

## Wireless Innovation Forum Applauds Comments of FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler at Brookings Institute

*Spectrum sharing and innovation in the 3.5 GHz band in particular resonate with group's mission*



### For Immediate Release

Washington, DC – 27 March 2014 – **The Wireless Innovation Forum**, a non-profit international industry association dedicated to driving the future of radio communications and systems worldwide, today announced support of FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler's recent comments at the Brookings Institute's workshop "Wireless Spectrum and the Future of Technology Innovation" (<http://www.fcc.gov/document/chairman-wheeler-remarks-brookings-institution>), particularly in regards to spectrum sharing and innovation in the 3.5 GHz band.

During his speech, Chairman Wheeler references the President's Council of Advisers on Science and Technology (PCAST) report and subsequently dubs the 3.5 GHz band as the "Innovation Band." The members of the Forum applaud this designation, recognizing the value of minimizing regulatory barriers to entry in this band for promoting technological innovation, enabling entrepreneurs to pursue new business opportunities throughout the wireless value chain. The Forum announced its support of the spectrum sharing goals in PCAST on June 18, 2013 (<http://groups.winnforum.org/pr-pcast>), believing that modern flexible, market-based regulatory policies can overlay existing licensing schemes to further enable innovative technologies. Such technologies enable innovative flexible frameworks that can apply across multiple bands and wireless services.

Wheeler goes on to say that "the 3.5 GHz band provides a real-life opportunity to apply some bold thinking about receiver performance." The members of the Forum concur, and have identified this as one of their Top Ten Most Wanted Wireless Innovations ([http://groups.winnforum.org/winnforum\\_top\\_ten](http://groups.winnforum.org/winnforum_top_ten)). The Forum's Receiver Performance Guidelines and Evaluation Criteria Task Group, Chaired By Bruce Mueller of Motorola Solutions (NYSE: MSI) and operating within the Forum's Spectrum Innovation Committee ([http://groups.winnforum.org/spectrum\\_innovation\\_committee](http://groups.winnforum.org/spectrum_innovation_committee)), is specifically focused on this important topic, and is exploring the use of Harm Claim Thresholds as a way to enable radio technologies to better co-exist in shared and adjacent spectrum.

Additional specific comments made by Wheeler supported by the Forum's members include avoiding balkanization of spectrum into sub-bands each with its own set of rules. The Forum strongly endorses technology and service neutrality to enable innovative and efficient use of spectrum, believing that spectrum should be allocated following a usage rights method that has the minimum necessary technical restrictions to provide adequate protection against harmful interference. The increase in users' flexibility and ability to respond faster to changing market and deployment conditions inherent in such neutrality will enhance the ability to increase spectrum usage efficiency.

"The Forum believes that increased neutrality with respect to the specific uses of spectrum will result in increased innovation in wireless applications," says Lee Pucker, CEO of the Wireless Innovation Forum. "Optimal use of radio spectrum is more likely to be secured if the market, and not the regulator, decides what technology or service should be provided in a particular frequency band."

A new flexible regulatory framework is included in the Forum's Top Ten Most Wanted Wireless Innovations as well. Members believe such a framework is needed to enable the operation of advanced wireless devices and systems that meet reconfigurability requirements across multiple bands and wireless services on a temporary, cooperative or opportunistic basis.

In regards to Wheeler's statement that he is preparing a proposal with rules to make the "PCAST vision a reality" and that the proposal would include "a flexible auction and licensing scheme that leverages the technical capability of a Spectrum Access System database," the Forum's members look forward to reviewing this proposal. These members believe in the unified active management of spectrum (terrestrial / air / space / maritime) to maximize spectrum utilization, and the use of spectrum access databases as one important tool to enable increased sharing and thereby increase the dynamic nature of spectrum management.

Finally, Chairman Wheeler stated that he expects that a multi-stakeholder group would be convened to explore ways to "drive not only efficient transmission, but also efficient reception, in the [3.5 GHz] band." The Forum has previously commented on multi-stakeholder groups (<http://groups.winnforum.org/d/do/6831>, <http://groups.winnforum.org/d/do/6963>) and reiterates its willingness to support the Commission in achieving this objective. The Forum believes that the role of receiver parameters and their related consideration in spectrum engineering should be given greater prominence in order to enhance spectrum efficiency and to help maximize value to the economy and society.

To learn more about the Forum's mission, visit <http://www.WirelessInnovation.org>. To learn more about Top Ten Most Wanted Wireless Innovations, an ongoing project to identify major innovations that would be required to create the foundation of the next generation of wireless devices, visit [http://groups.winnforum.org/winnforum\\_top\\_ten](http://groups.winnforum.org/winnforum_top_ten).

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#### **About the Wireless Innovation Forum**

Established in 1996, The Wireless Innovation Forum (SDR Forum Version 2.0) is a non-profit mutual benefit corporation dedicated to advocating for spectrum innovation, and advancing radio technologies that support essential or critical communications worldwide. Members bring a broad base of experience in Software Defined Radio (SDR), Cognitive Radio (CR) and Dynamic Spectrum Access (DSA) technologies in diverse markets and at all levels of the wireless value chain to address emerging wireless communications requirements. To learn more about The Wireless Innovation Forum, its meetings and membership benefits, visit [www.WirelessInnovation.org](http://www.WirelessInnovation.org).

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