

Federal Communications Commission

§ 3.2

GENERAL

§ 3.1 Scope, basis, purpose.

By these rules the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) is delineating its responsibilities in certifying and monitoring accounting authorities in the maritime mobile and maritime mobile-satellite radio services. These entities settle accounts for public correspondence due to foreign administrations for messages transmitted at sea by or between maritime mobile stations located on board ships subject to U.S. registry and utilizing foreign coast and coast earth station facilities. These rules are intended to ensure that settlements of accounts for U.S. licensed ship radio stations are conducted in accordance with the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITR), taking into account the applicable ITU-T Recommendations.

§ 3.2 Terms and definitions.

(a) *Accounting Authority*. The Administration of the country that has issued the license for a mobile station or the recognized operating agency or other entity/entities designated by the Administration in accordance with ITR, Appendix 2 and ITU-T Recommendation D.90 to whom maritime accounts in respect of mobile stations licensed by that country may be sent.

(b) *Accounting Authority Certification Officer*. The official designated by the Managing Director, Federal Communications Commission, who is responsible, based on the coordination and review of information related to applicants, for granting certification as an accounting authority in the maritime mobile and maritime mobile-satellite radio services. The Accounting Authority Certification Officer may initiate action to suspend or cancel an accounting authority certification if it is determined to be in the public's best interest.

(c) *Accounting Authority Identification Codes (AAICs)*. The discrete identification code of an accounting authority responsible for the settlement of maritime accounts (Annex A to ITU-T Recommendation D.90).

(d) *Administration*. Any governmental department or service responsible for discharging the obligations undertaken

in the Convention of the International Telecommunication Union and the Radio Regulations. For purposes of these rules, "Administration" refers to a foreign government or the U.S. Government, and more specifically, to the Federal Communications Commission.

(e) *Authorization*. Approval by the Federal Communications Commission to operate as an accounting authority. Synonymous with "certification".

(f) *CCITT*. The internationally recognized French acronym for the International Telegraph and Telephone Consultative Committee, one of the former sub-entities of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). The CCITT (ITU-T)¹ is responsible for developing international telecommunications recommendations relating to standardization of international telecommunications services and facilities, including matters related to international charging and accounting principles and the settlement of international telecommunications accounts.

Such recommendations are, effectively, the detailed implementation provisions for topics addressed in the International Telecommunication Regulations (ITR).

(g) *Certification*. Approval by the FCC to operate as an accounting authority. Synonymous with "authorization".

(h) *Coast Earth Station*. An earth station in the fixed-satellite service or, in some cases, in the maritime mobile-satellite service, located at a specified fixed point on land to provide a feeder link for the maritime mobile-satellite service.

(i) *Coast Station*. A land station in the maritime mobile service.

(j) *Commission*. The Federal Communications Commission. The FCC.

¹At the ITU Additional Plenipotentiary Conference in Geneva (December, 1992), the structure, working methods and construct of the basic ITU treaty instrument were modified. The result is that the names of the sub-entities of the ITU have changed (e.g., the CCITT has become the Telecommunication Standardization Sector—ITU-T and Recognized Private Operating Agency has become Recognized Operating Agency-ROA). The changes were placed into provisional effect on March 1, 1993 with the formal entry into force of these changes being July 1, 1994. We will refer to the new nomenclatures within these rules, wherever practicable.