

Subpart C—Technical Standards

[85 FR 38740, June 26, 2020]

§ 18.301 Operating frequencies.

ISM equipment may be operated on any frequency above 9 kHz except as indicated in §18.303. The following frequency bands, in accordance with §2.106 of the rules, are designated for use by ISM equipment:

TABLE 1 TO § 18.301

ISM frequency	Tolerance
6.78 MHz	± 15.0 kHz
13.56 MHz	± 7.0 kHz
27.12 MHz	± 163.0 kHz
40.68 MHz	± 20.0 kHz
915 MHz	± 13.0 MHz
2450 MHz	± 50.0 MHz
5800 MHz	± 75.0 MHz
24.125 GHz	± 125.0 MHz
61.25 GHz	± 250.0 MHz
122.50 GHz	± 500.0 MHz
245.00 GHz	± 1.0 GHz

§ 18.303 Prohibited frequency bands.

Operation of ISM equipment within the following safety, search and rescue frequency bands is prohibited: 490–510 kHz, 2170–2194 kHz, 8354–8374 kHz, 121.4–121.6 MHz, 156.7–156.9 MHz, and 242.8–243.2 MHz.

§ 18.305 Field strength limits.

(a) ISM equipment operating on a frequency specified in §18.301 is permitted unlimited radiated energy in the band specified for that frequency.

(b) The field strength levels of emissions which lie outside the bands specified in §18.301, unless otherwise indicated, shall not exceed the following:

Equipment	Operating frequency	RF Power generated by equipment (watts)	Field strength limit (uV/m)	Distance (meters)
Any type unless otherwise specified (miscellaneous).	Any ISM frequency	Below 500	25	300
	Any non-ISM frequency	500 or more	$25 \times \text{SQRT}(\text{power}/500)$	1300
Industrial heaters and RF stabilized arc welders.	On or below 5,725 MHz	Below 500	15	300
	Above 5,725 MHz	500 or more	$15 \times \text{SQRT}(\text{power}/500)$	1300
Medical diathermy	Any ISM frequency	Any	10	1,600
	Any non-ISM frequency	Any	( <sup>2</sup> )	( <sup>2</sup> )
Ultrasonic	Below 490 kHz	Any	25	300
		Any	15	300
Induction cooking ranges	Below 490 kHz	Below 500	$2,400/F(\text{kHz})$	300
		500 or more	$2,400/F(\text{kHz}) \times \text{SQRT}(\text{power}/500)$	1300
	490 to 1,600 kHz	Any	$24,000/F(\text{kHz})$	30
	Above 1,600 kHz	Any	15	30
Induction cooking ranges	Below 90 kHz	Any	1,500	130
	On or above 90 kHz	Any	300	130

<sup>1</sup>Field strength may not exceed 10 μV/m at 1600 meters. Consumer equipment operating below 1000 MHz is not permitted the increase in field strength otherwise permitted here for power over 500 watts.

<sup>2</sup>Reduced to the greatest extent possible.

<sup>3</sup>Field strength may not exceed 10 μV/m at 1600 meters. Consumer equipment is not permitted the increase in field strength otherwise permitted here for over 500 watts.

<sup>4</sup>Induction cooking ranges manufactured prior to February 1, 1980, shall be subject to the field strength limits for miscellaneous ISM equipment.

(c) The field strength limits for RF lighting devices shall be the following:

Frequency (MHz)	Field strength limit at 30 meters (μV/m)
Non-consumer equipment:	
30–88	30
88–216	50
216–1000	70
Consumer equipment:	
30–88	10
88–216	15
216–1000	20

NOTES

1. The tighter limit shall apply at the boundary between two frequency ranges.

2. Testing for compliance with these limits may be made at closer distances, provided a sufficient number of measurements are taken to plot the radiation pattern, to determine the major lobes of radiation, and to determine the expected field strength level at 30, 300, or 1600 meters. Alternatively, if measurements are made at only one closer fixed distance, then the permissible field strength

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limits shall be adjusted using 1/d as an attenuation factor.

[50 FR 36070, Sept. 5, 1985, as amended at 51 FR 17970, May 16, 1986; 52 FR 43197, Nov. 10, 1987]

**§ 18.307 Conduction limits.**

For the following equipment, when designed to be connected to the public utility (AC) power line the radio frequency voltage that is conducted back onto the AC power line on any frequency or frequencies shall not exceed the limits in the following tables. Compliance with the provisions of this paragraph shall be based on the measurement of the radio frequency voltage between each power line and ground at the power terminal using a 50 μH/50 ohms line impedance stabilization network (LISN).

(a) All Induction cooking ranges and ultrasonic equipment:

Frequency of emission (MHz)	Conducted limit (dBμV)	
	Quasi-peak	Average
0.009-0.05 .....	110 .....	—
0.05-0.15 .....	90-80* .....	—
0.15-0.5 .....	66 to 56* .....	56 to 46*
0.5-5 .....	56 .....	46
5-30 .....	60 .....	50

\* Decreases with the logarithm of the frequency.

(b) All other part 18 consumer devices:

Frequency of emission (MHz)	Conducted limit (dBμV)	
	Quasi-peak	Average
0.15-0.5 .....	66 to 56* .....	56 to 46*
0.5-5 .....	56 .....	46
5-30 .....	60 .....	50

\* Decreases with the logarithm of the frequency.

(c) RF lighting devices:

Frequency (MHz)	Maximum RF line voltage measured with a 50 μH/50 ohm LISN (μV)
Non-consumer equipment:	
0.45 to 1.6 .....	1,000
1.6 to 30 .....	3,000
Consumer equipment:	
0.45 to 2.51 .....	250
2.51 to 3.0 .....	3,000
3.0 to 30 .....	250

(d) If testing with a quasi-peak detector demonstrates that the equipment complies with the average limits specified in the appropriate table in this section, additional testing to demonstrate compliance using an average detector is not required.

(e) These conduction limits shall apply only outside of the frequency bands specified in § 18.301.

(f) For ultrasonic equipment, compliance with the conducted limits shall preclude the need to show compliance with the field strength limits below 30 MHz unless requested by the Commission.

(g) The tighter limits shall apply at the boundary between two frequency ranges.

[50 FR 36067, Sept. 5, 1985, as amended at 52 FR 43198, Nov. 10, 1987; 64 FR 37419, July 12, 1999; 67 FR 45671, July 10, 2002]

**§ 18.309 Frequency range of measurements.**

(a) For field strength measurements:

Frequency band in which device operates (MHz)	Range of frequency measurements	
	Lowest frequency	Highest frequency
Below 1.705 .....	Lowest frequency generated in the device, but not lower than 9 kHz.	30 MHz.
1.705 to 30 .....	Lowest frequency generated in the device, but not lower than 9 kHz.	400 MHz.
30 to 500 .....	Lowest frequency generated in the device or 25 MHz, whichever is lower.	Tenth harmonic or 1,000 MHz, whichever is higher.
500 to 1,000 .....	Lowest frequency generated in the device or 100 MHz, whichever is lower.	Tenth harmonic.
Above 1,000 .....	.....do .....	Tenth harmonic or highest detectable emission.