

**Electromagnetic Emission Survey
(2010)**

at

Old Harbour (Sark)

Report details:

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Survey conducted by	Doug Holmes
Report compiled by	Simon Short
Report checked by	Bachir Belloul
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1 Introduction

This report contains results of an electromagnetic (EM) exposure survey conducted at the Old Harbour, Sark on the 26/05/2010 at 12:35pm by Red-M on behalf of the Office of Utility Regulation (OUR) of the Bailiwick of Guernsey.

The report also includes a discussion of relevant scientific information and comparison of the measured field levels with ICNIRP recommendations.

The survey was requested by the OUR in order to ascertain licensee compliance with international standards on electromagnetic emissions from radio sites.

2 EM Exposure Background

All radio waves are electromagnetic waves, which are composed of electric and magnetic fields. These waves are referred to as 'non-ionising radiation' as distinct from the ionising radiation produced by radioactive sources. We are all regularly exposed to EM radiation from a variety of sources.

Exposure to EM waves is measured in terms of the electric and magnetic field strengths, which are produced by a transmitter at locations, which could be accessed by the public. The electric field strength, E, is measured in volts per meter [$V.m^{-1}$]. The power that could be absorbed by an object at a given location is proportional to the area of the object multiplied by the square of the electric field strength.

In this report, the Exposure Quotient (EQ) is calculated to express the ratio of the measured power density levels (expressed in W/m^2) to the ICNIRP Reference power density levels (derived from the Reference field strength levels). The EQ is then summed over all the frequencies in each of the surveyed bands to yield the band exposure quotient as shown in the Survey Results section of this document. A band EQ of 1 (unity) means that the cumulative radiation levels at the surveyed frequency bands has reached or exceeded the ICNIRP Reference level.

The potential health impact of EM fields has been studied for many years by both civil and military bodies. The increase in the usage of mobile phones has caused an increased public concern in this area, with the result that a number of bodies have been set up and tasked with overseeing research into such effects. The conclusions from these investigations are used to set regulatory limits on field exposure which reflect a precautionary principle based on the current state of knowledge.

The key findings of the International Committee on Non-Ionizing Radiation Protection (ICNIRP) are reviewed in the next section.



3 The ICNIRP Guidelines

ICNIRP is an independent non-governmental scientific organization, for the World Health Organization and the International Labour Office, responsible for providing guidance and advice on the health hazards of non-ionizing radiation exposure.

After examining available research, ICNIRP issued guidelines for exposure limits. The ICNIRP guidelines for the public have been used as a basis for a European Council recommendation on limiting exposure of the public to electromagnetic fields¹ and have been approved by the UK’s Health Protection Agency (HPA) in its board recommendation. Reference field strength limits for typical cellular frequencies are shown in the table below. The variation of the reference levels with frequency is shown in the diagram.

ICNIRP Reference Field Strengths, [V/m]	900 MHz	1.8 GHz	>2GHz <300GHz
Field Workers	90	127.3	137
General Public	41.25	58.3	61

Table 1 – ICNIRP Reference field Strengths

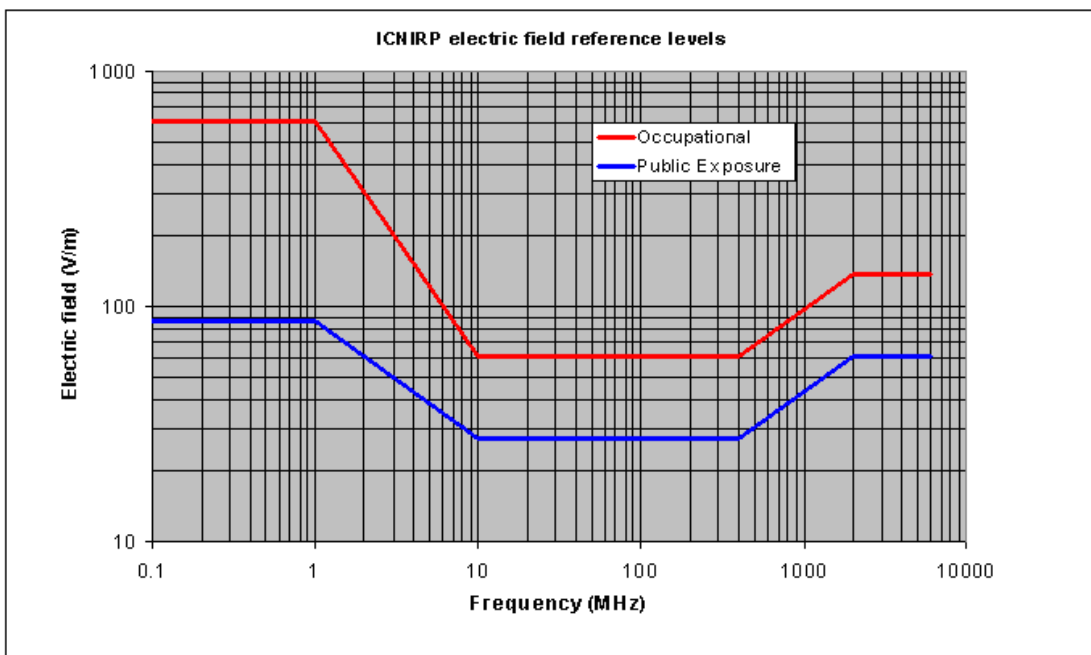


Figure 1 - ICNIRP Reference Field Strength Levels versus frequency for public and occupational exposures

¹ European Council Recommendation 1999/519/EC of 12 July 1999 on the limitation of exposure of the general public to electromagnetic fields (0Hz to 300GHz). *Official Journal of the European Communities*.



4 Survey Methodology

EM field levels have been measured in this survey using a carefully designed and controlled methodology. Elements of this methodology include:

1. A peak search around the site performed in order to determine with accuracy the location where the maximum radiation levels are being received. To achieve this, the survey engineer walks in the area surrounding the site along a pre-defined template path, using the hand-held probe and notes the location of maximum reading.
2. Subject to accessibility, walks are limited to a nominal 100m from the site. Generally, stretching up to the point (and slightly beyond) where the peak values are measured.
3. A note of the peak position is made by the engineer.
4. The probe is then positioned on a tripod at the exact location of the maximum radiation level readings and the measurement taken. The height of the probe is approximately 1.5m above the ground.
5. The exact measurement position is recorded using a GPS receiver and photos of the site are taken.

Equipment detail

The measurements are performed using:

- an isotropic field probe, which reacts to all polarisations (directions) of the electric field, in a similar way to biological tissue.
- a carefully calibrated exposure level meter for all cellular frequencies to ensure that that the measurements are meaningful and accurate.

Description	Type	Barcode ID
Isotropic probe	SRM-3000	5855
Spectrum Analyser	SRM-3000SA	5854

Table 2 – Equipment Details

In instances where field strengths at given frequency bands known to be transmitting at the site were found to be lower than the sensitivity of the probe, Red-M will provide an estimation of the field strength based on the geometry of the antenna location, the transmitter parameters provided by the operator and a theoretical assumption on how the electromagnetic waves would propagate to the ground. This theoretical assumption will consist of a worst-case scenario and would therefore yield the highest possible field strength levels under those assumptions.



5 Survey Results

5.1 Site Details



Figure 2 - Map of the Site Area

Operators	Airtel, C&W and Wave Telecom
Site name/ ID	Old Harbour
Site address	Harbour Hill, Sark
Site Location	N49.43063 W02.34290
Configuration	Sectors + Omnis
Approximate height	Airtel (x1): 7m C&W (x1): 7m Wave Telecom (x1): 7m
Site type	Wall-mounted
Survey date	26/05/2010
Survey time	12:35pm

The site at the Old Harbour in Harbour Hill, Sark consists of two sector antennas (Airtel, C&W) and one omni antenna (Wave Telecom) mounted onto the side of the tunnel's entrance. The site's antenna heights are approximately 7m for all operators.

Table 3 – Site Details

5.2 Photographs



Figure 3 –View of the three antennas at the entrance of the tunnel



5.3 Site Sketch

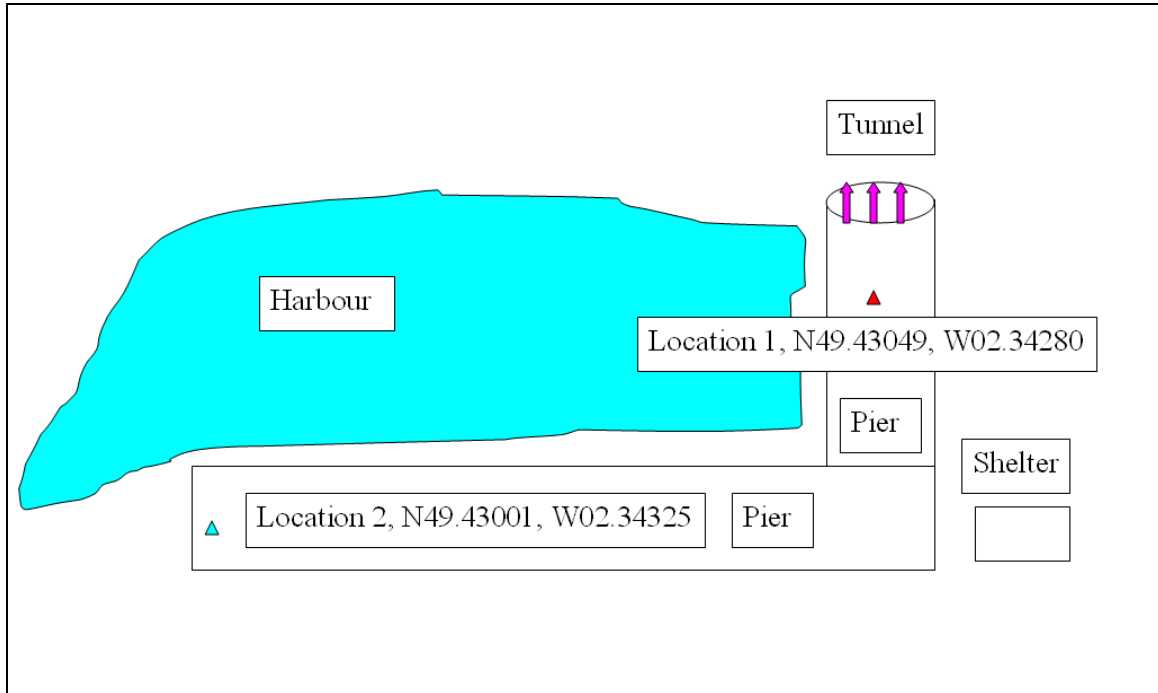


Figure 4 - Survey Area with Spot Measurement Markers

As part of the peak search procedure, spot measurements were taken throughout the site, as shown on the above sketch. The reported spectrum scans were taken at two Test Site locations as shown in the sketch (triangles). The TX sites are the pink arrows.

The results which follow were taken from Location 1 where the highest readings were detected.

5.4 Results of the electromagnetic exposure survey per operator

All three mobile operator use the site at the present time: C&W, Airtel, and Wave Telecom. As a routine procedure, the surveys were conducted at all three frequency bands (GSM900, DCS1800 and UMTS) and for all three cellular operators but only the results for the operators/frequency bands that showed radio signal levels above the metre's sensitivity are shown in this section.

Note that the results presented in the following tables are accurate to within the rounding precision of the last digit.



Operator 1: Cable & Wireless (900MHz)

The results of the survey at Cable & Wireless' 900MHz band are given below.

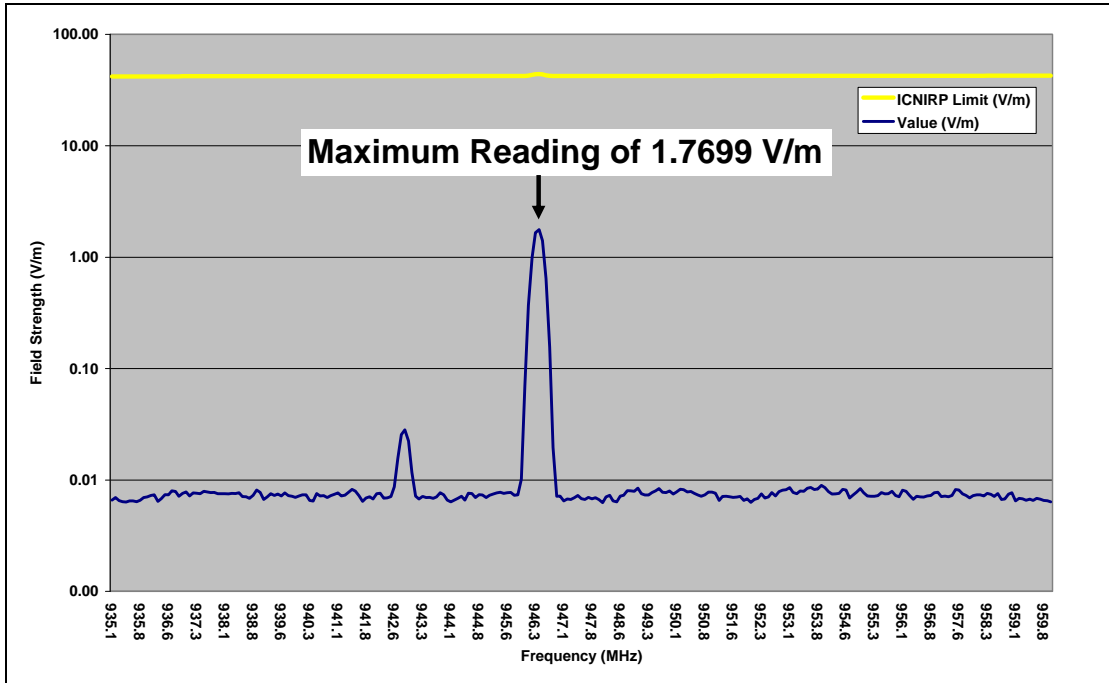


Figure 5 - C&W Spectrum Scan Graph (900MHz)

Field strength levels measured at the site are shown on a logarithmic scale in the figure above. The yellow line on the graph represents the ICNIRP Reference levels for the general public for the frequency band under consideration. No field level recorded across the band was higher than 1.7699 V/m, which is 24 times smaller than the ICNIRP Reference level.

Site name	Max measured field strength [V/m]	ICNIRP Reference Level Relative to Max measured field strength	Band Exposure Quotient	Band Exposure Quotient Relative to ICNIRP
Creux Harbour (L1)	1.769899964	24	0.00527782	1/ 189

Table 4 – C&W Spectrum Scan Table (900MHz)

The exposure quotient over the 900MHz band was calculated from the survey data and found to be equal to 0.00527782, effectively representing a value 1/189 times the recommended ICNIRP levels over the band.



Operator 2: Airtel (1800MHz)

The results of the survey at Airtel's 1800MHz band are given below.

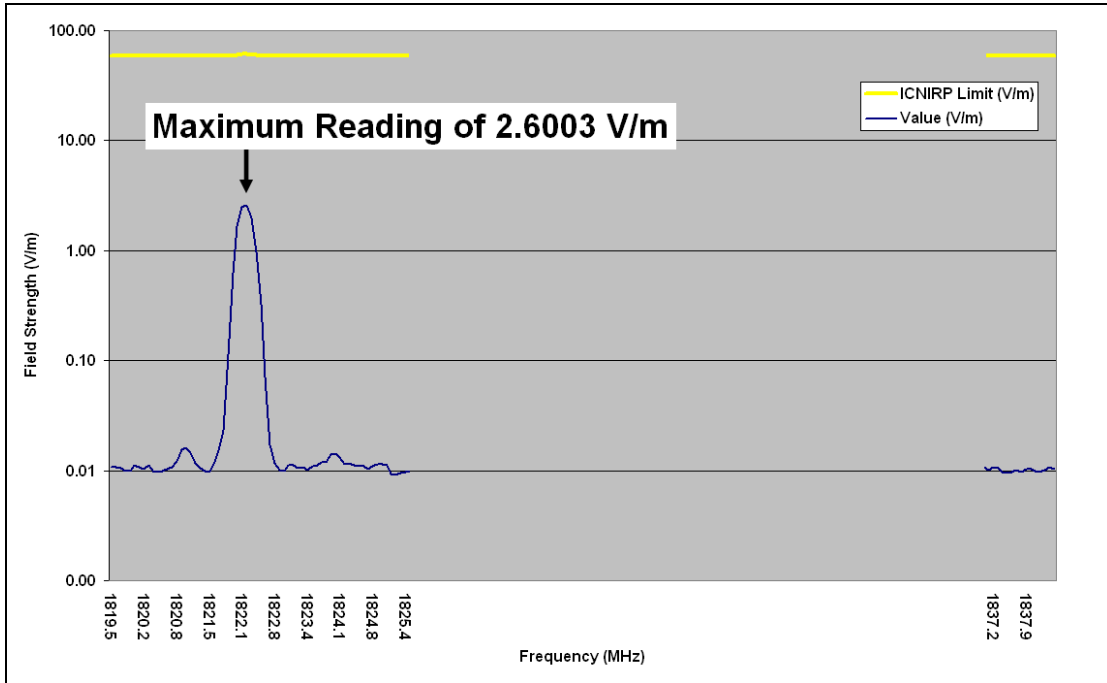


Figure 7 - Airtel Spectrum Scan Graph (1800MHz)

Field strength levels measured at the site are shown on a logarithmic scale in the figure above. The yellow line on the graph represents the ICNIRP Reference levels for the general public for the frequency band under consideration. No field level recorded across the band was higher than 2.6003 V/m, which is 23 times smaller than the ICNIRP Reference level.

Site name	Max measured field strength [V/m]	ICNIRP Reference Level Relative to Max measured field strength	Band Exposure Quotient	Band Exposure Quotient Relative to ICNIRP
Creux Harbour (L1)	2.600300074	23	0.00609391	1/ 164

Table 5 – Airtel Spectrum Scan Table (1800MHz)

The exposure quotient over the 1800MHz band was calculated from the survey data and found to be equal to 0.00609391, effectively representing a value 1/164 times the recommended ICNIRP levels over the band.



6 Cumulative electromagnetic exposure

The cumulative Exposure Quotient recorded across all detected cellular frequency bands present at the site is given at the bottom of the summary table below.

Frequency band	Operator	Total EQ	Total EQ relative to unity
GSM900	C&W	0.00527782	1/ 189
GSM900	Wave Telecom	0.00000322	1/ 310663
DCS1800	Airtel	0.00609391	1/ 164
DCS1800	Wave Telecom	0.00000703	1/ 142322
UMTS	Airtel	0.0000024	1/ 417433
UMTS	Wave Telecom	0.00000234	1/ 427638
Cumulative EQ		0.0113867	1/ 88

Table 6 - Cumulative Exposure Quotient

The results show that the cumulative EQ was measured at 1/88 and therefore remains below the ICNIRP guidelines.

The values shown are the maximum levels that were recorded around the site following a peak search. In most other locations, the levels were lower but it must be stressed that the recorded values are only true at the time of testing.

