



Commission for  
**Communications Regulation**

## Information Notice

### **Amateur Theory Exam**

#### **Renewal of Agreement with the IRTS**

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## 1 Introduction

Under the ITU<sup>1</sup> Radio Regulations and CEPT<sup>2</sup> Agreements all radio amateurs must have attained a standard equal to or greater than the HAREC (Harmonised Amateur Radio Experimenter Certificate) based in CEPT document TR61/01 prior to the granting of a licence. ComReg is the body responsible for ensuring that licences are only granted to those appropriately qualified.

Amateur Radio Licences are granted under Wireless Telegraphy (Amateur Station Licence) Regulations 2009 (SI 192 of 2009).

In Regulation 5(3) of the Amateur Station Licence Regulations (SI 192 of 2009) the responsibility for ensuring the applicant is qualified prior to the granting of a licence is specifically stated. However The Commission for Communications Regulation has no responsibility for conducting examinations as such.

*"5 (3) The Commission shall not issue a Licence to a person who makes an application under paragraph (1) of this Regulation unless it is satisfied that the person has previously demonstrated satisfactory technical knowledge and operational procedures for an Amateur Station."*

The Irish Radio Transmitter Society (IRTS) is the member society for Ireland of the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU). The Society is represented at major international conferences, and through the IARU has regular contact with sister societies worldwide. The IRTS has more than one thousand members. The administration of the Society, and all other work done by its officers on behalf of the Society and its members, is done on a voluntary basis.

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<sup>1</sup> International Telecommunication Union

<sup>2</sup> European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations

## **2 New Agreement**

In 2008 ComReg entered into a three year agreement with the IRTS for the provision of Radio Amateur examinations. This agreement expired on 21 October 2011. ComReg has now put in place a new agreement with the IRTS for the provision of Radio Amateur examinations for a further period of five years. The new agreement will commence on 6 December of 2011 and expire on 5 December 2016.

As part of the agreement and as a form of consideration, ComReg provides a conference room or similar facilities for two full working days per year and the IRTS undertake to hold at least one examination per year.

ComReg is taking this decision under its obligations under the ITU Radio Regulations and Wireless Telegraphy (Amateur Station Licence) Regulations 2009 (SI 192 of 2009).