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NCC invites consultation on draft regulation of 5G vertical application network

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The National Communications Commission (NCC) is inviting responses to the final consultation on the draft regulation of 5G vertical application networks in the designated frequencies of 4.8 gigahertz (GHz) to 4.9 GHz by 27 September 2022 (for further details please see "NCC completes consultation on 5G vertical applications in 4.8 GHz – 4.9 GHz bands"). In the fourth quarter of 2022, it is expected that the new Ministry for Digital Development will give its final decision setting out the implementation of the above regulation upon transfer of regulatory power on frequency matters from the NCC.

In addition to registered mobile broadband operators, owners, administrators, tenants and the other legal users of specific real estate will also be eligible to apply for the stand-alone private network licenses of operation in the n79 (4.8 GHz to 4.9 GHz) band with a term of up to 10 years, renewable upon permission of the regulatory body. It should be noted, however, that Chinese subsidiaries will be excluded from qualified applicants.

Other than the application fee, which is to be determined by the regulatory body, the licensee will be required to pay frequency fees, for which the NCC has disclosed the trial formula on its webpage for comment.

As of 13 July 2022, a total of 28 experiment projects on 5G private networks for proof of concept (POC) in the n79 (4.8 GHz to 4.9 GHz) band are in progress, subject to the NCC's approval. Some highlights are the application of:

- · smart medicine;
- · smart manufacturing; and
- · smart entertainment.

The NCC plans to subsidise up to 140 million new Taiwan dollars (approximately \$4.75 million) in 2022 for 5G private network POC cases.

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