review or assessment of technical performance or behaviour parameters of systems (e.g. transmission system) by manufacturers or vendors. These will however be confined to its limited activities, geographic location[s], the number or users involved and shall not be for commercial purposes. Where frequencies are involved, these shall be subject to the Spectrum Plan and Regulations and the conditions applied from time to time for the interim or temporary issuance of frequency under the Apparatus Assignment procedure.

2.2 Criteria for a Trial System

A trial system could be considered under each of these categories:

- (a) For the benefit of users, the people or for “national interest”
- (b) For strategic business decision and implementation
- (c) For consumer education, orientation and feedback
- (d) For technology orientation, research and development

A similar trial shall not be implemented within the same geographic area that has an existing trial system of the same nature, unless there are critical and strategic reasons to support the subsequent trial application[s]. Each application of a trial will need to specify the criteria as listed above and its justifications.

2.3 **Purposes of a Trial System.**

A trial may be conducted for the purposes of:

(a) Field (or Technical) Trial

A field or technical trial will concentrate largely on the areas of technical operation and performance of a system or product as well as the technical assessment of the technology. This will cover aspects such as compatibility, interoperability, safety, compliance to standards and engineering and network operational practices, as well as other related aspects.

(b) Pilot Study (Trial)

A pilot study (trial) may encompass evaluating all-round aspects of a system or product and is normally conducted with an offering for trial to a select group of users. The select audience will evaluate services offered by the trial within the time period determined

(c) Commercial Trial

A commercial trial will involve commercial issues and may incur all or any of these commercial levies or charges, as mutually agreed for the trial: usage or recurring charges and billing, installation and commissioning costs, or rental of equipment, over the period of time where the trial is being conducted.

(d) Research and Development

Trials could also be conducted for the purpose of research and development (R&D). These trials might be conducted either by individuals or organizations, like government, universities, research establishments, companies, trade associations or learned societies. Sufficient justification will need to be provided for trials for R&D purposes.

(e) Testing of Applications and Contents

Trials could also be conducted to test new applications and contents on an existing system or product

2.4 Duration of the trial

(a) *Short term*

The minimum trial period shall be three (3) months

(b) *Long term*

The maximum trial period shall be twelve (12) months

(c) *Extensions*

For short term, the trial period may be extended based on the evaluation and discretion of MCMC and each extension period shall not exceed three (3) months.

For long term, the trial period may be extended based on the evaluation and discretion of MCMC and each extension period shall not exceed six (6) months.

For all extensions applied, consideration can only be made upon receiving and evaluating the submission of the status report of the trial for the preceding period and the justifications given for the requirement for extension.

2.5 Application Procedures

(a) All applications shall be made to the:

**Chairman
Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission
11th Floor, Menara Dato' Onn
Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC)
45, Jalan Tun Ismail
50480 Kuala Lumpur
MALAYSIA**

(b) All applications shall be accompanied by a cover letter and relevant supporting documents including technical specifications and configurations of the trial or network. If necessary, applicants would also be required to fill-in specific forms such as Apparatus Assignment (AA) forms.

(c) All applications shall be accompanied with the specified applications fees (for processing and administration).

2.6 Approval procedures

All trial applications shall be subjected to the approval of the MCMC. If the trial system involves the use of frequencies, approval shall be accompanied with an Apparatus Assignment approval. The issuance of the Apparatus Assignment shall be based on the type of apparatus and the nature of service in accordance with the Spectrum Regulations (2000).

All trial systems, equipment or product shall obtain the “SPECIAL APPROVAL” certification from SIRIM.

2.7 **Categories of applicants**

Applicants will need to specify their licensee status such as Network Facility Provider (NFP), Network Service Provider (NSP), Application Service Providers (ASP) or Content Application Service Provider (CASP) or their personal or organisation status or categories, such as individuals, vendors, manufacturers, R&D bodies, etc.

2.8 **Demonstration models for the Trial System**

Applicants are required to submit with their applications details of the models of the trial systems proposed.

2.9 **Reporting of Status/Progress of a Trial**

(a) For the purposes of effective evaluation of a trial in conduct, the trial shall be subjected to regular reporting on the status or progress to the MCMC throughout the trial period. This may be in the form of monthly reports or a periodic report, according to the time interval and format agreed to by MCMC.

(b) A final report, that will cover the whole trial activity and period will also be required the end of the trial period. This report will detail, inter alia, the findings, the issues and problems and their resolutions, the benefits obtained and the proposals for the next steps.

2.10 **Participation of MCMC Personnel in Trials**

All trials shall allow for the participation of MCMC personnel, if required, according to mutually agreed principles and terms and according to the necessity for participation in line with the purposes of the trial and the functions of MCMC with respect to the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998 and the related Regulations.

2.11 **General**

(a) Frequencies

Frequencies required for the utilization of the trial shall only be used upon requested by the applicant and approval by the MCMC.

(b) Technologies/Standards

Applicants for trials are required to advise the MCMC on the technology[ies] and standard[s] involved in the proposed trial.

(c) Interference/Monitoring

Any issues pertaining to potential and harmful interference and that require monitoring shall be advised to the MCMC in advance. The MCMC will be monitoring from time to time during the trial period for any possible interference generated by the trial

(d) Issues upon completion of a trial

Any relevant issues upon completion of a trial shall be highlighted to the MCMC for the purpose of further evaluation. The completion of a trial and the reception, deliberation and acceptance of the trial results by the MCMC shall not be interpreted or construed as an approval by the MCMC for the trial applicant to proceed with the provision of commercial service, where licensing is involved, or the continued usage of the frequency(ies) granted for the trial.

All applicants will be subjected, where applicable, to provisions of the CMA98 for the commercial operation of network and provision of service.

(e) Cessation of Transmission and Termination of Trial Activities.

All trial activities and transmission on frequencies, where applicable, shall be ceased upon expiry of the trial period, if extensions are not granted.

MCMC Trial System Flow Chart

