



Commission for
Communications Regulation

Application Form

Application for amendment to the MDRS Register of users

General Document

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An Coimisiún um Rialáil Cumarsáide
Commission for Communications Regulation

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1 Introduction

1. The Register of Users of the Managed Digital Radio Services network (MDRS network) lists those bodies which are eligible to utilise the MDRS network in the State.
2. The MDRS network was established under procurement carried out by the Department Of Finance and the contract is managed by the Office of the Government CIO (formerly CMOD) and is governed by the Wireless Telegraphy (Use of the Band 380-400 MHz by Emergency Services) Regulations 2008 (“MDRS Regulations”)¹. The MDRS Regulations define the MDRS network as *“the network that will be used exclusively to provide digital radio communications services to State security and emergency services and to non-commercial bodies engaged in the provision of services to State agencies. The MDRS Network may also be used by any electricity or gas utility undertaking that is making essential and urgent repairs to its network, in an emergency situation only.”*
3. The Register of Users of the MDRS network may be amended from time to time in that new bodies may be added to the register if the Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) determines that such bodies are suitable for inclusion on the basis that they come within the scope of the MDRS Regulations. In order for an applicant body to be deemed eligible for inclusion on the Register of Users, certain criteria must be met. Specifically, the applicant body must be:
 - a State security and/or emergency service, or
 - a non-commercial body engaged in the provision of a State security and/or emergency service or a related ancillary service, or
 - an electricity or gas utility undertaking seeking to use MDRS network in circumstances where it is required to make essential and urgent repairs to its electricity or gas supply network, in an emergency situation (to clarify, such utility undertakings cannot use the MDRS network in order to carry out regular repair and maintenance work).

¹ S.I. 324/2008

4. An “emergency service” is defined in the MDRS Regulations as meaning “An Garda Síochána, the fire brigade services, the ambulance services, the boat and coastal rescue services (including the rescue services provided by the Air Corps), and the mountain and cave rescue services”. The MDRS Regulations do not define the term “security service” but ComReg, having regard to the scope and intent of the MDRS Regulations, considers that the term should be taken to include An Garda Síochána, the Irish Defence Forces (Army, Air Corps, and Naval Service), the Irish Prison Service, the Department of Defence, the Department of Justice and Equality, and State bodies which fall under the aegis of either of those two Government Departments.
5. Any application made to ComReg, requesting that a new body be included on the Register of Users of the MDRS network must include, at a minimum, the following information:
 - (a) The name of the proposed MDRS network user and contact details, to include a registered address and names of contactable persons with their telephone numbers and email addresses.
 - (b) A description of the proposed MDRS network user, to include answering the following questions:
 - i. What are the principal functions and duties of the proposed MDRS network user and what work does it conduct?
 - ii. What is the size of the proposed MDRS network user, in terms of staff numbers and geographic scope?
 - iii. Is the proposed MDRS network user a statutory body or is its work governed by statutory obligations? If yes, give details.
 - iv. Does the proposed MDRS network user provide an emergency service or security service? If yes, describe the service(s) provided and how frequently they are provided and describe how mobile communications are used.
 - v. Does the proposed MDRS network provide an ancillary service? If yes, describe the ancillary service(s) provided, giving examples where possible, and describe how frequently they are provided and how mobile communications are used.

- vi. Does the proposed MDRS network user provide some other form of assistance or support to an emergency service or security service? If yes, describe the form of assistance or support that is provided, giving examples where possible, and describe how frequently it is provided and how mobile communications are used.
 - vii. Does the proposed MDRS network user engage in some other form of instant and direct communication with emergency or security services? If yes, please describe this communication and how frequently it occurs.
- (c) A description of any relevant organisation to which the proposed MDRS network user is linked or to which it belongs.
- (d) State how many radio handsets the proposed MDRS network would require if it was included on the Register of Users of the MDRS network.
- (e) Any application for inclusion on the Register of Users of the MDRS network must be sponsored by an appropriate Government Department. The sponsoring bodies must set out, in writing, why it is of the view that the proposed MDRS network user ought to be included in the Register of Users and how its inclusion would facilitate interoperability between the emergency and/or security services.
- (f) An application for inclusion on the register must be agreed in writing by the Office of the Government CIO.
- (g) An application shall be signed by a person duly authorised to do so on behalf of the applicant and the written submission provided by the sponsoring body shall also be signed by a person duly authorised to do so on behalf of that body.
6. In addition to the above information, ComReg reserves its right to request such additional information as it may require in order to determine whether to include a new body on the Register of Users of the MDRS network.
7. Once completed, please submit your application form by email to licensing@comreg.ie

8. Applicants should note that a decision by ComReg that a particular person or body may be included on the Register of Users of the MDRS network does not give that person or body an automatic right to use the MDRS network. The effect of such a decision by ComReg is only to permit Tetra Ireland Ltd, the operator of the MDRS network, to make the network available to that body, according to such terms and conditions as are agreed between Tetra Ireland Ltd and the particular body.

APPLICATION TO BE ADDED TO THE MDRS NETWORK

ALL SECTIONS MUST BE COMPLETED IN FULL

Name of Applicant Department/Agency:	
Registered Address:	
Contact Person:	
Phone:	
Email address:	
No. of Handsets required:	

Principal functions and duties of Applicant Department/Agency

Description of proposed use as detailed in Paragraph 5 above.

Description of any relevant organisation to which the Applicant is linked or belongs to:

Section 2:

To be completed by Sponsoring Body²	
Name of Sponsoring Body:	
Name of individual action on behalf of sponsoring body:	
Position Held:	
Signature:	
Date:	
Reasons for addition of Applicant organisation onto the MDRS Network	

Approval from Office of the Government CIO	
Name of Officer:	
Position held:	
Signature:	
Date:	

² See paragraph 8 above

