

International telegraph and telephone communications are subject to the International Telecommunication Convention and its regulations, or under regional agreements, or both. Overseas cables landed in Canada are subject to the External Submarine Cables Regulations under the Telegraphs Act.

Radiocommunications in Canada, except for those matters covered by the Broadcasting Act, are regulated under the Radio Act and Regulations which, in addition to providing for the licensing of radio stations performing terrestrial radio services, also provide for licensing earth and space stations engaged in space radiocommunication services, and the Canada Shipping Act and Ship Station Radio Regulations. Radiocommunications in Canada are administered in accordance with the International Telecommunication Convention and Radio Regulations annexed thereto; the International Civil Aviation Convention; and the International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea. A number of Canada-United States conventions and agreements are also in effect, such as: the Convention for the Promotion of Safety on the Great Lakes by means of Radio; the Convention relating to the operation, by citizens of either country, of certain radio equipment or stations in the other country; the Agreement relating to the Co-ordination and Use of Radio Frequencies above 30 Megahertz; the Television and FM Agreements; and the Agreement relating to the operation in either country of radiotelephone stations licensed in the Citizens Radio Service of the United States and the General Radio Service of Canada. In addition, Canada is a party to the North American Regional Broadcasting Agreement.

The Canadian Radio-Television Commission issues broadcasting licences under the Broadcasting Act of 1968. However, licences are not issued unless the Minister of Communications certifies to the Commission that the applicant has satisfied the requirements of the Radio Act and Regulations, and has been or will be issued a technical construction and operating certificate under that Act. Broadcasting undertakings include radio (AM and FM) and television broadcasting stations, community antenna television (CATV) systems, and network operations. The technical rules and procedures for the allocation of frequency channels and installation and technical operation of broadcasting station facilities are set forth in the Department's *Broadcasting procedures and radio standards specifications*. These documents form the basis for determining the acceptability of applications for technical construction and operating certificates and for the control of the technical operation of broadcasting undertakings. The availability of the technical facilities for broadcasting is subject to the terms of the North American Regional Broadcasting Agreement, the Canada-US Television Agreement and the Canada-US FM Agreements.

Licensing and regulating of radiocommunications. Licensing is the federal government's method of maintaining control over radiocommunications in Canada. Under the Radio Act, radio stations (other than those used in broadcasting undertakings) employing any form of Hertzian wave transmission, including television and radar, must be licensed by the Department of Communications, unless exempted by regulation. The following general radio regulations provide for six classes of radio station licence: coast, land, mobile, ship, earth and space. Various categories of service may be authorized under each of these classes, e.g. public commercial service, private commercial service, amateur, experimental, etc. The number of radio station licences in force in the year ended March 31, 1974 was 334,571 compared with 296,620 for the previous year. These figures include stations operated by federal, provincial and municipal government departments and agencies, stations on ships and aircraft registered in Canada and stations in land vehicles operated for both public and private purposes, but they do not include stations in the broadcasting service. Licensing activities during the year ended March 31, 1974 with comparative figures for the previous year shown in parentheses, include: applications 52,538 (46,694), authorizations 52,240 (44,641), licence amendments 69,142 (70,742), cancellations 18,243 (22,147), total licences in force 334,571 (296,620), and net increase in licences 37,951 (27,810).

Radio standards in general are drawn up in consultation with the electronics industry, interested organizations, associations and the general public, taking into account such technical factors as those which affect frequency spectrum utilization, reliability of apparatus, and compatibility under conditions of service. The Department of Communications maintains an engineering laboratory to develop standard specifications and to test apparatus to ensure compliance with the standards.