

What's News....

FCC: No limits on RF exposure needed for 5G

The FCC has decided that 5G doesn't pose added health risks, so no new limits on RF exposure will be required. FCC Chairman Ajit Pai maintains that current limits are fine and enough to ensure public safety, after six years of review with the FDA and other federal health and safety agencies. The exposure limits apply to handheld devices, computers and cell towers, and span technology generations including 3G, 4G, and 5G. Pai's proposal also seeks to establish a uniform set of guidelines, regardless of the wireless service of technology, for how to determine compliance with the FCC's exposure standards.



Are wireless carriers throttling bandwidth? Of course.

Wireless carriers have never hidden the fact that they may on occasions slow video traffic on their networks to avoid congestion, but according to researchers from Northeastern University and the University of Massachusetts Amherst, they do it everywhere, all the time. They conducted more than 650,000 tests in the US and found that from early 2018 to early 2019, AT&T throttled Netflix Inc. 70% of the time and YouTube 74% of

A Word from Sam Benzacar

Radiation Hazard Battles Continue Unabated



In the nearly 40 years I've been in the microwave industry, the most long-lasting, contentious, and "agenda-driven" issue I've encountered concerns the potentially damaging effects electromagnetic energy to humans. After hundreds of studies and thousands of peer-reviewed journal articles, the issue remains as poisonous as ever. In fact, the only issue of any kind in any discipline I can think of that has been around for this long is whether vaccinations cause various medical issues, including autism, the flu, and other diseases or conditions.

The difference between the latter and former is that while the junk-science-based vaccination claims have been thoroughly debunked by massive statistical evidence, there is no consensus about what, other than heating effects, electromagnetic energy can do to harm the body. When asked for a definitive answer, most people involved with the issue take the safe road: We just don't know. This leaves the door wide open for speculation by virtually anyone and especially by those with a vested interest in assuring the public that there's nothing to worry about and as well as those who simply don't want ugly cell sites in their neighborhoods and use public safety to defend their positions.

The scientific community doesn't come off well, either. For example, large studies conducted over the years showed no direct correlation between RF energy and brain damage, changes to DNA, cancer, and other maladies. Upon close inspection, the people conducting the studies have often had connections to the wireless industry or have been funded by manufacturers or industry groups. Some studies have been so seriously flawed that it's hard to believe that peer review was even conducted. Many other studies showing a direct correlation, however, have withstood intense inspection, and this list is growing, especially in some Scandinavian countries.

The latest onslaught from both sides of this position focuses on 5G and the need to operate at millimeter-wave frequencies. As they have very limited range, huge numbers of small cells will be needed to deliver the blindingly-fast data rates and low latency carriers are promising. As these small base stations have started to sprout in some cities, they're becoming hard to miss, a situation that will only become more intense if "coverage everywhere" is to be achieved.

the time, but not Amazon Prime Video. T-Mobile US Inc. throttled Amazon Prime Video in about 51% of the tests.



But this time, the naysayers won't have as much ammunition, as unlike at lower frequencies, millimeter-wave energy doesn't penetrate the skin to significant depths, making it more difficult to build a case that small cells in the neighborhood are a health hazard. That's not likely to stop the outcry from the hundred-odd groups throughout the country that belong to coalitions like Americans for Responsible Technology. We can also expect new studies to appear that are dedicated to millimeter-wave rather than RF and microwave frequencies.

Meanwhile, the wireless industry will continue to roll out 5G at a mad pace—and we'll all be using it eventually. As for the answer to the question of health hazards, the safe answer will continue to be "we just don't know."

Fighter pilot cancer rate increasing

Former fighter pilots are developing especially intrusive forms of cancer, and some suspect it's from exposure to intense radar systems. "We are dropping like flies in our 50s from aggressive cancers," retired Air Force Col. Eric Nelson, a former F-15 weapons officer, told McClatchy. Nelson said aviators he flew with and commanded have been diagnosed with prostate and esophageal cancer, lymphoma, and glioblastomas at abnormal rates. Nelson also was diagnosed with prostate cancer at age 48, three months after his retirement from the Air Force. Research into the issue has produced varying conclusions but some suspect the increased cancer rates are caused by proximity to high-power radars on the aircraft. Former pilots such as Crosby are calling on the military to lower the age of cancer screenings for pilots to 30 to catch the disease earlier.



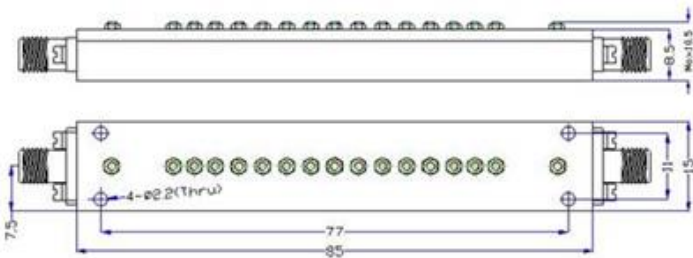
Pentagon Tests Radar-Equipped Balloons in US

Americans across the Midwest this summer are being subjected to surveillance from above as the Pentagon experiments with the use of surveillance radars attached to high-altitude balloons. Sierra Nevada Corporation was authorized by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to send up to 25 balloons across six states to track vehicles, according to The Guardian. U.S. Southern Command commissioned the project for the stated purpose of creating a "persistence surveillance system" to deter drug traffickers and perceived "homeland security threats."



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