

## **Use of 700MHz frequency band for mobile communications in MTR**

**HKT (SEHK: 6823) – HONG KONG, August 28, 2018** – A new research and separate field tests have indicated that 700MHz frequency band signal may be used in MTR underground areas without causing interference with or being interfered by outdoor signals.

700MHz frequency is currently used for TV broadcasting. Mobile traffic congestion at the MTR could be improved if spectrum in that band can be made available for use in the MTR.

At a seminar organized by the Institution of Engineering and Technology last Friday, Dr. Tsang Kim Fung, Associate Professor of City University of Hong Kong, presented a study of underground mobile signals penetration in the 900MHz frequency band – one of the existing spectrum bands for mobile communications. The study concluded that 900MHz frequency band signals transmitted at MTR underground do not penetrate through to the ground level. Dr. Tsang also said that owing to similar propagation characteristics of 900MHz and 700MHz bands, if 700MHz frequency band was used in MTR underground areas, 700MHz signals would also unlikely reach out to the ground level.

HKT has also recently performed measurements for 700MHz signals at underground platforms of MTR stations. No 700MHz band signal was detected at any of the test locations.

In view of Dr. Tsang's comments and HKT's test results, it is strongly believed that the use of 700MHz frequency band in MTR underground areas would not cause interference with above-the-ground signals.

Accordingly, HKT would like to ask OFCA to review the use of 700MHz frequency band for mobile communications inside enclosed locations such as MTR underground platforms and tunnels in order to relieve mobile traffic congestion problems at the MTR as early as possible.

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