



Commission for
Communications Regulation

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ComReg Consults on Mobile Communications On Board Aircraft

The Commission for Communications Regulation (ComReg) has today invited views from the public and industry on the use of mobile communications on board aircraft (MCA).

Technical studies in Europe have shown that under certain clearly defined conditions it could be possible, subject also to airworthiness certification, to allow the use of MCA. The purpose of this Consultation is to explore the regulatory approach appropriate to facilitating the use of mobile phone terminals on board commercial aircraft - while ensuring that the existing terrestrial mobile communications networks are not subject to harmful interference.

An MCA system, installed on a commercial aircraft, would permit the use of personal communications equipment during the 'in flight' phase of a journey, in much the same way as mobile phone users would on the widely available terrestrial public mobile networks.

It should be noted that the operation of wireless devices on board aircraft and the installation of MCA systems remains subject to airworthiness certification by the relevant authorities (the European Aviation Safety Agency (EASA) and/or the Irish Aviation Authority (IAA)).

The Consultation Paper: ComReg Document 07/62 - Consultation on Mobile Communications On Board Aircraft (MCA) - is available on the ComReg website www.comreg.ie.

Interested parties have until 8th October to respond to the consultation.

ENDS

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