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## **Российские операторы могут лишиться возможности строить сети 5G**

<https://www.vedomosti.ru/technology/articles/2020/09/20/840535-rossiiskie-operatori>

### **Russian operators may lose the opportunity to build 5G networks**

*There is no Russian product for this.*

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Operators will be able to build 5G cellular networks in the so-called millimeter range (24.25-24.5 GHz) only on Russian equipment included in the Unified Register of Russian Radioelectronic Products. This is stated in the draft decision of the [State Commission on Radio Frequencies](#) (ГКРЧ), a source familiar with the document, told Vedomosti. Such a possibility will be discussed at the next meeting of the SCRF, a federal official and a person close to one of the telecom operators also know. According to one of Vedomosti's interlocutors, this meeting may take place in mid-October.

A representative of the Ministry of Tsifra, which oversees the activities of the interdepartmental commission, told Vedomosti that he would not comment on the decisions that had been made.

The frequencies 24.25-24.5 GHz were allowed by the SCRF to be used by an indefinite circle of persons for the construction of 5G networks (including corporate, technological) in March 2020. It also ordered the use of Russian equipment - but subject to its availability in the electronic register. The new wording of the ГКРЧ decision, on the one hand, makes the use of Russian equipment uncontested. On the other hand, there is simply no such equipment, a person who is familiar with the managers of several cellular operators and officials of relevant departments makes a helpless gesture. Vedomosti also failed to find such equipment in the register.

The millimeter range is not the most interesting from the point of view of operators - in particular, because the base stations operating in it have an extremely short range. But other frequencies for 5G operation in Russia have not yet been allocated. The optimal range for covering large cities is considered 3.4-3.8 GHz. But this range is occupied by the means of communication of various government agencies, and

mobile operators have not yet managed to agree on its use.

According to the 5G development plan in Russia, provided for by the Digital Economy program, Rostec is responsible for the creation of domestic equipment for 5G. Under the conditions of funding cuts, the state corporation will be able to create domestic prototypes of fifth-generation network elements only by the end of 2023, and start their serial production only in 2024, Vedomosti wrote earlier. [Rostec](#) did not comment on the ГКРЧ draft decision.

The government set the task of building fifth-generation networks using domestic equipment, says a representative of [Rostelecom](#). How to solve it should be reflected in the roadmap for the creation and development of 5G networks in Russia, he notes. According to him, according to a trilateral agreement with the government, this card is being developed by Rostec and Rostelecom, but so far it has not been approved.

The requirement to build 5G exclusively on domestic equipment was previously put forward by Russian law enforcement agencies and special services, arguing that such equipment is a critical infrastructure, recalls a person familiar with the discussion of the issue. In particular, various enterprises will operate using 5G, and unmanned transport will operate in cities, he explains.

If the decision to build networks only on Russian equipment is nevertheless made, this will call into question the implementation of any projects in the new generation network as a whole, fears the managing partner of AC & M-Consulting Mikhail Alekseev. In particular, the implementation of the joint project of MTS and [Sibur](#), which planned to deploy an industrial network on the territory of the [Perm plant "Сибур-Химпром"](#) on the equipment of Ericsson, does not exclude a person close to one from operators. Limiting the development of 5G in Russia will have negative consequences not so much for the telecommunications industry as for industrial production and advanced Russian companies that are ready to use new technologies to improve efficiency and create new products in the Russian market, he said.

Russian manufacturers, in particular Rostec, could buy the rights to equipment for 5G from foreign developers (foreign developers do the same), but the scale of the Russian market alone is not enough to perfect this technology, make it more cost-effective and efficient, the source says, close to multiple operators.

And in order for domestic development, both hardware and software, to be in demand

by operators, it must meet international standards in a wide range of indicators, both technical and economic, - to be not more expensive, but better cheaper than analogues, says a representative of Rostelecom. If the domestic equipment is of high quality, competitive in price and at the same time meets international standards, Tele2 and VimpelCom will be ready to consider the possibility of purchasing it, representatives of the companies said. “If it is Russian equipment, we will only be happy, as we are maximally interested in reducing the foreign exchange component.

But first of all, it must meet the needs and demands of our clients, added a VimpelCom representative. Megafon hopes that decisions on issues related to the use of Russian equipment will not lead to delays in the development of 5G in Russia. “It should be taken in mind that the development, testing and standardization of equipment take a very significant time,” added Valentin Polozenko, director of the operator for network infrastructure. Representatives of MTS and Rostec declined to comment.