

Nomenclature of frequency bands

In accordance with the Atlantic City Radio Convention of 1947, frequencies should be expressed in kilocycles/second at and below 30,000 kilocycles, and in megacycles/second above this frequency. The band designations as decided upon at Atlantic City and as later modified by Comité Consultatif International Radio Recommendation No. 142 in 1953 are as follows

band number	frequency range	metric subdivision	Atlantic City frequency subdivision	
4	3— 30 kc	Myriametric waves	VLF	Very-low frequency
5	30— 300 kc	Kilometric waves	LF	Low frequency
6	300— 3,000 kc	Hectometric waves	MF	Medium frequency
7	3,000— 30,000 kc	Decametric waves	HF	High frequency
8	30— 300 mc	Metric waves	VHF	Very-high frequency
9	300— 3,000 mc	Decimetric waves	UHF	Ultra-high frequency
10	3,000— 30,000 mc	Centimetric waves	SHF	Super-high frequency
11	30,000— 300,000 mc	Millimetric waves	EHF	Extremely-high frequency
12	300,000—3,000,000 mc	Decimillimetric waves	—	—

Note that band "N" extends from 0.3×10^N to 3×10^N cy; thus band 4 designates the frequency range 0.3×10^4 to 3×10^4 cy. The upper limit is included in each band; the lower limit is excluded.

Description of bands by means of adjectives is arbitrary and the CCIR recommends that it be discontinued, e.g., "ultra-high frequency" should not be used to describe the range 300 to 3000 mc.