



# **Framework for Amateur Radio Operations in Saint Lucia**

**[CODE]**

**National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission  
Saint Lucia**



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## 1.0 Introduction

Amateur radio operation is a personal and rewarding hobby to its many enthusiasts, and is a crucial source of communications in times of disaster. It is also a form of telecommunications, which is governed in Saint Lucia by the Telecommunications Act [No. 27 of 2000] and its associated Regulations.

As presently drafted, the focus of the Act is on the provision of telecommunications service to the general public. There is limited guidance for those who seek to utilise the telecommunications media for their own personal use and enjoyment.

Generally, the amateur radio fraternity is self-regulating, and so the involvement of the telecommunications regulator is minimised. However, in Saint Lucia, many of the clubs and associations have been dissolved or have become defunct, resulting in no clear guidance and support to existing and prospective operators.

The National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission was created under the Telecommunications Act 2000 to oversee the telecommunications sector in Saint Lucia. It is therefore responsible for ensuring adherence to the legislation by service providers and other telecommunications users, including amateur radio operators.

In an effort to provide much needed guidance to itself and the public, the Commission has drafted a framework on amateur radio operations in Saint Lucia. The document has been prepared, in the first instance, to address basic topics associated with amateur radio operation, since there is no longer any official self-regulating structure, and procedures and operating standards had been adapted to the local environment. It is therefore hoped and expected that there will be the continued participation and assistance of the local amateur radio fraternity to ensure the pertinence of the framework and its continued revision as the need arises.

Finally, the Commission would like to express its appreciation to the following persons who gave of their time and expertise to the preparation of this document: G. George, P. Mason, D. Saltibus.

## 2.0 Scope

The purpose of this document is to provide a clear and comprehensive outline for amateur radio operations in Saint Lucia. It shall describe, among other things, the licences, rules, standards, important procedures and operating limits for amateur operations.

In the event of any inconsistencies between this framework and the Act or Regulations, the provisions of the Act or applicable Regulations shall take precedence.

### 3.0 Resources

In addition to the persons experienced in amateur radio operations who were consulted for preparation of this framework, a primary source for this document has been the Code of Federal Regulations (Title 47, Part 97), due to its comprehensiveness and its informal adoption in certain parts by the local amateur radio fraternity.

The following additional resources were utilised or were referenced:

- The Telecommunications Act 2000 and Regulations;
- The ARRL FCC Rule Book;
- The ARRL Operating Manual for Radio Amateurs;
- The ARRL Handbook for Radio Communications.

### 4.0 Glossary of Terms

**Act** – The Telecommunications Act [No. 27 of 2000] in the jurisdiction of Saint Lucia.

**Amateur Radio** – A radio communications service for the purpose of self-training, intercommunication and technical investigations carried out by amateur, that is duly authorised persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest.

**Amateur Radio Licence** – A licence issued to an amateur radio operator that specifies the class of amateur radio operations granted and associated privileges and/or permits and amateur radio operator to use and to be in possession of telecommunications equipment required to engage in amateur radio operations.

**Amateur Radio Operator** – A person holding an amateur radio licence permitting the operation of an amateur radio station.

**Amateur Radio Station** – A station licensed for amateur radio operations, which includes the required equipment.



**Amateur Radio Operations** – Radio communications for the purpose of self-training, intercommunication and technical investigations carried out by amateur that is duly authorised persons interested in radio technique solely with a personal aim and without pecuniary interest.

**Applicant** – A person applying for a licence or a frequency authorisation under the Act.

**Application** – An application for a licence or frequency authorisation, including a modification or renewal of a licence, under the Act.

**Application fees** – The fees payable by applicant for a licence or frequency authorisation.

**Auxiliary Station** – An amateur radio station, other than a message forwarding system, transmitting communication point-to-point within a system of co-operating amateur radio stations.

**Band** – A range of frequencies.

**Bandwidth** – The width of a frequency band (outside of which the mean power of the transmitted signal is attenuated at least 26 dB below the mean power if the transmitted signal within the band).

**Beacon** – An amateur station transmitting communications for the purposes of observation of propagation and reception or other related experimental activities.

**Broadcasting** – The transmission intended for reception by the general public, either direct or relayed.

**Call sign** – A series of unique letters and numbers assigned to a person who has earned an amateur radio licence.

**Commission** – The National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission, established under section 8 of the Act

**Contest** – An amateur radio activity in which amateur radio operators and their stations compete to contact the most stations within a designated period of time.

**Control Operator** – An amateur radio operator designated by the licensee of the amateur radio station to be responsible for transmissions from that amateur radio station to assure compliance with the operating rules and limits. In most cases, the control operator is the licensed amateur radio operator, except in cases when a amateur radio licence has been granted to a amateur radio club, association or other recognised group.

**CW** – Abbreviation for continuous wave; another name for Morse code telegraphy by radio.

**Data** – Telemetry, telecommand and compute communications emissions having designations with A, C, D, F, G, H, J or R as the first symbol; 1 as the second symbol; D as the third symbol; and emissions J2D.

**DX** – An amateur radio abbreviation for distance or foreign countries.

**Earth Station** – An amateur radio station located on, or within 50 km of, the Earth's surface intended for communications with space stations or with other Earth stations by means of one or more objects in space.

**Emergency communications** – Amateur radio communications that take place during situations where there is danger to lives and property.

**Emission designator** – a mode of classifying the types of emissions, modulation and transmission characteristics of a transmitter. The predominant format is that set by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), and a guide to this format for emission designation has been supplied in Appendix A.

**FM** – Abbreviation for frequency modulation.

**Harmful interference** – Any radiation or induction which endangers the functioning of radio navigation service or of a safety service or obstructs or repeatedly interrupts a radio service operating in accordance with the approved Table of Frequency Allocation and with the Telecommunications (Spectrum Management) Regulations, 2002.

**Licence fees** – Initial and annual fees that are payable by amateur radio operator.

**Log** – also called a Station Log, a record of communications by amateur radio operators which can be in print or electronic format.

**Minister** – Minister responsible for Telecommunications.

**Mode** – A type of amateur radio communication. Examples include Frequency Modulation (FM), Slow-scan Television (SSTV) and Single Sideband (SSB).

**Morse code** – A communication mode transmitted by on/off keying of a radio signal.

**PEP** – Peak Envelope Power. The average power supplied to the antenna transmission line by a transmitter during one RF cycle at the crest of the modulation envelope taken under normal operating conditions.

**Phone** – Emissions carrying speech or other sound information having designators with A, C, D, F, G, H, J, or R as the first symbol; 1, 2 or 3 as the second symbol; E as the third symbol. Also includes speech emissions having B as the first symbol; 7, 8 or 9 as the second symbol; E as the third symbol.

**Pulse** – Emissions having designators K, L, M, P, Q, V or W as the first symbol; 0, 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9 or X as the second symbol; A, B, C, D, E, F, N, W or X as the third symbol.

**RF** – Abbreviation for radio frequencies; a range of frequencies that can travel through space in the form of electromagnetic radiation.

**Regulations** – Refers to the Regulations that have been made under the Telecommunications Act, No 27 of 2000 in the jurisdiction of Saint Lucia.

**Repeater** – An amateur radio station, usually located at elevated levels, for the purpose of receiving and simultaneously retransmitting of signals from other amateur radio stations on a different channel for greater range.

**RTTY** – Narrow band direct-printing telegraphy emissions having designators with A, C, D, F, G, H, J or R as the first symbol; 1 as the second symbol; B as the third symbol; and emission J2B.

**Space station** – An amateur station located more than 50 km above the Earth's surface.

**SSB** – Single Side Band. A common mode of voice operation on the amateur bands.

**SSTV** – Slow-scan Television. A mode of operation in which amateur radio operators exchange still pictures from their stations.

**Telecommand** – A one-way transmission to initiate, modify or terminate functions of a device at a distance.

**Telecommunications** – Any form of transmission, emission or reception of signs, texts, images and sounds or other intelligence of any nature by wire, radio, optical or other electromagnetic means.

**Telemetry** – A one-way transmission of measurements at a distance from the measuring instrument.

**Unwanted Emissions** – Spurious emissions and out-of-band emissions as defined in the Radio Regulations.

## 5.0 Amateur Radio Licences

5.0.1 The following Amateur Radio Licences can be granted in Saint Lucia:

- (i) Novice Class Amateur Radio Licence; *(personal licence)*
- (ii) General Class Amateur Radio Licence; *(personal licence)*

- (iii) Advanced Class Amateur Radio Licence; *(personal licence)*
- (iv) Visitor Amateur Radio Licence; *(personal licence)*
- (v) Regular Visitor Amateur Radio Licence; *(personal licence)*
- (vi) Resident Non-national Amateur Radio Licence; *(personal licence)*
- (vii) Special Events Amateur Radio Licence; *(non-personal licence)*
- (viii) Special Station Amateur Radio Licence. *(non-personal licence)*

5.0.2 The Amateur Radio Licences listed as ***'personal licences'*** serve two purposes. First, it is an operator licence: it licenses an individual (a person) as an amateur radio operator by recognising the skills that have been acquired, by specifying the class of amateur radio operations granted and associated privileges. Second, it is a station licence: it permits the amateur radio operator to use and to be in possession of telecommunications equipment required to engage in amateur radio operations.

5.0.3 The Special Events and Special Station Amateur Radio Licences are considered to be ***'non-personal licences'***: they can only be granted to already licensed amateur radio operators, or to recognised groups of amateur radio operators. In circumstances when the applicant for such licences is a club, association or other recognised groups, there must be a designated representative who must be a licensed amateur radio operator.

5.0.4 The Novice Class, General Class, Advanced Class, Special Events and Special Station Amateur Radio Licences are available to resident citizens only. The Visitor, Regular Visitor and Resident Non-national Amateur Radio Licences are awarded on the strength that applicants possess and maintain valid amateur radio licences in their country of origin.

## 5.1 **Novice Class: *Description, Requirements and Privileges***

5.1.1 *Description:* A Novice Class Amateur Radio Licence is the most basic Amateur Radio Licence available to the individual operator to introduce him/her to the hobby. It is non-exportable and so it is only valid in the jurisdiction of Saint Lucia. Upon the grant of this licence, the operator has basic operating privileges.

5.1.2 *Requirements:* To be considered for a Novice Class Amateur Radio Licence, the applicant

- (i) must be a citizen of Saint Lucia,
- (ii) must be at least twelve (12) years old,
- (iii) must pass the Novice Class Examination that has approved by the Commission,  
and

(iv) must satisfy the requirements of the application process.

5.1.3 *Privileges:* The operating privileges for the Novice Class are:

(i) access to frequencies in the HF and VHF Band, as specified in Section 14.1, ***Approved Frequency Band, Modes of Operations and Power Limits.***

## 5.2 **General Class: *Description, Requirements and Privileges***

5.2.1 *Description:* The General Class Amateur Radio Licence is the next licence available to Saint Lucian citizens, and is considered a licence of recognised standing. The operator is required to have extensive knowledge of amateur radio theory and the corresponding practical skills. For amateur radio operators licensed at the Novice Class, it is expected that they will be mentored by an experienced operator, holding at least a General Class Amateur Radio Licence to ensure that adequate practice at the skills and standards associated with the General Class Amateur Radio Licence.

5.2.2 *Requirements:* To be considered for a General Class Amateur Radio Licence, the applicant must:

- (i) be a citizen of St. Lucia,
- (ii) have successfully completed General Class Examinations that has approved by the Commission,
- (iii) have sat and be successful at Novice Class Examinations,
- (iv) have been a active Novice Class Amateur Radio Operator for at least 1 year
- (v) maintain novice status/valid licence,
- (vi) or be supported/recommended by approved Amateur Radio Operators, who hold at least a General Class Amateur Radio Licence, and
- (vii) satisfy the requirements of the application process.

5.2.3 *Privileges:* (a) The operating privileges for the General Class are

- (i) access to frequencies in the HF, UHF and VHF Bands, as specified in Section 14.2, ***Approved Frequency Band, Modes of Operations and Power Limits,***
- (ii) to apply for and be granted an Special Events Amateur Radio Licence, in keeping with section 5.7,
- (iii) to own and operate Special Stations, as discussed in section, 5.8,

- (b) The licence for holders of a General Class Amateur Radio Licence is exportable to the territories where mutual or reciprocal agreements with Saint Lucia exist.

### **5.3 Advanced Class: *Description, Requirements and Privileges***

5.3.1 *Description:* The Advanced Class Amateur Radio Licence is the most senior licence available to Saint Lucian citizens, and is considered a licence of recognised standing. The operator is required to have extensive practical skills, in keeping with the privileges associated with the General Class Amateur Radio Licence, which would create a solid foundation for the skills and operating privileges associated with the Advanced Class Amateur Radio Licence.

5.3.2 In addition to an examination requirement, the prospective Advanced Class amateur radio operator ought to display exceptional performance as an amateur radio operator, which could include, but is not limited to, national service in emergency communications, and time spent as an active amateur radio operator (at least five years).

5.3.3 *Requirements:* To be considered for an Advanced Class Amateur Radio Licence, the applicant must:

- (i) be a citizen of St. Lucia
- (ii) have successfully completed the Advanced Class Amateur Radio Examinations,
- (iii) have maintained a valid General Class Amateur Radio Licence for at least 3 years,
- (iv) be an active Amateur Radio Operator involved in nationally recognized emergency response agencies.,
- (v) satisfy the requirements of the application process.

5.3.3 *Privileges:* (a) The operating privileges for the Advanced Class are

- (i) access to frequencies in the HF, UHF and VHF Bands, as specified in Section 14.3, **Approved Frequency Band, Modes of Operations and Power Limits**,
- (ii) to apply for and be granted an Special Events Amateur Radio Licence, in keeping with section 5.7,
- (iii) to own and operate Special Stations, as discussed in section, 5.8,

- (b) The licence for holders of an Advanced Class Amateur Radio Licence is exportable to the territories where mutual or reciprocal agreements with Saint Lucia exist.

## 5.4 Resident Non-National: *Description, Requirements and Privileges*

5.4.1 *Description:* The Resident Non-national Amateur Radio Licence can be granted to non-nationals who are licensed amateur radio operators in their home territories, but who are resident in Saint Lucia. The licence is valid in Saint Lucia only (non-exportable) and would be valid for a period of at least one (1) year or for the period of residency, up to three (3) years, and is renewable.

5.4.2 Note: Upon naturalization, the licensee may apply for the General Class Amateur Radio Licence, which is awarded to Saint Lucian nationals and citizens.

5.4.3 *Requirements:* To be considered for a Resident Non-national Amateur Radio Licence, the applicant must:

- (i) be a non-national who is resident in Saint Lucia,
- (ii) be permitted to reside in Saint Lucia (evidence would be required),
- (iii) satisfy the requirements of the application process, and
- (iv) possess an Amateur Radio Licence from his/her country of origin comparable to that of St. Lucia's General Class Amateur Radio Licence or higher, which must be valid at the time of application.

5.4.4 *Privileges:* The operating privileges for the Resident Non-National Class are

- (i) access to frequencies in the HF, UHF and VHF Bands for Novice and General, as specified in Section 14.2, ***Approved Frequency Band, Modes of Operations and Power Limits***.

## 5.5 Regular-Visitor: *Description, Requirements and Privileges*

5.5.1 *Description:* The Regular-Visitor Amateur Radio Licence is available to non-resident, non-national Amateur Radio Operators who visit Saint Lucia regularly. Grant of the licence would be considered on the operator's second visit to the island and second application for license. The licence would be valid up to a term of three (3) years in the jurisdiction of Saint Lucia only (non-exportable), and is renewable.

5.5.2 *Requirements:* To be considered for a Regular-Visitor Amateur Radio Licence, the applicant must:

- (i) be a non-national and not be resident in Saint Lucia,

- (ii) possess an Amateur Radio Licence from his/her country of origin comparable to that of St. Lucia's General Class Amateur Radio Licence, which must be valid at the time of application.
- (iii) satisfy the requirements of the application process, and
- (iv) be visiting the island for at least the second time, and on the previous occasions had applied for and had been granted a Visitor Amateur Radio Licence.

5.5.3 *Privileges:* The operating privileges for the Regular-Visitor Class are

- (i) access to frequencies in the HF, UHF and VHF Bands, as specified in Section 14.2, **Approved Frequency Band, Modes of Operations and Power Limits.**

## 5.6 **Visitor: Description, Requirements and Privileges**

5.6.1 *Description:* The Visitor Amateur Radio Licence is granted to non-national, non-resident Amateur Radio Operators visiting Saint Lucia. The operator must hold a valid licence of at least a General Class in his home territory, for the duration of the term of the Visitor Amateur Radio Licence that would be issued in Saint Lucia. The licence would be valid up to a term of one (1) year in the jurisdiction of Saint Lucia only (non-exportable). Upon expiry, the operator would be required to re-apply. The call sign issued would comprise the Saint Lucia's J6 prefix / the operator's overseas call sign.

5.6.2 *Requirements:* To be considered for a Visitor Amateur Radio Licence, the applicant must:

- (i) possess an Amateur Radio Licence from country of origin comparable to that of St. Lucia's General Class Amateur Radio Licence, which must be valid at the time of application.
- (ii) satisfy the requirements of the application process.

5.6.3 *Privileges:* The operating privileges for the Regular-Visitor Class are

- (i) access to frequencies in the HF, UHF and VHF Bands, as specified in Section 14.2, **Approved Frequency Band, Modes of Operations and Power Limits.**

## 5.7 **Special Events: Description, Requirements and Privileges**

5.7.1 *Description:* The Special Events Amateur Radio Licence can be granted for special events such as fairs, radio shows, Hamboree, or to commemorate special occasions. Unlike all of the licences described above, the Special Events Amateur Radio Licence, it is a station



licence for which a separate call sign will be issued. This licence will only be issued to local amateur radio operators and must be under the supervision of a holder of at least a valid General Class Amateur Radio Licence. This licence and call sign are non-exportable, is valid for up to one (1) week and is renewable.

5.7.2 *Requirements:* To be considered for a Special Events Amateur Radio Licence, the applicant, which can also be a group, club or association, must:

- (i) be the holder of a valid Saint Lucia Amateur Radio Licence of at least General Class. For groups, clubs and associations, a holder of a valid Saint Lucia Amateur Radio Licence of at least General Class must be designated as the responsible party,
- (ii) clearly state the purpose for which a Special Events Amateur Radio Licence and call sign are required,
- (iii) clearly state the duration for which the Special Events Amateur Radio Licence would be required,
- (iv) satisfy the requirements of the application process.

5.7.3 *Privileges:* The operating privileges and/or restrictions, if any, for a Special Events Amateur Radio Licence would be indicated in the licence.

## **5.8 Special Station: *Description, Requirements and Privileges***

5.8.1 *Description:* A Special Station Amateur Radio Licence may be granted to

- (i) permit the permanent establishment and operations of the following fixed stations by individually licensed amateur radio operators,
  - (a) Auxiliary Stations,
  - (b) Beacon Stations,
  - (c) Repeater Stations,
  - (d) Earth Stations, or
- (ii) essential services, recognised clubs, societies, associations and organisations approved by the Commission that desire or need access to the amateur radio service, or wish to establish and operate the above-stated fixed stations.

- 5.8.2 The Station Amateur Radio Licence can be granted for a term of up to Three (3) years and is non-exportable.
- 5.8.3 The individual amateur radio operator who desires a Special Station Amateur Radio Licence must be the holder of a valid Saint Lucian licence of at least the General Class.
- 5.8.4 For recognised clubs, societies, associations and organisations the operating privileges and obligations would be those associated with General Class amateur radio operations, unless otherwise specified.
- 5.8.3 *Requirements:* To be considered for a Special Station Amateur Radio Licence, the applicant, which can also be a group, club or association, must:
- (i) be the holder of a valid Saint Lucia Amateur Radio Licence of at least General Class. For groups, clubs and associations, a holder of a valid Saint Lucia Amateur Radio Licence of at least General Class must be designated as the responsible party,
  - (ii) clearly state the purpose for which a Station Amateur Radio Licence is required,
  - (iii) satisfy the requirements of the application process.
- 5.8.4 *Privileges:* Privileges and restrictions to be recommended by the Commission on a case-by-case basis.

## **6.0 Examinations**

- 6.0.1 One of the key requirements for the grant of Novice Class, General Class and Advanced Class Amateur Radio Licence is to have passed the Commission-approved examination associated with those levels. The classes can be distinguished by the knowledge requirements to attain the licence and the privileges that are associated with each class. As one moves from the Novice Class to the Advanced Class, there is need for greater knowledge in terms of theory and practical skills required, and correspondingly, the privileges increase.

### **6.1 Examination Syllabus**

- 6.1.1 The examination syllabus shall be developed by the Commission, and may comprise, but is not limited to, the following topics:
- (a) Basic Operating Principles;

- (b) Amateur Station Operating Principles;
- (c) Radio Wave Propagation;
- (d) Amateur Radio Practices;
- (e) Electrical Principles;
- (f) Circuit Components;
- (g) Practical Circuits;
- (h) Signals and Emissions;
- (i) Antennas and Feed lines.

6.1.2 The Commission has made available the specific topics and the depth of knowledge required for each licence class, in the examination syllabus and which shall be updated as deemed necessary.

## **6.2 Preparation for Examinations**

6.2.1 The Commission shall not be offering scheduled tuition to prospective students. Instead, prospective students can be guided by the syllabus, examination past papers, and any other documents that have been published by the Commission. Students would also be encouraged to make use of the resources available on the internet and any private tuition that might be available.

## **6.3 Examination Schedule**

6.3.1 Examinations for Amateur Radio Licences shall be held at least once a year and no more than four times annually. Notices of examinations shall be published at least one (1) month prior to the scheduled examination dates, and shall include the following information:

- (a) The examination level that is being tested;
- (b) The examination date, time and duration;
- (c) The location for the examination;
- (d) Deadline date for registration;
- (e) Deadline date for payment for examination fees.

## **6.4 Examination Registration**

- 6.4.1 Prospective candidates may register in person, post or electronically. The deadline date for registration would be at least week (1) week before the examination date, which would also be the deadline date for payment of the examination fees.
- 6.4.2 Upon successful registration, examination candidates will receive an examination number which shall represent the candidate during the examination.

## **6.5 Format of Examinations**

- 6.5.1 The examination material may be written and might include audio or visual presentations as deemed necessary. Candidates would be required to write all answers as specified, and does not preclude the presentation of results by practical demonstrations that could be introduced.

## **6.6 Examination Results**

- 6.6.1 The minimum passing grade for Amateur Radio Licence examinations is 75%, and the examination results will indicate that a candidate has either been '**successful**' or '**unsuccessful**'.
- 6.6.2 A listing of the *Examination (Provisional) Results* shall be available no later than two weeks after an examination has been written. Additionally, the Commission may, using the examination numbers that were issued, publish these examination results on its website.
- 6.6.3 Unless otherwise specified, final examination results shall be sent directly to the candidates by post, after the provisional results have been ratified by the Commission.

## **6.7 Special Requirements for Examinations**

- 6.7.1 For prospective examination candidates who have special needs or circumstances that might affect their ability to perform under examination conditions and which ought to be considered, these matters should be presented upon registration, as they will be dealt with on a case-by-case basis.

## **7.0 Application Process for an Amateur Radio Licence**

7.0.1 An application for an Amateur Radio Licence shall be submitted to the Commission, at its office in the S & S Building, #35 Chisel Street, Castries, and shall be:

- (i) in the prescribed form and contain such information and particulars as specified in the form, which found in the Appendix A of this document and on the NTRC web site, and
- (ii) accompanied by the prescribed application fee found in the Fees Section.

7.0.2 Upon receipt of the application, the Commission shall:

- (i) Issue a receipt in respect of the application fees paid.
- (ii) Acknowledge receipt of the application.
- (iii) Conduct a preliminary review of the application to ensure that all sections of the application have been completed and that all stated supporting documents have been supplied. If the application is deemed complete, it shall initiate its formal review process.
- (iv) If omissions have been identified in the application as submitted, notify the applicant and specify a deadline to supply outstanding information.
- (v) When the deadline has for submitting the outstanding information has lapsed, promptly initiate its review procedure.

## **8.0 Assessment of Amateur Radio Licence Applications by the Commission**

8.0.1 The Commission will assess the application and when necessary, it might request additional information from the applicant in order to complete its review of the application.

8.0.2 In reviewing applications for an Amateur Radio Licence, the Commission will ensure that in addition to receiving all stated supporting documents, the required technical content and equipment listings have been provided. Further, the assessment will verify the existence of some degree of technical competence, in keeping with the class of licence that is being applied for and the operating privileges that would be bestowed.

8.0.3 Upon completion of its evaluation and ratification of its decision, the Commission will forward to the Minister its recommendation on whether or not the applicant should be awarded an Amateur Radio Licence.

## **9.0 Licensing Process**

9.0.1 As prescribed by the Act, the Minister shall decide whether or not to grant a licence to the applicant and shall notify the applicant of that decision within 90 days of receipt of the application.

### **9.1 Minister Decides to Grant Licence**

9.1.1 Upon notification that the Minister has decided to grant an Amateur Radio Licence, the prospective licensee must make arrangements:

- (a) to pay the licence fee, and
- (b) to arrange with the Minister's office for the release of the licence.

### **9.2 Minister Decides Not to Grant Licence**

9.2.1 In the event that the Minister decides not to grant a licence, the licensee may reapply for a licence through the Commission.

### **9.3 Licence Document**

9.3.1 As prescribed under the Act, there are a number of compulsory and optional provisions that a licence must/may contain. The licence will also detail the operating parameters pertinent to the licence, including the privileges and obligations on the licensee as an amateur radio operator.

## **10.0 Fees**

10.0.1 The main fees associated with amateur radio operations have been prescribed under the Telecommunications (Fees) Regulations, 2002.<sup>1</sup> They include

- (a) application fees,

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<sup>1</sup> Notwithstanding the fees stated, amateur radio operators might be required to make other payments. These shall be instituted either when the need arises or on a case by case basis.

- (b) licence fees, and
- (c) examination fees.

- 10.0.2 *Application fees* are payable to the Commission upon submission of an Application for an Amateur Radio Licence.
- 10.0.3 *Licence fees* are payable to Inland Revenue Department on the grant of an Amateur Radio Licence and subsequently on the anniversary date for the duration of the licence.
- 10.0.4 *Examination fees* are payable to the Commission to register to sit an amateur radio examination.

## 11.0 Renewal of an Amateur Radio Licence

- 11.0.1 Renewal of an Amateur Radio Licence will become necessary when the term of an existing licence is about to expire and the operator does not intend to change his or her class of licence.
- 11.0.2 The Commission may notify the licensee of the pending expiration date and provide guidance as to the process for renewal of the licence. The licensee should begin the renewal process at least three (3) months before the expiration date of his or her existing licence by submitting all prescribed forms and supporting documents.
- 11.0.3 The Commission shall review the application for renewal of a licence and shall make its recommendation to the Minister as to whether or not the amateur radio licence should or should not be renewed.

## 12.0 Harmful Interference

- 12.0.1 Under the Telecommunications (Spectrum Management) Regulations, 2002, '***harmful interference***' is defined as "... any means of radiation or induction which endangers the functioning of a radio navigation service or of a safety service or obstructs or repeatedly

interrupts a radio service<sup>2</sup> operating in accordance with the Table of Frequency Allocations and these Regulations”.

- 12.0.2 Under those Regulations and upon receipt of a complaint of harmful interference, the Commission may issue a directive suspending the operation of a station on that particular frequency for a period not exceeding 30 days pending investigation of the complaint.
- 12.0.3 It should be noted that these Regulations apply to amateur radio operators. It can be invoked by amateur radio operators should they be the victim of harmful interference on frequencies that they are permitted to use on a primary basis, or can be applied against amateur radio operators should their stations be the alleged source of harmful interference outside of the amateur radio bands.

### **13.0 Termination of an Amateur Radio Licence**

- 13.0.1 An amateur radio licence, and by extension a licence granted under the Telecommunications Act, can be terminated by the Minister for a number of reasons. It can be terminated when a Licensee is in breach of the Licence, the Act or Regulations and under less severe circumstances, a licence might be suspended for a specified period of time.
- 13.0.2 When an amateur radio licence has been terminated, the former licensee is not permitted to use nor be in possession of the amateur radio equipment. In the case where a licence has been suspended, it is usually the operations that have barred for the time frame specified.

### **14.0 Approved Frequency Bands, Modes of Operation and Power Limits**

- 14.0.1 For each class of licence, there are associated operating privileges. These privileges are defined in term of the wavelengths (or frequency segments), the approved modes of operation for those bands, their corresponding power limits.

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<sup>2</sup> “radio service” means an administrative subdivision of the field of radio communications, as for example mobile service and fixed services;” – Telecommunications (Spectrum Management) Regulations, 2002.



14.0.2 In the following subsections, the frequency privileges for the Novice Class, General Class and Advanced Class Amateur Radio Licences are presented. It should be noted that for some frequency segments, all or more than one licence class might have privileges in the same segment. Prudent operation is therefore expected to ensure that all amateur radio operators enjoy the privileges to which they are entitled.

#### 14.1 Novice Class Frequency Privileges

Wavelength	Frequency Segments (MHz)	PEP <sup>3</sup> (Watts)	Modes of Operation
75/80 m	3.675 – 3.725	50	CW
75/80 m	3.800 -3.850	50	Voice (SSB)
40 m	7.100 – 7.150	50	CW
40 m	7.200 – 7.230	50	Voice (SSB)
10 m	28.1 – 28.3	50	CW, Data
10 m	28.3 – 28.5	50	Voice (SSB)
2 m	144.0 – 145.0	50	Voice (FM)
2 m	145.0 – 148.0	50	CW, Voice (SSB) <sup>4</sup>

#### 14.2 General Class Frequency Privileges

Wavelength or (Band)	Frequency Segments (MHz)	PEP (Watts)	Modes of Operation
160 m	1.800 – 2.000	1500	CW, Data, Voice (SSB)
75/80 m	3.500 – 3.750	1500	CW, Data
75/80 m	3.775 – 4.000	1500	Voice (SSB)
60 m	(Channelised)	50 (ERP)	Voice (SSB)
40 m	7.000 – 7.150	1500	CW, Data

<sup>3</sup> "PEP", means "Peak Envelope Power"

<sup>4</sup> Satellite operations **not** permitted in the 2 m band by Novice Class amateur radio operators.

Wavelength or (Band)	Frequency Segments (MHz)	PEP (Watts)	Modes of Operation
40 m	7.150 – 7.300	1500	Voice (SSB)
30 m	10.100 – 10.150	1500	CW, Data
20 m	14.000 – 14.150	800	CW, Data
20 m	14.150 – 14.350	800	Voice (SSB)
17 m	18.068 – 18.110	500	CW, Data
17 m	18.110 – 18.168	500	Voice (SSB)
15 m	21.000 – 21.200	800	CW, Data
15 m	21.200 – 21.450	800	Voice (SSB)
12 m	24.890 – 24.930	500	CW, Data
12 m	24.930 – 24.990	500	Voice (SSB)
10 m	28.000 – 28.300	500	CW, Data
10 m	28.300 – 29.500	500	Voice (SSB)
10 m	29.500 – 29.800	100	Voice (FM), Repeater Ops.
6 m	50.000 – 50.100	200	CW, Data
6 m	50.100 – 51.100	200	Voice (SSB)
6 m	51.100 – 54.000	100	Voice (FM), Repeater Ops.
2 m	144.000 – 144.100	200	CW, Data
2 m	144.100 – 144.300	200	Voice (SSB)
2 m	144.300 – 144.500	200	Satellite
2 m	145.800 – 146.000	200	Satellite
2 m	146.000 – 147.995	100	Voice (FM), Repeater Ops.
(222 MHz)	222.340 – 223.380	100	FM Repeater
(222 MHz)	223.380 – 224.000	100	Voice (FM)
(440 MHz)	432.000 – 432.125	150	CW, Data
(440 MHz)	432.125 – 438.000	100	Voice (FM), Voice (SSB), Satellite

Wavelength or (Band)	Frequency Segments (MHz)	PEP (Watts)	Modes of Operation
(440 MHz)	442.000 – 450.000	100	Voice (FM), Repeater Ops.

### 14.3 Advanced Class Frequency Privileges

Wavelength or (Band)	Frequency Segments (MHz)	TX Power (Watts)	Modes of Operation
160 m	1.800 – 2.000	1500	CW, Data, Voice (SSB)
75/80 m	3.500 – 3.750	1500	CW, Data
75/80 m	3.750 – 4.000	1500	Voice (SSB)
60 m	(Channelised)	50 (ERP)	Voice (SSB)
40 m	7.000 – 7.150	1500	CW, Data
40 m	7.150 – 7.300	1500	Voice (SSB)
30 m	10.100 – 10.150	1500	CW, Data
20 m	14.000 – 14.150	1500	CW, Data
20 m	14.150 – 14.350	1500	Voice (SSB)
17 m	18.068 – 18.110	800	CW, Data
17 m	18.110 – 18.168	800	Voice (SSB)
15 m	21.000 – 21.200	1500	CW, Data
15 m	21.200 – 21.450	1500	Voice (SSB)
12 m	24.890 – 24.930	800	CW, Data
12 m	24.930 – 24.990	800	Voice (SSB)
10 m	28.000 – 28.300	800	CW, Data
10 m	28.300 – 29.500	800	Voice (SSB)
10 m	29.500 – 29.800	100	Voice (FM), Repeater Ops.
6 m	50.000 – 50.100	500	CW, Data
6 m	50.100 – 51.100	500	Voice (SSB)

Wavelength or (Band)	Frequency Segments (MHz)	TX Power (Watts)	Modes of Operation
6 m	51.100 – 54.000	100	Voice (FM), Repeater Ops.
2 m	144.000 – 144.100	200	CW, Data
2 m	144.100 – 144.300	200	Voice (SSB)
2 m	144.300 – 144.500	200	Satellite
2 m	145.800 – 146.000	200	Satellite
2 m	146.000 – 147.995	150	Voice (FM), Repeater Ops.
(222 MHz)	222.340 – 223.380	100	FM Repeater
(222 MHz)	223.380 – 224.000	100	Voice (FM)
(440 MHz)	420.000 – 432.000	100	Amateur TV
(440 MHz)	432.000 – 432.125	150	CW, Data
(440 MHz)	432.125 – 438.000	150	Voice (FM), Voice (SSB), Satellite
(440 MHz)	442.000 – 450.000	150	Voice (FM), Repeater Ops.
(900 MHz)	902 – 906	1.0	CW, Data
(900 MHz)	906 – 910	1.0	Voice (FM), Repeater Ops.
(900 MHz)	910 – 916	1.0	Amateur TV
(900 MHz)	916 – 918	1.0	Data
(900 MHz)	918 – 919	1.0	Voice (FM)
(900 MHz)	919 – 928	1.0	Voice (FM), Repeater Ops., Amateur TV
(1240 MHz)	1240 – 1252	1.0	Digital Data
(1240 MHz)	1252 – 1258	1.0	Amateur TV
(1240 MHz)	1258 – 1260	1.0	Data
(1240 MHz)	1260 – 1270	1.0	Satellite, Amateur TV
(1240 MHz)	1270 – 1295	1.0	Voice (FM), Repeater Ops., Amateur TV

Wavelength or (Band)	Frequency Segments (MHz)	TX Power (Watts)	Modes of Operation
(1240 MHz)	1295 – 1300	1.0	CW, Data

## 15.0 Call Signs

15.0.1 Call signs are a unique sequence of characters assigned to amateur radio operators, to special stations and for special events, primarily for identification purposes. In recent years, there have been a number of disputes over the proper format for the creation of call signs, which has been addressed in the following sections. Finally, noting that in some instances the emotional nature of call signs there is scope to secure a call sign with personal meaning to an amateur radio operator, which lies within the discretion of the Commission and its availability.

### 15.1 Format

15.1.1 The format for amateur radio call signs is that prescribed by the International Telecommunications Union (ITU) in Article 19 on the *Identification of Stations*. Two formats are prescribed for the formation of amateur radio call signs:

- (a) one character and a single digit, followed by a group of not more than three letters,  
*or*
- (b) two characters and a single digit, followed by a group of not more than three letters.

15.1.2 In both instances, it has been stated that the first two (2) characters of a call sign would constitute the nationality identifier, which In the case of Saint Lucia is **J6**. Accordingly, the only possible option for completion of a Saint Lucia call sign would be:

- (a) **J6**, a single digit, followed by a group of not more than three letters,

where a single digit comprises numbers between 0 to 9, and a group of not more that three (3) letters suggests that any combination between A and ZZZ is permissible for call sign creation.

15.1.3 Guided by the national precedent of utilising the single digit to identify the class of operation, Table 15.1 presents the format of call signs in Saint Lucia for various types of amateur radio operations.

	Number	Group of Letters	Purpose
J6	0	A – ZZZ	Advanced Class
J6	1	A – ZZZ	Emergency Response
J6	2	A – ZZZ	Station
J6	3	-	<i>Unassigned</i>
J6	4	A – ZZZ	Special Events
J6	5	AA - ZZZ	Resident Non Nationals Novice
J6	6	A – ZZZ	Novice
J6	7	AA – ZZZ	Resident Non Nationals General
J6	8	AA – ZZZ	Regular Visitors
J6	9	A – ZZZ	General Class/Nationals

**Table 15.1: Format of call signs for various types of amateur radio operations.**

## 15.2 Register of Call Signs

15.2.1 The Commission will maintain register of call signs comprising the following listings:

- (i) Un-Issued Call Signs *for call signs that have not issued;*
- (ii) Active Call Signs *for those assigned to valid holders of amateur radio licences granted in Saint Lucia;*
- (iii) Quarantine Call Signs *for call signs that had been assigned, but cannot be considered as active. Reasons might include, but are not limited, the licence is no longer valid and has not been renewed, the licensee has progressed to another class of licence or is deceased. Call signs might be quarantined for a period of up to three (3) years.*
- (iv) Inactive Call Signs *For call signs that have not reverted to active status after their term in quarantine has elapsed. Inactive call signs may be transferred to the Un-issued call signs listing, if they been on the inactive call signs listing for a period of no less than seven (5) years and if there is no-objection*

*for their transferral when consulted.*

- 15.2.2 For call signs that had been issued under a Special Events Amateur Radio Licence, maximum periods on the quarantine listing and the inactive call sign listing would be one (1) year and three (3) years, respectively.

### **15.3 Creation of Call Signs**

- 15.3.1 The call signs recommended by the Commission are based on above stated formats which is dependent on the authorised type of operation. In so far as it is possible, for all licences, the licensee will be given the opportunity to request a particular call sign. In the event that the proposed call sign is not available, the Commission will make its recommendation.

### **15.4 Assignment of Call Signs**

- 15.4.1 Call signs associated with personal licences are non-assignable, but are renewable, provided that the amateur radio operator remains in the same licence class.

## **16.0 Operating Rules and Standards**

- 16.0.1 These rules and standards provide general guidelines for amateur radio operations in Saint Lucia. Some of these guidelines are based on provisions of the telecommunications legislation, notably those pertaining to the monitoring and management of the radio frequency spectrum and on the Amateur Radio Licence. Others seek to ensure responsible amateur radio operations. These guidelines are by no means complete, but have been included to establish a foundation for proficient and consistent amateur radio operations.

### **16.1 Permitted Users**

- 16.1.1 The Licensee shall operate or permit the operation of his or her Amateur Radio Station only under the terms and limitations of his or her Amateur Radio Licence.
- 16.1.2 The Amateur Radio Station shall be operated only:
- (a) by the Licensee personally; or
  - (b) by a licensed Saint Lucia Amateur Radio operator; or

- (c) in the presence of and under the direct supervision of the Licensee by a person who does not hold a valid Saint Lucia Amateur Radio Licence.

16.1.3 If an Amateur Radio Licence has been issued to a club, association or other recognized group, the designated representative may authorise any club, association or group member who holds a valid Saint Lucian Amateur Radio Licence to use and supervise the operation of the Station on his behalf under this Licence.

## **16.2 Authorised Transmissions**

16.2.1 *Two-way communications:* An amateur radio station may transmit the following two-way communications:

- (i) transmissions necessary to exchange messages with other stations in the amateur radio service, except those in any country whose administration has given notice that it objects to such communications;
- (ii) transmissions necessary to exchange messages with a station in another regulated service while providing emergency communications, including automatic link establishment in a digital mode;

16.2.2 *One-way communications:* In addition to one-way transmissions specifically authorised elsewhere in this document, an amateur radio station may transmit the following types of one-way communications:

- (i) brief transmissions necessary to make adjustments to stations;
- (ii) brief transmissions necessary to establish two-way communications with other stations;
- (iii) telecommand;
- (iv) transmissions necessary to provide emergency communications;
- (v) transmissions necessary to assist persons learning or improving proficiency in the international Morse code;
- (vi) transmissions necessary to disseminate information bulletins;
- (vii) telemetry transmissions.

## **16.3 Prohibited Traffic and Transmissions**

16.3.1 No amateur radio station shall transmit:



- (i) communications specifically prohibited elsewhere in this document;
- (ii) communication for hire or for material compensation, direct or indirect, paid or promised, except as otherwise provided;
- (iii) communications in which the station licensee or control operator has a pecuniary interest, including communications on behalf of an employee;
- (iv) messages in codes and ciphers intended to obscure the meaning thereof, except as otherwise provided;
- (v) communications intended to facilitate a criminal act;
- (vi) obscene or indecent words or language;
- (vii) false or deceptive messages, signals or identification;
- (viii) communications on a regular basis which could reasonably be done alternatively through other radio services.

16.3.2 No amateur radio station shall

- (a) engage in any form of broadcasting nor transmit one-way communications, except as specifically provided in this framework,
- (b) nor any activity related to programme production or news gathering for broadcast purposes, except that communications directly related to the immediate safety of human life and the protection property may be provided by amateur radio stations to broadcasters for dissemination where no other means of communication is reasonably available before or at the time of the event.

16.3.3 A control operator may accept compensation as an incident of a position of teaching during periods of time when an amateur station is used by that teacher as a part of classroom instruction.

16.3.4 No station shall re-transmit programmes or signals emanating from any type of radio station other than an amateur radio station, except propagation and weather forecast information intended for use by the general public or originated from meteorological and disaster management offices.

## 16.4 Station Identification

16.4.1 Each amateur radio station, except a space station or telecommand station, must transmit its assigned call sign on its transmitting frequency at the end of each communication, or at least every 10 minutes during a communication for the purposes of station identification.

- 16.4.2 No station may transmit unidentified communications or signals, or transmit as the station call sign, any call sign not authorised to the station.
- 16.4.3 The call sign must be transmitted with an emission authorised for the transmitting frequency.

### **16.5 Third Party Transmissions**

- 16.5.1 An amateur radio station may transmit messages for a third party to any amateur radio station in Saint Lucia, and with any amateur radio station within the jurisdiction of any foreign government that permits third-party transmissions.
- 16.5.2 The third party may participate in stating the message where:
- (i) the control operator is present at the control point and is continuously monitoring and supervising the third party participation; and
  - (ii) the third party is not a former amateur radio licensee whose licence was revoked or suspended, or who is the subject of a cease and desist order which relates to amateur radio operations and which is still in effect.

### **16.6 Recorded or Retransmitted Messages**

- 16.6.1 A Licensee may record and retransmit Messages addressed to another Amateur Radio Operator from other licensed Amateur Radio Operators:
- (a) with whom the Licensee is in direct communication; or
  - (b) which are intended for retransmission to a specified Amateur Radio Operator.
- 16.6.2 The Licensee may send messages by (or as part of) the intermediate relaying of the messages to or from other Amateur Radio Operators.
- 16.6.3 When recording and retransmitting the message of another Amateur Radio Operator, if the Licensee also records and retransmits the call sign of that Amateur Radio Operator, then the Licensee shall transmit the call sign in such a way that the origin of the message and the origin of the retransmission are clear.
- 16.6.4 Notwithstanding the above conditions, the Licensee shall not operate his or her Amateur Radio Station as:
- (a) a mailbox or bulletin board (each being a device which stores, in a readable form, complete messages, which are not to or from the Licensee, for re-transmission on behalf of other licensed amateurs) for commercial purposes; or

- (b) a telephony repeater (a facility which receives and simultaneously retransmits Messages by telephony for or on behalf of other licensed amateur radio operators).

## **16.7 Transmitting Equipment**

16.7.1 The Amateur Radio Operator shall ensure that:

- (a) the emitted frequency of the apparatus comprised in the Amateur Radio Station is as stable and as free from unwanted emissions as the state of technical development for amateur radio apparatus reasonably permits; which ought to be in keeping with existing national standards, and
- (b) whatever class of emission is in use, the bandwidth occupied by the emission is such that not more than 1% of the mean power of the transmission (not including the power contained in spurious emissions) falls outside the frequency band.

16.7.2 Notwithstanding any other term of this Licence, the Licensee shall ensure that the apparatus comprised in the Station is designed and constructed, and maintained and used, so that its use does not cause any undue interference to any other forms of wireless communication.

## **16.8 Unwanted Emissions**

16.8.1 If any undue interference to other wireless communications systems is caused by the radiation of unwanted emissions or the field strength of electromagnetic energy radiated from the amateur radio station, then the amateur radio operator shall suppress the unwanted emissions or reduce the level of the field strength to the degree satisfactory to the Commission.

16.8.2 The amateur radio operator shall conduct tests from time to time to ensure that the unwanted emission fall within the acceptable limits.

## **16.9 Equipment Standards**

16.9.1 Under r. 4(1) of the Telecommunications (Terminal Equipment and Public Network) Regulations, 2002, "A person shall not install, sell for use or use any item of equipment in Saint Lucia, unless the Commission grants a certificate of type approval in respect of that type of equipment." Based on r. 4(2), amateur radio operators would be required to ensure that the following equipment has been type approved by the Commission:

- (i) wireless remote devices; (g)
- (ii) radio receivers; (j)
- (iii) radio transmitters; (k)
- (iv) satellite earth stations; (l)
- (v) other equipment emitting a radio signal. (p)

16.9.2 In the event that the amateur radio operator builds his or her own equipment, section 16.7 would apply.

## 16.10 Records

### Log Book

16.10.1 A Licensee shall keep a permanent record (a "Log Book") of wireless telegraphy transmissions at the main address for his or her Amateur Radio Station showing:

- (a) dates of transmission;
- (b) the times (in Coordinated Universal Time (UTC)) during each day of the first and last transmissions from the Station (except when using automatic operations involving digital communications), or
- (c) frequency band of transmission or, in an Unattended Operation, the specific frequency employed;
- (d) class of emission;
- (e) power (or power level in W) and;
- (h) details of tests carried out.

16.10.2 The Log Book shall be written in a book or maintained on a magnetic tape, disc or other electronic storage medium. If the Log is maintained on an electronic storage medium the means to view the Log and produce a hard copy shall be kept readily available at the Main Station Address.

16.10.3 Where the Log Book is maintained in a magnetic tape, disc or other electronic storage medium, suitable precautions shall be taken to ensure that the Log is backed up.

16.10.4 The Licensee shall keep the Log for inspection by a person authorised by the Commission for at least the term of his or her licence.

16.10.5 Log books shall be kept for at least five years before being discarded.

16.10.6 When Commission requires additional matters to be recorded, the Licensee shall record those additional matters in the Log for the period specified.

#### Equipment Inventory

16.10.7 Each amateur radio operator will maintain an up-to-date inventory of his or her amateur radio equipment.

16.10.8 The listing for each piece of equipment should comprise, the following information:

- (i) Type of equipment;
- (ii) Make or manufacturer;
- (iii) Model;
- (iv) Serial Number;
- (v) The date purchased or acquired;
- (vi) The person (or business) from which it was purchased or acquired;
- (vii) Status of the equipment (active, not operational, retired, sold, assigned to another operator)

16.10.9 In the event that equipment has been retired, sold or assigned to another amateur radio operator, the listing must reflect date, and the persons who would be in possession of the equipment, as might be pertinent.

### **16.11 Inspections**

16.11.1 A Licensee shall permit a representative of the Commission

- (a) to have access to the Station,
- (b) to inspect the Licence, Log Book and Equipment Inventory, and
- (c) to inspect the apparatus of the Station,

at any and all reasonable times (or when, in the opinion of the Commission an urgent situation exists, at any time) for the purpose of verifying compliance with the terms of the Licence.

16.11.2 It should be noted that although the Commission has the right to inspect and to carry out inspections, there are other agencies that also have those powers, which include the Police and the Customs Department.

## 17.0 Special Stations

17.0.1 As discussed in section 5, the Special Station Amateur Radio Licence shall be granted when a station and non-personal licence is required, and recognised clubs, groups and organisations, the station licence would permit the operations to the General Class level. This section therefore focuses on the other category of stations that would require a Special Station Amateur Radio Licence. First, a general description of the station and possible applications, when necessary, are given. Then, an overview of the operating parameters is presented, including any express obligations on the amateur radio operator that might exist.

### 17.1 Auxiliary Stations

17.1.1 An auxiliary station is a unit in a system of co-operating amateur radio stations. This type of operation is inherently closed, i.e. is not open or available to all amateur radio operators. Hence all operators on the system must be authorised control operators

17.1.2 Auxiliary stations can be permitted to undertake the following activities:

- (a) Remote control of a station, where a radio link is used. This means sending some form of signals, such as DTMF tones, to another station to change its operating parameters, turn it on or off, change frequencies or power, rotate antennas, etc. These control signals are considered to be a form of "primary" control of the station, or the control of those parameters for which the station licensee and/or any other control operators are primarily responsible. This does not include various "secondary" control functions, such as those which may be used by "users" of a repeater, i.e., to access an auto-patch, etc.
- (b) Voice links between two or more stations within a system of stations, such as:
  - (i) Point-to-point links from a repeater's remote receiver(s) back to the main repeater site;
  - (ii) Dedicated point-to-point links between different repeaters in a "system" of either full-time or part-time linked repeaters;
  - (iii) Combination remote-control and voice point-to-point links intended to control and carry the voice signals to the transmitter(s) of a remotely-controlled station. This form of auxiliary operation is commonly referred to as an "up-link" (from the control point up to the remote station);

- (iv) Point-to-point links from the receiver(s) of a remotely located station back to the control point. This form of auxiliary operation is commonly referred to as a "down-link" (from the remote station down to the control point).
- (c) An auxiliary station may be automatically controlled and may transmit one-way communications.

#### *Requirements & Operating Limits*

- 17.1.3 In order to operate an auxiliary station, amateur radio operators must apply to Commission for a Special Station Amateur Radio Licence. The operator must hold at least a General Class Amateur Radio Licence in order to operate and be licensed to operate this station.
- 17.1.4 Auxiliary stations can only transmit in amateur radio frequency bands above 222 MHz (1.25 m and shorter wavelengths), but the following frequencies are excluded:
  - (i) 219 – 220 MHz;
  - (ii) 222.000 – 222.150 MHz;
  - (iii) 431 – 433 MHz;
  - (iv) 435 - 438 MHz.

## **17.2 Beacon Station**

- 17.2.1 Beacons, which are more correctly know as "propagation beacons", are used primarily to determine what frequencies are reliable at any given time to establish radio communications. In the amateur radio service, beacon stations are used primarily to study radio wave propagation, to determine when a band is open to different parts of the country or the world.

#### *Requirements & Operating Limits:*

- 17.2.2 In order to operate a beacon, amateur radio operators must apply to Commission for a Special Station Amateur Radio Licence. The operator must hold at least a General Class Amateur Radio Licence in order to operate and be licensed to operate a beacon station.
- 17.2.3 A beacon must not concurrently transmit on more than one frequency (channel) in the same amateur radio band, from the same location.
- 17.2.4 The transmitter power of a beacon must not exceed 100 W.
- 17.2.5 Automatically controlled beacons can only transmit on the following frequency segments:
  - (i) 28.20 – 28.30 MHz,

- (ii) 50.06 – 50.08 MHz,
- (iii) 144.275 – 144.300 MHz,
- (iv) 222.05 – 222.06 MHz,
- (v) 432.300 – 434.400 MHz, or
- (vi) on the 33 cm and shorter wavelength bands.

### 17.3 Repeater Station

17.3.1 A repeater is essentially an unmanned amateur radio station, which receives and automatically retransmits signals. They are necessary in situations where it is difficult for radio amateurs to receive signals such as a valley. Repeaters are usually set up on hillsides to ensure the required coverage.

*Requirements & Operating Limits:*

17.3.2 In order to operate a repeater station, amateur radio operators must apply to Commission for a Special Station Amateur Radio Licence. The operator must hold at least a General Class Amateur Radio Licence in order to operate and be licensed to operate a repeater station.

17.3.3 Repeater stations can operate on any authorised frequencies for amateur radio operations above 29.5 MHz (the 10 m band or shorter wavelengths), but the following frequencies are excluded:

- (i) 50.0 – 51.0 MHz;
- (ii) 144.0 – 144.5 MHz;
- (iii) 145.5 – 146.0 MHz;
- (iv) 222.0 – 222.15 MHz;
- (v) 431.0 – 433.0 MHz;
- (vi) 435.0 – 438.0 MHz.

17.3.4 Repeaters may be automatically controlled.



## 17.4 Earth Stations

17.4.1 An Earth Station, in the sphere of amateur radio operations, refers to a type of amateur radio station used to communicate with satellite systems that permit amateur radio operations. A list of the space stations have included in Appendix C.

### *Requirements & Operating Limits:*

17.4.2 In order to operate an earth station, amateur radio operators must apply to Commission for a Special Station Amateur Radio Licence. The operator must hold at least a General Class Amateur Radio Licence in order to operate and be licensed to operate that station.

17.4.3 The following frequency bands and segments are authorised for use by Earth Stations:

Frequency Bands:			
17 m	15 m	12 m	10 m

Frequency Segments:			
7.0 – 7.1 MHz	14.00 – 14.25 MHz	144 -146 MHz	1260 -1270 MHz

## 18.0 Lost, Misplaced and Stolen Licences or Equipment

18.0.1 Any incident involving the lost or thief of an Amateur Radio Licence and or amateur radio equipment must be immediately reported to the nearest Police Station and to the Commission at the earliest opportunity.

18.0.2 For the lost or theft of an Amateur Radio Licence, the report to the Commission shall include the following information:

- (i) The name of the amateur radio operator making the report;
- (ii) The call sign of the amateur radio operator
- (iii) The date when the licence was lost or stolen, or realised to have been lost or stolen

18.0.3 For the lost and theft of equipment, the report to the Commission shall include the following information:

- (i) The name of amateur radio operator making the report;

- (ii) The call sign of the amateur radio operator;
  - (iii) The date when the equipment was stolen or lost, or realised to have been lost or stolen;
  - (iv) The make, model/type of equipment
  - (v) The serial number of the equipment
  - (vi) A description of the equipment
- 18.0.4 In both instances, the amateur radio operator would be required make a declaration in respect of the truthfulness of the report and to affirm that the efforts have been made to find or secure the return of the licence or equipment has been unsuccessful.

## **19.0 Emergency Response by Amateur Radio Operators**

- 19.0.1 The participation of amateur radio operators in emergency response communications, such as those required during national emergencies, or periods of natural or man made disasters, is purely voluntary.
- 19.0.2 Amateur radio operators are advised to liaise with emergency management agencies, such as the National Emergency Management Office (NEMO), which would responsible for coordinating information transfer to the appropriate organisations.

## **20.0 Reciprocal Agreements and Mutual Recognition**

- 20.0.1 For non-citizens of Saint Lucia holding Amateur Radio Licences granted by another jurisdiction or sovereign territory who wish to conduct amateur radio operation within the jurisdiction of Saint Lucia, recognition of their foreign Amateur Radio Licence will only be allowed if reciprocal operating or mutual recognition arrangements exist between their home territory and Saint Lucia.
- 20.0.2 Known Reciprocal Operating Arrangements: (i) United States of America,
- 20.0.3 Mutual Recognition Arrangements: (i) Eastern Caribbean Telecommunications Authority Member States, namely, St. Kitts and Nevis, Dominica, St. Vincent and the Grenadines, Grenada.

## **20.1 Recognition of the International Amateur Radio Permit**

20.1.1 As a member of the Organisation of American States (OAS), Saint Lucia is a signatory to the *Inter-American Convention on an International Amateur Radio Permit*. The Convention allows citizens of any Member State who are authorized to operate in the Amateur Service in their country to operate temporarily in the Amateur Service in any other CITEL Member State, and requires that a State recognizes the International Amateur Radio Permit (IARP) issued under the conditions specified in the Convention. A copy of the Convention has been attached as Appendix D.

## **20.2 Recognition of European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications (CEPT) Licences**

20.2.1 From the research conducted, Saint Lucia may not be required to recognise the licences granted by member states of the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications (CEPT).

20.2.2 Although there is an amendment to the *Inter-American Convention on an International Amateur Radio Permit*, which would allow holders of licensees in CEPT member States to be entitled to the same rights and privileges enjoyed by holders of the IARP within the Americas, and vice versa, Saint Lucia has not signed that amendment, and so it would not be in effect in Saint Lucia.

## **21.0 Amateur Radio Clubs, Societies and Associations**

21.0.1 Any group of amateur radio operators can form a club, society or other organised body. Such groups can be either informal or formal and are encouraged for the promotion of amateur radio operations in Saint Lucia.

21.0.2 The Commission, however, shall recognise registered organisations and so confer certain privileges on those organisations which include but is not limited to

- (a) eligibility for a Special Station Amateur Radio Licence and call sign, and
- (b) recognition as an examination centre.

21.0.3 In order to be eligible for privileges, it must first be established that the amateur radio clubs, societies or associations is recognised by the Commission. Privileges must be

applied for, to ensure that the group has the requisite resources and is committed to the responsibilities associated with the desired privileges.

## **21.1 Recognition of Clubs, Societies and Associations by the Commission**

21.1.1 To be recognised as a club, society or unincorporated association by the Commission, the following criteria must be met:

- (i) there must be a constitution for the club, society or association;
- (ii) it must be clear that the organisation's focus is on amateur radio operations and fostering its development in Saint Lucia;
- (iii) it must have at least officers filling executive posts, with stated procedures for the elections of executive officers;
- (iv) it must have a general membership of at least 5 licensed amateur radio operators;
- (v) there should be provisions for regular meetings and the recording minutes of those meetings;
- (vi) there must also be some evidence of its willingness and intention to self-regulate (its members);
- (vii) there must also be some evidence of the role that it intends to play in disasters or emergency situations.

21.1.2 This information must be submitted to the Commission for its review and approval.