



International Amateur Radio Union Region 1
General Conference - 16th to 21st November 2008 - Cavtat, Croatia



SUBJECT	HF Beacon Definition		
Society	RSGB	Country:	UK
Committee:	C4	Paper number:	CT08_C4_24
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Introduction

The question of what constitutes an Amateur beacon needs addressing.

Background

During the discussion on the issue of Beacons below 14MHz, OeVSV requested that C4 defines what constitutes a beacon and that the definition should not be too restrictive in terms of future usage and should take account of national definitions in their radio regulations.

Ideally, a definition ought to work for C5 as well as C4, and the wording as OeVSV suggested ought not to restrict the future development of beacons.

Beacons fulfil a range of functions, from propagation study, DX and anomalous propagation operating aides, to receiver and aerial testing and other experimental purposes as well as activities such as DF hunts.

The words "attended" and "unattended" were not included in the definition as it was thought that these could be added as qualifiers to a more generic definition.

Recommendation

That the following definition for a beacon be included in the HF Manager's Handbook:

Beacon - a station in the Amateur Service or Amateur-Satellite Service that autonomously transmits in a defined format, which may include repeated data or information, for the study of propagation, determination of frequency or bearing or for other experimental purposes including construction