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October 13, 2022

VIA ELECTRONIC FILING

Marlene H. Dortch
Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
45 L Street NE
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: *Ex Parte Notice* – Improvements to Benchmarks and Related Requirements Governing
Hearing Aid-Compatible Mobile Handsets
WT Docket No. 15-285

Dear Ms. Dortch,

On October 11, 2022, representatives from the ATIS Hearing Aid Compatibility Task Force (“HAC Task Force”) spoke with representatives from the Federal Communications Commission’s (“Commission”) Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau (“CGB”), Wireless Telecommunications Bureau (“WTB”) and Office of Engineering and Technology (“OET”) via video conference to update them on the work of the HAC Task Force. A list of meeting attendees is included in the attachment to this letter.

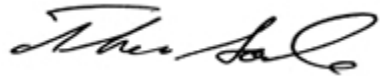
The HAC Task Force representatives provided updates on the work of its Working Group #3 (“WG3”), which is examining the changes between the 2011 and 2019 versions of the *American National Standard for Methods of Measurement of Capability between Wireless Communication Devices and Hearing Aids* (IEEE/ANSI C63.19-2011 (“2011 ANSI Standard” and IEEE/ANSI C63.19-2019 (“2019 ANSI Standard”), and the impact of these changes on hearing aid compatibility for current and future mobile handsets. WG3 has collected information on how current handsets that are HAC-rated under the 2011 ANSI Standard perform when tested with the 2019 version of the ANSI Standard.

The HAC Task Force explained the processes used by WG3 to collect, anonymize, and analyze test data. The HAC Task Force provided an overview of the performance data, which includes data pertaining to several aspects of the performance of wireless handsets, including RF emissions, T-coil, and volume control. The Task Force noted that it had hired a third party to collect and anonymize the data to ensure confidentiality across testing participants. Further details regarding the work of WG3 and the impact of the results on the HAC Task Force recommendations will be included in the HAC Task Force’s final report to the Commission.

The HAC Task Force looks forward to continuing its collaborative effort and using the information and analysis from the working groups to develop the HAC Task Force’s final report and recommendations to the Commission.

Pursuant to Section 1.1206(b) of the Commission's rules, a copy of this letter is being electronically submitted into the record of this proceeding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Goode". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Thomas" and last name "Goode" clearly distinguishable.

Thomas Goode
ATIS General Counsel

Cc: Robert Aldrich
Saurbh Chhabra
Darryl Cooper
Garnet Hanly
Kari Hicks
Eli Johnson
Susannah Larson
John Lockwood
Dana Shaffer
Suzy Rosen Singleton
Jim Szeliga
Joel Taubenblatt

Attachment

The below individuals participated in the above referenced meeting on October 11, 2022.

Commission Staff

Robert Aldrich, CGB
Saurbh Chhabra, WTB
Darryl Cooper, CGB
Garnet Hanly, WTB
Kari Hicks, WTB
Eli Johnson, WTB
Susannah Larson, WTB
John Lockwood, WTB
Dana Shaffer, OET
Suzy Rosen Singleton, CGB
Jim Szeliga, OET
Joel Taubenblatt, WTB

HAC Task Force

James Craig, HAC Task Force Chair, Apple
Rob Kubik, HAC Task Force WG3 Co-Chair, Samsung
Sarah Leggin, HAC Task Force Executive Committee, CTIA
Thomas Goode, General Counsel, ATIS
Jackie Wohlgemuth, Director, ATIS
Michelle Kelley, Coordinator, ATIS