

Legal Issues Related to Space Exploration (13)
Specific legal issues of space exploration and exploitation (2)

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SPACE EXPLORATION AND THE ITU RADIO REGULATIONS

Abstract

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Abstract

1. Space exploration is part of the space research service as defined by the ITU Radio regulations No. 1.55 and Article 5 is allocating frequency bands for the space research service.
2. The next coming ITU World Radiocommunication Conference WRC-2012 (WRC-12) will discuss several items related to space research service and to identify those items requiring urgent action by the ITU-R Study Groups in preparation for the next World Radiocommunication Conference.
3. Space research related studies in the ITU-R - this paper will address also a summary of the key findings of the studies listed below. a. ITU-R Working Party (WP) 7B is responsible for studies related to space research service including manned and unmanned space exploration; b. Sharing and protection criteria have been intensively investigated for existing spectrum allocation for space research; c. Studies are also on-going for newly allocated bands for future enhancements and newly planned space research systems, addressing frequency sharing with other services.
4. List of most important ITU-R Recommendations related to space research can be found on the ITU website at: <http://www.itu.int/rec/R-REC-SA/en>
5. There are several ITU-R Questions studied by the WP7B related to space exploration: • Radio links between earth stations and lunar and planetary missions by means of lunar and/or planetary data relay satellites • Future bandwidth requirements for the space research service (deep space) • Emergency radiocommunication for human space flight