

CHAPTER 229

152 of 2002.

**TELECOMMUNICATIONS
(IMPORTATION AND DISTRIBUTION OF TYPE
APPROVED TELECOMMUNICATION, BROADCASTING
AND RADIO COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT)
REGULATIONS**

[21st December, 2002.]

**PART I
PRELIMINARY**

- Short title. 1. These Regulations may be cited as the
- TELECOMMUNICATIONS (IMPORTATION AND
DISTRIBUTION OF TYPE APPROVED
TELECOMMUNICATION, BROADCASTING AND
RADIO COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT) REGULATIONS.**
- Interpretation. 2. (1) In these Regulations, unless the context otherwise requires:
- No. 16 of 2002. “Act” means the Belize Telecommunications Act, 2002;
- “equipment” means any equipment that is either radio equipment, broadcast equipment or telecommunication equipment or a combination of any of these;
- “importer” and “distributor” means any person or entity which imports and distributes telecommunication or radiocommunication equipment;
- “interface” means
- (a) an air interface specifying the radio path between radio equipment and their technical

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specifications,

- (b) a network termination point that is a physical connection point at which a user is provided with access to public telecommunications networks;

“PUC” means the Public Utilities Commission as established under the Public Utilities Commission Act; CAP. 223.

“type approval” means a method of checking the compatibility of all telecommunication, broadcasting and radiocommunication equipment with the public switched telecommunications Network.

(2) The words and phrases used in these Regulations shall have the meanings respectively assigned to them in the Act.

3. No person or entity shall import, install, sell for use or use any item of equipment in Belize listed in the Schedule to these Regulations, unless the PUC grants a permit in respect of that type of equipment. Prohibition on use/importation of equipment.

4. (1) Any person desirous of importing any equipment shall apply in writing to the PUC for a permit to import such equipment. Permit to import equipment.

(2) An applicant for a permit to import any equipment shall include in his application:

- (a) a sample of the equipment where requested;
- (b) the prescribed fee;
- (c) the relevant literature; and
- (d) the relevant technical specifications.

- (3) The PUC may require a maximum period of six weeks for:
- (a) testing the samples of equipment;
 - (b) the purpose of reviewing the applications; and
 - (c) the granting of type approval for customer premises equipment.

(4) The PUC may require a maximum period of three months for the purpose of reviewing an application, for testing any samples of equipment and for granting type approval for switches and other high capacity equipment.

Type approvals.

5. (1) The PUC may recognise type approvals granted by other countries.

(2) Any party seeking recognition of type approval granted by another country shall produce to the PUC satisfactory documentary evidence that the relevant equipment qualifies for the recognition or exemption sought.

(3) Where a licensed telecommunications operator or provider wishes to supply customer premises equipment and related services, it shall be sufficient if that operator or provider attaches a report to the application showing that the equipment has conformed to the acceptance testing requirements or international type approval.

Testing of equipment.

6. A licensee may carry out in a non-discriminatory manner acceptance testing of all customer premises equipment installations to be interfaced with its network, to ascertain whether the required installations meet the prevailing standards before connection.

Maintenance of equipment.

7. (1) A customer shall be responsible for the maintenance of customer premises equipment without prejudice to any agreement drawn up between himself and a provider of that equipment for the maintenance and repair of

such equipment.

(2) A provider of customer premises equipment shall have in place systems for the speedy and efficient repairs of its equipment, and as far as practicable, for the temporary allocation to customers of items of equipment whilst theirs are under repair.

(3) A provider of customer premises equipment shall take all reasonable measures to ensure that its items of equipment or its services are maintained, provided or replaced within a reasonable time.

8. The PUC may issue directives to a supplier of customer premises equipment upon receipt of complaints from consumers, providers or operators of telecommunication services.

Complaints from customers.

9. (1) Where the PUC intends to take any action that may affect the rights, interests or privileges of the person complained against, it shall notify the provider of the customer premises equipment, in writing, of the proposed action.

Notice of action to providers.

(2) The PUC shall specify a period of not less than twenty-eight days in which the provider of the customer premises equipment may make representation on its behalf in respect of the proposed action.

10. Any person who contravenes any of the provisions of these regulations commits an offence and shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding ten thousand dollars.

Offence.

MADE by the Public Utilities Commission this 19th day of December, 2002.

DR. GILBERT CANTON
Chairman
Public Utilities Commission

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SCHEDULE

[Regulation 3]

1. Radio Receivers/Transmitters/Transceivers and Accessories
 - a. HF/VHF/UHF -Amateur Transmitters/Receivers/Transceivers
 - b. HF/VHF/UHF - Commercial Transmitters/Receivers/Transceivers
 - c. Citizen Band (CB) Transceivers
 - d. Radio Frequency (RF) Amplifiers
 - e. Phone Patch Systems
 - f. Radio Broadcast Transmitters
 - g. Television Broadcast Transmitters
 - h. Radio Frequency (RF) Transmitting Antennae
 - i. Radio Broadcasting Transmitting Antennae
 - j. Television Broadcast Transmitting Antennae
 - k. “Walkie - Talkie”
 - l. Duplexers
 - m. Combiners
 - n. Isolators/Circulators

2. Satellite Communications Equipment

- a.* Low Noise Amplifiers
- b.* Receivers
- c.* Modulators
- d.* Very Small Aperture Terminals - VSATS
- e.* Receiving/Transmitting Antennae - (Satellite Dish)
- f.* Encoders/Decoders
- g.* Feed Horns
- h.* RF/IF Amplifiers

3. Telecommunication Equipment

- a.* Customer Premises Equipment - CPE Excluding:
 - (i)* Regular Telephone
 - (ii)* Facsimile Machine
 - (iii)* Cordless Telephones - limited range types only
 - (iv)* Cellular Telephones
- b.* All other Telecommunication and Customer Premises Equipment for connection to any licensed telecommunication provider's network Public Switch Telecommunications Network.

4. Electromagnetic Radiating Devices
 - a. Industrial and Laboratory Electric Equipment
 - b. Induction and Dielectric Heating Equipment
 - c. Remote Radio Control Equipment
 - d. Radar Equipment
 - e. Electro Mechanical Apparatus
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