



SUBJECT	AM Centre of activity – 80m		
Society	REF	Country:	France
Committee:	C4t	Paper number:	CT08_C4_18
Author:	Mauricette Martin, F8BPN		

BACKGROUND:

For several years, a number of french radioamateurs have been heard, on an almost daily basis on 3550 kHz, in the CW segment, for QSO on AM (A3A). Every attempt by the REF-Union to make them to move from this CW-only frequency were unsuccessful.

REF-Union suggest adding a line on the 80 meters band plan "Frequency center of AM activity" in the segment "All Modes".

Thus, there would be no ambiguity as to the legitimacy of this mode on this band. The AM mode is allowed by the French amateur regulations.

CONSIDERING:

On 2006 december 29th, LA2RR president of IARU region 1, informed the REF HF manager about complains from different countries and from IARU monitoring system about a group of French radioamateurs operating on 3550 kHz, ie, in the CW segment of the IARU R1 80 meter band plan. After several exchanges with these operators, it turns out that this group has already tried to establish this QSO in the segment "All Modes" segment of the 80 band plan. Unfortunately, they faced a number of protests and intentional interference from other operators who have the habit to meet every morning on the same frequencies.

So, these AM operators returned on 3550 kHz in the CW segment, which is against the IARU R1 recommendations.

KEY POINTS and PROPOSAL:

- Using AM is allowed by the French regulation as well as by the regulations of all others IARU countries.
- It is clearly stated in the rules, that no one is supposed to call CQ on a frequency before checking it is not in use.
- It is also clearly stated in the rules that no one is supposed to take the law itself, committing intentional QRM on a QSO in progress, was it in a segment not covered by the IARU R1 recommendations. Such actions are illegal and condemnable.
- There is not, in terms, a segment in the 80 meters band plan clearly dedicated to this AM mode.

So to avoid any ambiguity about the use of amplitude modulation (A3A) on the 80 meters band, REF-Union proposes that a "frequency center of activity AM" be added to the 80 meter band plan in the "all modes" segment, in order to induce users of amplitude modulation to operate in the segment provided for this purpose and so leave the frequency 3550 kHz free for the CW users as defined by the IARU R1 band plan recommendations.

RECOMMENDATION:

REF Union recommends the creation of a frequency center of activity AM in the segment "All Modes" of the IARU R1 80 meters band plan and suggest +/- 3655 kHz.

