



NEWS

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Report No. WT 98-15

WIRELESS TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACTION

June 1, 1998

UNIVERSAL LICENSING SYSTEM BEGINS PROCESSING PART 22 PAGING APPLICATIONS

Today the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (the Bureau) will begin using the Universal Licensing System (ULS) for all licensing of Part 22 Paging and Radiotelephone Services (Part 22 paging). Part 22 Paging licensees, applicants, and the public can expect significant benefits from ULS such as fast and easy electronic filing, improved data accuracy through automated checking of applications, and electronic access to licensing information. This is the first time paging has had access to electronic filing.

"There are over 1,400 existing paging licensees that may benefit from the online filing and research capabilities of the ULS," said Daniel Phythyon, Chief of the Wireless Telecommunications Bureau, "We hope these licensees will be pleased with the ease by which ULS will allow them to submit and retrieve license information from their own PCs."

Part 22 paging licensees who are due to file renewal applications in the June 1 through June 30, 1998 filing window will be able to file electronic renewal applications quickly and easily in ULS. Based on current license expiration dates the Bureau anticipates receiving approximately 2,000 paging renewal applications during this filing window over the next month.

Although ULS has been recently used to process long form applications following the 800 MHz SMR and LMDS auctions, today marks the first instance in which an existing wireless service will be completely converted to ULS for application processing purposes. Other wireless services will be converted to ULS in the coming months, beginning with PCS later in June and cellular in July. Eventually the system will consolidate and replace eleven existing licensing systems currently used to process applications and grant licenses in wireless services.

ULS also provides services beyond the ability to search for information about licenses or applications. It can perform a variety of other operations such as creating a color-coded map of license areas for a public user. As the Bureau's conversion to ULS continues it has the ability to become a powerful information management tool that will enable the industry, the public and the Commission to analyze spectrum use and competition in the marketplace. More information on ULS can be retrieved on the Commission's ULS Internet home page at (<http://www.fcc.gov/wtb/uls>).

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