The LoRa Alliance is an open, no-profit organization dedicated to promoting the interoperability and standardization of low-power wide area network (LPWAN) technologies to drive implementation of the Internet of Things (IoT).
LoRa Alliance

83
Network Operators

57
Alliance Member Operators

49
Countries operating in

95
Countries with LoRaWAN Deployments

- Alliance Member Public Networks
- Other LoRaWAN Deployment
Our Coverage – (Major Metros)
Comsol LoRaWAN Channels

• The channels that Comsol currently use are:

  – 867.1 867.3, 867.5, 867.7, 867.9,

  – 868.1 (LoRa mandatory), 868.3 (LoRa mandatory), 868.5 (LoRa mandatory). 869.525 is used for the downlink. 8 uplink, 1 downlink.

  – 868.7, 868.9 and 869.1 could also possibly be used for uplink.
Concerns

• By introducing the proposed plan there is a good possibility that there might be interference by other networks/devices as there will only be 0.475MHz separation or “guard” between our operating frequency and the proposed new band.

• The interference would be bidirectional.

• There has been a large capital investment made in 868MHz band infrastructure and equipment.

• Businesses are running equipment and devices in this band that are in production.
Concerns

• The network has been designed within the current engineering limitations, introducing IMT 850 will change the rules of engagement

• Comsol, other operators and industry stand the risk of reducing quality of service (QOS) on existing and future networks.

• Existing and ISM networks (and therefore existing band plans) should be protected by ICASA.

• ICASA has acknowledged the plan does risk interference.
Questions that need further investigation

- Better understanding on interference effects based on the statement in paragraph 9.5 of the publication should there be any?

- Investigation into the commercial impact to the economy should the IMT850 be implemented?

- Development of a clear plan and framework for interference as there are many legacy networks operating.
Summary

• We would like to request that the Authority re-consider the proposed IMT850 band plan in order to protect existing investments and networks already deployed in South Africa.
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QUESTIONS?