Collaborative Regulatory Responses to Radio Frequency Interference

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Rethinking Regulation



 Since the New Deal, government's role in regulation has been to set and apply standards in order to achieve some concept of the public interest



Collaborative Regulation

- Collaborative Regulation provides an additional path by which governments can facilitate agreement between stakeholders in particular regulatory matters
- A collaborative regulatory process is one in which:
 - Participants seek consensus rather than using the process to create strategic advantages visa-vis other stakeholders; and
 - Representatives of similarly situated stakeholders are included





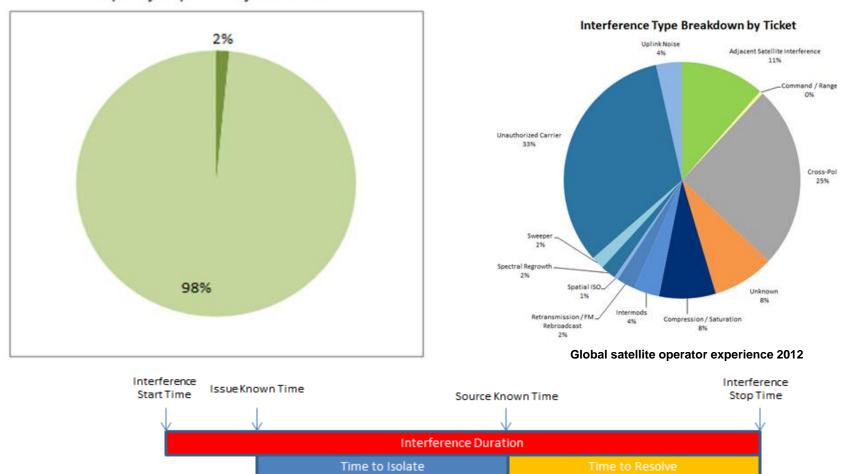
The Limits of "Collaborative Regulation"

- To be effective:
 - Participation must be limited to groups that will not undermine the collaborative nature of the process, while providing access to all legitimate stakeholders
- Regulators may need to exclude groups that have no interest or incentive in reaching a consensus
- The government would retain responsibility for adopting and implementing regulations and ensuring:
 - Compliance with agreed norms; and
 - That proposals reached by consensus further a broadly held conception of the public interest



RFI – The Current Situation

Capacity impacted by Interference





Industry Initiatives

- New Monitoring Systems
 - Discovery of offenders
- New Geolocation Systems
 - Isolation of offenders
- Training
 - Use, access, impacts





CF: 3662.0000MHz Span: 10.0000MHz ResBW: 12.210 kHz dB/div: 5 Ref. Level: -25.00dBm Vid Avg: 10 Beacon Correction: disabled





Industry Initiatives (cont'd)

- Data Sharing
 - Contacts, Alerts,
 Troubleshooting Aids
- Carrier ID
- Regulatory
 - WRC-15







Technology also Plays a Role

- Spot Beams
 - Isolation of coverage
- On Board Processing
 - Switching and processing
- Active Arrays
 - Beam shaping
- Steerable Beams







Space Data Association



- Not-for-profit association for satellite operators
- Purpose
 - Increase safety of flight
 - Deal with the growing problem of RFI
 - Enable more efficient operations for all

Current members

- Currently 21 contributing operators:
 - 90 LEO satellites from 5 operators
 - 267 GEO satellites from 16 operators



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Conclusion

- Current industry collaboration and investment driven by a desire to solve common problems, not by regulation
- Collaborative regulation may offer domestic and international authorities a new tool for managing complex radio frequency and orbital safety issues
- SDA, industry interference initiatives, and technology advances and investments offer greater potential to realize the "public interest"

How do we create a new partnership between government and industry that recognizes the commercial sector's vital role in maintaining the health and economic vitality of the space and RF environments?

