

### **What is Narrow-banding?**

Narrow-banding is the method the Federal Communications Commission has chosen to ensure more efficient use of available wireless channels.

### **What is the purpose of Narrow-banding?**

Currently, the majority of UHF and VHF licensees operate using 25 kHz efficiency technology. However, the UHF and VHF frequency bands are congested (as thought by the government) with limited channels available for system expansion or implementation of new systems. The migration to 12.5 kHz efficiency technology will require licensees to operate more efficiently by reducing channel bandwidths.

### **What will happen if I fail to comply with the FCC Narrow-banding mandate? Can I continue to operate at 25 kHz efficiency on a secondary status after January 1, 2013?**

No. Licensees are prohibited from operating 25 kHz efficiency equipment after January 1, 2013. Non-compliance will be considered a violation that could lead to FCC enforcement action, which may include admonishment, monetary fines, or loss of license. Future Communications neither agrees nor disagrees with the FCC assessment that Narrow-banding is the solution. However, Future Communications mission is to ensure our customers remain in compliance and notice as little impact as possible associated with this government mandated change.

### **Will I lose coverage area when I Narrow-band?**

It is possible that due to this law there will be power loss, and thus some coverage areas, particularly in low lying areas, and areas with a great deal of active or passive interference (other radios, tall buildings, forests, etc). However, Future Communications will take ever effort to ensure your system is optimized so that your system is efficient and as effective as possible after this change.

### **How is Future Communications going to help me? Why shouldn't I just hire another company to perform Narrow-banding?**

We've designed and installed systems for our current clients. We know the ins and outs of how it works, and how best to reconfigure each system to remain compliant yet fully operational. If this is the first time you are working with Future Communications rest assured that you working with a company that has operated for 35 years in the radio market. We will leverage a great deal of internal knowledge as well as our manufacturer's support to ensure your radio system is as effective as possible after the Narrow-banding process. Almost all radio service and repair work is done in-house, by Future Communications personnel. This means we have a very strong grip on quality assurance. We are also the only major radio dealer in the area. We've had our Kenwood dealership for decades!

**We've heard that Future Communications has merged with another company,  
what does that mean?**

It is absolutely true that Future Communications has become part of the TROY family of companies, based in Spring Valley, IL. Jim and Gail are still involved with Future Communications daily to ensure a smooth transition. The decision to merge Future Communications ensures that we can continue to serve our clients for decades to come. For more information on the new owners please visit [www.troysimptech.com](http://www.troysimptech.com).

**Does Narrow-banding require me to change frequencies or obtain new channels?**

No. Narrow-banding does not require moving to another frequency band or different channels. Licensees stay on the same channel center(s), but reduce the bandwidth of the channel(s) currently used, from 25 kHz to 12.5 kHz and change the emission designator on the license. Alternatively, licensees may stay on the same 25 kHz channel but implement a 12.5 kHz equivalent technology on that channel.

**If I currently have a license for a 25 kHz channel, will I automatically be entitled to license two  
12.5 kHz channels after I Narrow-band?**

No. The FCC is reducing your bandwidth by half.

**Are governmental entities other than traditional public safety entities subject to the Narrow-  
banding mandate?**

Yes. Below is a partial list of the types of governmental entities that could be subject to the Narrow-banding mandate.

- ⤴ Public Utilities – both traditional voice and Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) systems
- ⤴ Schools (including school buses)
- ⤴ Transportation Departments
- ⤴ Mass Transit Agencies
- ⤴ Community Watches
- ⤴ Law Enforcement