



Contact iGR

Iain Gillott

[iain@iGR-inc.com](mailto:iain@iGR-inc.com)

## **Updated iGR study forecasts the use of 3.5 GHz CBRS spectrum in the U.S.**

***Study also discusses technical aspects and the licensing scheme for the spectrum and provides updates on recent FCC announcements***

**AUSTIN, Texas, October 30th, 2017** – In April 2015 the U.S. Federal Communications Commission (FCC) established the Citizens Broadband Radio Service (CBRS) for shared wireless broadband use of the 3550-3700 MHz band (commonly called the 3.5 GHz Band). The adoption of CBRS will be an additional way to address growing mobile data demand.

In late October 2017, and in response to months of petitions and comments on the April 2015 rules, the FCC announced a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) asking for public comment on multiple aspects of the proposed rules. Most in the industry expected the FCC to issue a final rulemaking on CBRS rather than what it did — basically delay the final rules for several months. This has injected a great deal of uncertainty around what the final CBRS will actually be.

The FCC is asking for comment on several major areas, including geographic size of the Priority Access License (PAL) leases, term length of the PALs, and renewability of the PALs. Whatever the FCC decides on these issues will not only affect the potential auction price of the PALs, but may also impact (to a greater or lesser extent) what types of entities (carriers, private businesses, school districts, etc.) are able to enter the auction and have a hope of winning licenses (relative to what the original rulemaking might have enabled).

Even with the uncertainty caused by the recent FCC announcement, iGR, a market research consultancy focused on the wireless and mobile industry, believes that the 150 MHz of CBRS has the potential to cause many significant changes to the wireless and mobile industry, as new entities will be able to build and operate a private LTE network. In addition, iGR expects that existing 3.5 GHz license holders – wireless ISPs – will be able to expand their products and services. And, finally, CBRS could enable wired broadband providers to disrupt mobile operators' market share via the residential market.

“The adoption of CBRS will allow enterprises, schools, universities, hotels and hospitals to operate a private network,” said Iain Gillott, president and founder of *iGR*. “With the latest ruling, the FCC is moving – slightly – closer to making this spectrum available. *iGR* will continue to monitor the developments and adjust our recommendations and conclusions as needed.”

*iGR*'s market study, [3.5 GHz CBRS: Disrupting the Disruptive Spectrum](#), which is an updated version of a study published in the second quarter, explains the technical aspects of the spectrum band, how the spectrum will be licensed, and who will be the likely adopters of CBRS. The study also provides a forecast from 2017 to 2022 of the total number of CBRS nodes expected to be deployed in the U.S. The forecasted number of nodes is categorized as: outdoor nodes installed by WISPs, outdoor nodes installed by nonWISPs, nodes deployed inside commercial buildings, and nodes deployed inside residential buildings.

The following key questions are addressed in the new study:

- What is CBRS?
- What are the different license types of CBRS?
- How does the licensing scheme work? What is the potential impact?
- Who are the likely adopters of CBRS?
- What is the current state of the CBRS market?
- How many CBRS nodes of the following categories – outdoor WISP, outdoor nonWISP, inside commercial, and inside residential – are expected to be deployed in the U.S. between 2017 and 2022?

The information in this market study will be valuable for:

- Mobile operators, particularly those servicing the U.S. market
- Mobile backhaul providers, including telcos and cable MSOs
- Wired and wireless backhaul vendors and solution providers
- Mobile OEMs, particularly those servicing the U.S. market
- Wired and wireless infrastructure vendors, particularly those servicing the U.S. market
- Financial and investment analysts.

The new report can be [purchased](#) and downloaded directly from *iGR*'s website at [www.iGR-inc.com](http://www.iGR-inc.com). Alternatively, contact Iain Gillott at (512) 263-5682 or at [iain@iGR-inc.com](mailto:iain@iGR-inc.com) for additional details.

## **About *iGR***

*iGR* is a market strategy consultancy focused on the wireless and mobile communications industry. Founded by Iain Gillott, one of the wireless industry's leading analysts, in late 2000 as *iGillottResearch*, *iGR* is now in its seventeenth year of operation. *iGR* continuously researches emerging and existent technologies, technology industries, and consumer markets. We use our detailed research to offer a range of services to help companies improve their position in the marketplace, clearly define their future direction, and ultimately improve their bottom line.

*iGR* researches a range of wireless and mobile products and technologies, including: smartphones; tablets; mobile wearable devices; connected cars; mobile applications; bandwidth demand and

use; small cell and het-net architectures; mobile EPC and RAN virtualization; DAS; LTE; VoLTE; IMS; NFC; GSM/GPRS/UMTS/HSPA; CDMA 1x/EV-DO; iDEN; SIP; macro-, pico- and femtocells; mobile backhaul; WiFi and WiFi offload; and SIM and UICC.

A more complete profile of the company can be found at [www.igr-inc.com](http://www.igr-inc.com).