

## **RECORDING AND RECOGNISING "FIRSTS"**

Keeping track of "Firsts" on the microwaves in the UK has been a rather hit and miss affair to date. Records can be found in many places, such as Radcom, Scatterpoint, EME Newsletters and possibly a few others as well, but there has been no central recording of this data.

The UK Microwave Group is introducing a new award that recognises the achievements of British stations in making first contacts with other countries, and to build a comprehensive list of firsts as a historic record of the development of microwave operating techniques in Great Britain.

Should you not wish to claim a certificate we would still be very grateful for details of your First to ensure the records are accurate.

Certificates will be awarded to stations that can demonstrate that they completed the first contact between one of the countries in Great Britain and Northern Ireland (Prefixes M, MM, MI, MW, MU, MJ, MD and the G and 2E equivalents) and any other country on a particular band above 1GHz. Contacts within Great Britain are valid for this award (eg Scotland to Guernsey).

Only one first will be recognised per band, irrespective of the propagation mode (eg tropo, rainscatter or EME)

Initial claims should be made before 1st July 2007 for contacts that took place before 1st April 2007. Claims will be adjudicated using information available from other claimants and from historical records in magazines and other sources. Claims for contacts made after 1st April 2007 may be made as soon as QSL confirmation is available.

Certificates will be issued from the 1<sup>st</sup> July 2007.

Claims should be made using the application form available on the UK Microwave Group web site.

A QSL will be required for award of a certificate (but are not required to provisionally enter a First in the database) QSL cards should not be sent until requested.

All claims should be sent to:  
John Quarmby G3XDY, UKUG Awards Manager,  
12 Chestnut Close, Rushmere St Andrew, Ipswich, IP5 1ED, or by email to [g3xdy@btinternet.com](mailto:g3xdy@btinternet.com).

A fee of £1.50 will be charged to cover printing and postage costs when a certificate is issued.

Please note that data provided for the above awards will be held by the UK Microwave Group for the purposes of providing a published list on the UKuG Web Site and in the group's newsletter Scatterpoint, of achievements by stations in Great Britain and Northern Ireland. Data will not be used for any other purposes.

You do not have to be a member of the UK Microwave Group to lodge a claim.

The decision of the UK Microwave Group committee is final on the validity of claims.

**The Firsts Database is published on the UK Microwave Group Web Site:**

<http://www.microwavers.org/>

**Please check the database for existing contacts prior to making a claim.**