

# WiMAX and Health



**Mobile Manufacturers  
Forum**

## What is WiMAX?

WiMAX stands for Worldwide Interoperability for Microwave Access.

WiMAX is a wireless metropolitan-area network standard. WiMAX is primarily aimed at making broadband network access widely available and is an alternative to cables and digital subscriber lines (or DSL).

WiMAX networks enable a variety of options for broadband connections – including fixed and mobile connections.

### What research has been undertaken?

WiMAX-enabled personal devices emit low levels of radio waves (also known as radiofrequency electromagnetic fields) when being used. The use of radio waves is a common part of our everyday lives and provides the benefits and enjoyment of television and radio as well as an increasing range of wireless communications services. The safety of radio waves has been extensively studied for more than 50 years. Numerous independent scientific expert panels, government agencies, standard-setting organisations and health authorities around the world regularly review this large and growing body of research. These organisations have all reached the same general scientific conclusion: that there is no established evidence of any adverse health

effects from exposure to radio waves when present at or below the limits applied to wireless communications systems.

### Are there safety limits for exposure to radio waves?

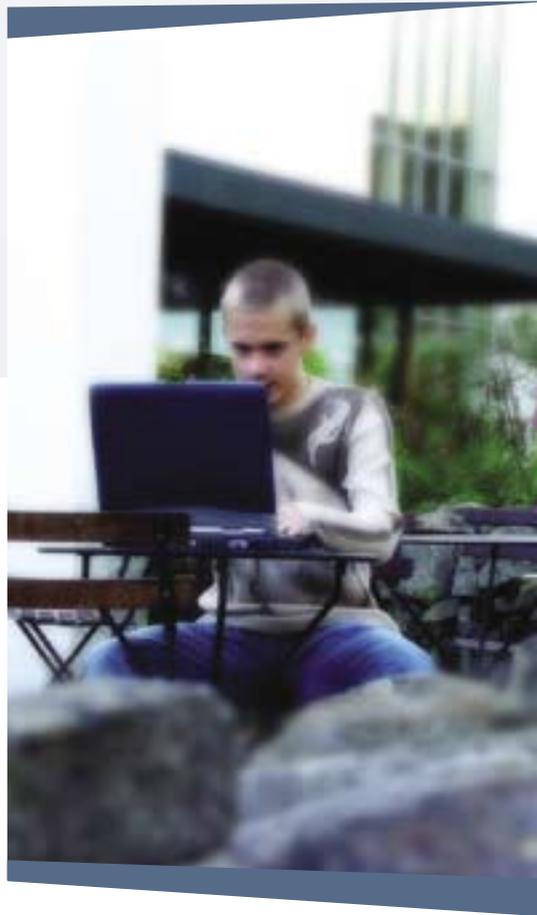
Yes. WiMAX-enabled personal devices are subject to the same standards that are applied to other radio products such as mobile phones and their base stations. The World Health Organization (WHO) recommends the standards, which governments and health agencies around the world have adopted. The standards establish exposure limits to which products must comply and include substantial margins of safety to protect consumers and the general public.

## What about children?

The health and safety of children is of concern to all of us. Devices using WiMAX technology are subject to the safety standards endorsed by the WHO and other health agencies. Those standards take the safety of everyone, including children, into account by providing substantial safety margins.

## Do WiMAX-enabled personal devices comply with RF exposure requirements?

All WiMAX-enabled personal devices are required to be evaluated to ensure that they conform to the RF emission safety limits adopted by agencies around the world. These evaluations are done in accordance with the various regulations and guidelines adopted or recommended by regulatory agencies around the world.



## Where can I obtain further information?

To find more information, please visit any of the following websites:

- WHO [ [www.who.int/peh-emf](http://www.who.int/peh-emf) ]
- ICNIRP [ [www.icnirp.de](http://www.icnirp.de) ]
- Mobile Manufacturers Forum  
[ [www.mmfa.org](http://www.mmfa.org) ]
- WiMAX Forum  
[ [www.wimaxforum.org](http://www.wimaxforum.org) ]



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The Mobile Manufacturers Forum is an international association  
of radio communications equipment manufacturers.

For more information, please visit the MMF's website at [www.mmfai.org](http://www.mmfai.org).



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