

Important Information on Frequency Allocation *(courtesy of Shure Microphones)*

Information regarding changes to available spectrum used by wireless microphones and In Ear Monitoring Systems.

Over the past months a growing number of customers have contacted GC Music seeking information on what spectrum will be available for wireless microphone and IEM (In Ear Monitor) users in the future. This document will try and answer the most common questions as best we can with the latest information available to us.

What Frequencies are affected.

As a result of OfCom's Digital Dividend Review (DDR), there will be major changes to available spectrum for wireless microphones and IEM's. The changes affect 550-606MHz (TV Channels 31-37) and 790-862MHz (TV channels 61-69). These two blocks of spectrum will be auctioned and re-allocated to new services, most likely mobile broadband.

How much longer can I use these frequencies

It is thought that all PMSE (Program Making and Special Events) equipment will have access to these bands until the completion of Digital Switchover (DSO) which is expected by the end of 2012. OfCom recently confirmed the availability of these bands including channel 69 for the London 2012 Olympics.

1. Channel 38 (606-614MHz) has been officially announced by OfCom as the replacement for Ch.69 (854-862MHz). Channel 69 is unique in the sense that it is the only nationally available licensable band for wireless microphones and IEM's. Currently, channel 38 is not available nationwide for two reasons:
 - o Radio astronomy holds the current license until Jan 1st, 2012, consequently creating "restriction zones" in parts of the UK.
 - o The protection of analogue TV broadcast in channel 37 in areas where DSO is not complete.

On Dec.15th, OfCom announced information on licensing arrangements for channel 38. This included for channels 39 and 40 to be made available on the same shared license until channel 38 becomes fully available nationwide. Availability will improve as DSO progresses and channel 38 should be available nationwide as of Jan. 1st 2012 if not earlier.


www.ofcom.org.uk/consumer/2009/12/new-licensing-arrangements-for-wireless-microphone-users/


2. 470-550MHz (TV Channels 21-30) and 630-790MHz (TV Channels 41-60) are available now and post 2012 for wireless microphones and IEM's on an interleaved basis. Please contact JFMG (www.jfmq.co.uk) for availability and licensing information.

3. The deregulated license-free spectrum from 863-865MHz remains untouched by DSO. If you are currently operating in this spectrum or use less than four channels you are free to carry on using this spectrum now and beyond 2012.

TV CHANNEL	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Freq. Range	470-478MHz	478-486MHz	486-494MHz	494-502MHz	502-510MHz	510-518MHz	518-526MHz	526-534MHz	534-542MHz	542-550MHz
TV CHANNEL	31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38	39	40
Freq. Range	550-558MHz	558-566MHz	566-574MHz	574-582MHz	582-590MHz	590-598MHz	598-606MHz	606-614MHz	614-622MHz	622-630MHz
TV CHANNEL	41	42	43	44	45	46	47	48	49	50
Freq. Range	630-638MHz	638-646MHz	646-654MHz	654-662MHz	662-670MHz	670-678MHz	678-686MHz	686-694MHz	694-702MHz	702-710MHz
TV CHANNEL	51	52	53	54	55	56	57	58	59	60
Freq. Range	710-718MHz	718-726MHz	726-734MHz	734-742MHz	742-750MHz	750-758MHz	758-766MHz	766-774MHz	774-782MHz	782-790MHz
TV CHANNEL	61	62	63	64	65	66	67	68	69	70
Freq. Range	790-798MHz	798-806MHz	806-814MHz	814-822MHz	822-830MHz	830-838MHz	838-846MHz	846-854MHz	854-862MHz	863-865MHz

 Interleaved Spectrum available for wireless microphones and IEM's now and post DSO 2012.

 Channels 38-40 available for wireless microphones and IEM's on a shared license basis after January 4th, 2010. Once Channel 38 is available nationwide (expected Jan, 1st, 2012, channels 39-40 will be part of interleaved spectrum.

 Cleared spectrum as a result of DSO. Believed to be available for wireless microphones and IEM's until approx mid 2012.

 License free spectrum available now and not affected by DSO. Note only 2MHz slice of channel 70 is available.

Do I need a licence to operate my Radio Mics and In Ear Monitor Systems

Yes. It is required by law to be in possession of a license to legally operate radio microphones or IEM's unless you are using the de-regulated spectrum between 863-865MHz. Please contact JFMG (Joint Frequency Management Group) for licensing information: www.jfmq.co.uk

Many questions have been asked recently about the status of Shure products now and in the future.

If you are a community user or use a low number of channels (four or less) you can carry on using the deregulated portion of channel 70 between 863-865MHz which is license-exempt and unaffected by the Digital Switchover. All current Shure products are capable of tuning to frequencies within 863-865MHz. **For reference: PG-T10, PGX-T1, SLX-S6, ULX-S3, UHF-R-R9.**

Please see the user guide or contact Shure Distribution UK for information on which groups and channels in the Shure products to use.

UHF-R is and has always been capable of tuning to Channel 38. Please use the J5E version which covers 578-638MHz. This also covers channels 39-40 which are available on the same shared license as channel 38.

Alternative frequency band options also exist for SLX, ULX, and UHF-R that operate in the two blocks of licensable interleaved spectrum (470-550MHz and 630-790MHz) that are available now and post 2012. Please visit our website at www.shure.co.uk or contact the office at 01992.703.058 for further details.