

RF Exposure Technical Brief

This Technical Brief calculates the minimum separation distance from an antenna, connected to the subject base station, such that the power density value listed in RSS-102, Radio Frequency (RF) Exposure Compliance of Radiocommunications Apparatus (All Frequency Bands) Issue 5 Table 6 is not exceeded. The analysis is for a typical installation using a structure mounted antenna.

Within the frequency range that the subject equipment operates, 936.5 MHz – 939.5 MHz the permitted exposure limit is frequency dependent per the equation $0.6455 \cdot \sqrt{f}$. Table 1 lists the maximum permitted exposure limits for the lowest and highest operating frequencies. The smaller maximum permissible exposure limit will be used for the computation because it requires a larger separation distance from the antenna to the exposed person.

Table 1 - Maximum Permissible Exposure Limits

	Controlled Environment	
Frequency	936.5 MHz	939.5 MHz
Limit	19.7 W/m ²	19.8 W/m ²

Example Calculations for T8798A 900MHz Transmitter:

The example configuration is a single frequency site, with minimal RF network losses, set to zero for this example, between the transmitter output connector and the antenna input connector. The antenna has an omni directional pattern in the horizontal plane. Table 2 lists the key RF system and antenna parameters.

Table 2 - Transmitter Configuration

Frequency	936.5-939.5 MHz
Base Station Output Power	80 W
RF Network Loss	0 dB
Antenna Type DB589-Y	9 dBd / 11.1 dBi (Omni)
Antenna length	2.8 m

Controlled Environment: Cylindrical Method¹

Using Equation 1 the spatially averaged plane-wave equivalent power density parallel to the antenna in the vertical plane is estimated by dividing the net input power to the antenna by the surface area of an imaginary cylinder at a distance R from the antenna, with the height of the cylinder equal to the length of the antenna².

$$S = \frac{P_{net}}{2\pi Rh} \quad (1)$$

¹ Federal Communications Commission Office of Engineering & Technology, OET Bulletin 65, "Evaluating Compliance with FCC Guidelines for Human Exposure to Radiofrequency Electromagnetic Fields", Edition 97-01, page 32, Tell's cylindrical model.

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Where:

S = power density, W/m²

P_{net} = net input power to the antenna, W

R = radial distance from the antenna, m

h = height of the antenna, m

The minimum separation distance can be found by solving Equation 1 for R and setting S to the smaller maximum power density for the environment per Table 1.

$$R = \frac{P_{net}}{2\pi h S} = \frac{8 \times 80}{2\pi \times 19.7 \times 2.8} = 1.85 \text{ m} \quad (2)$$

For the example site configuration the minimum separation distance for a controlled environment is 1.85 m.