



## **NEW IEEE C95.1 REVISION A SIGNIFICANT STEP TOWARDS GLOBAL STANDARDS HARMONISATION**

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) has taken a significant step forward in the international harmonisation of radiofrequency (RF) exposure safety standards.

The IEEE is a key international standards setting body and, at its meeting on 22 September 2005, its standards Board approved a new version of the IEEE standard C95.1: Standard for Safety Levels with Respect to Human Exposure to Radio Frequency Electromagnetic Fields, 3 kHz to 300 GHz.

The IEEE Standard C95.1 and the International Commission on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection's (ICNIRP) RF exposure safety guidelines are harmonised with respect to SAR limits in the frequency range 100 kHz to 3 GHz and external field intensity and power density limits for the general public in the frequency range 30 MHz to 100 GHz. Those ranges encompass the frequencies used in mobile communications and wireless systems.

To date, 35 governments that have adopted national exposure standards have adopted the ICNIRP guidelines. The predecessor to IEEE Std C95.1 (IEEE Std C95.1-1991) formed the basis in the United States, Canada, Taiwan and South Korea. In November, Taiwan will switch to ICNIRP limits.

The MMF fully supports the process of global harmonisation of RF standards, which benefit consumers, manufacturers of wireless devices and regulators.

Consumers gain the protection of an internationally recognised safety standard, and have equal access to products and services that are available to consumers elsewhere in the world. Manufacturers gain by designing and developing products to widely accepted international standards.

Regulators can adopt a consistent approach to regulation that is in line with the recommendations of the World Health Organization, the International Telecommunications Union and the World Trade Organization.

In summary, the revised IEEE RF exposure standard has been approved and is expected to be published within a few months. The exposure limits in the new IEEE standard and the ICNIRP standard are identical at frequencies used in mobile communications systems.

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