



Federal Communications Commission
Washington, D.C. 20554

April 15, 2020

Unimas Dallas, LLC
Christopher G. Wood
5999 Center Drive
Los Angeles, CA 90045

RE: ATSC 3.0 Dallas Market
Trial, Request for Extension of
Experimental Authorization
KSTR-DT, Irving, Texas
Facility ID No. 60534
LMS File No. 0000111401

Dear Licensee:

By this letter, and pursuant to sections 5.201, 5.601, and 5.602 of the Commission's experimental rules (Rules),¹ we grant the above-captioned application filed by Unimas Dallas, LLC (Unimas), licensee of KSTR-DT, Irving, Texas (KSTR-DT or Station), and extend the Station's experimental authority through July 4, 2020, subject to the terms and conditions set forth below.²

On April 5, 2019, the Video Division (Division) granted Unimas experimental authority to convert KSTR-DT's broadcast facility to ATSC 3.0 (also referred to as Next Gen TV) operations and conduct experimentation using a signal frequency network (SFN) architecture pursuant to the Commission's Distributed Transmission System rules (DTS Rules).³ As part of its conversion to ATSC 3.0 operations, KSTR-DT's primary stream was moved to full power television station KUVN-DT, Garland, Texas (KUVN-DT). Unimas commenced ATSC 3.0 operations on KSTR-DT's current channel and ATSC 1.0 simulcast service on KUVN-DT's channel on March 1, 2019. The Station's experimental authority expired on April 5, 2020.

As previously noted, the stated objectives of the Dallas Market Trial are as follows:

1. Test ATSC 3.0 "core" television service, as well as new business models,
2. Develop a common framework to facilitate nationwide deployment of ATSC 3.0 service, including best practices and mechanisms for optimizing ATSC 3.0 for consumers, broadcasters,

¹ 47 CFR §§ 5.201, 5.601, and 5.602.

² LMS 0000111401, Statement in Support of Request for Temporary Extension of Experimental Authorization for KSTR-DT ATSC 3.0 Operations, 1 (filed Apr. 3, 2020) (*Extension Narrative*).

³ Letter from Barbara A. Kreisman, Chief, Video Division to Unimas Dallas LLC (Apr. 5, 2019) (on file at LMS file No. 0000069539) (*Unimas Experimental Grant Letter*). See 47 CFR § 73.626 (DTS Rules).

multichannel video programming distributors (MVPDs); and

3. Deploy and test an ATSC 3.0 single frequency network (SFN) transmission system.⁴

In addition to compliance with all the rules set forth and adopted in the Commission's *ATSC 3.0 Report and Order*,⁵ Unimas's grant was subject to additional conditions addressing, among other things, the transmission and carriage of Unimas's ATSC 1.0 simulcast.⁶

Citing unforeseen and unprecedented circumstances as a result of a novel coronavirus (COVID-19), Unimas states that it now requires a brief extension in order to complete its experimentation.⁷ Unimas explains that it had planned to complete SFN testing by March 31, 2020, and transition to licensed ATSC 3.0 operations under KSTR-DT's recently granted ATSC 3.0 license; however, travel restrictions implemented to protect the health and welfare of employees and the general public during the COVID-19 pandemic has limited the ability of test teams and engineers to travel to Dallas and resolve outstanding technical issues before testing can be deemed complete.⁸ We find that in light of COVID-19 pandemic and travel restrictions that have been put in place by state and local governments to protect the health and welfare of the public and workers, the public interest will be served by extending Unimas's experimental authority through July 4, 2020. Grant of this limited extension will allow participants in the Dallas Market Trial to complete testing and development, and ensure that the underlying goals of the Dallas Market Trial are met. Unimas states that it does not anticipate seeking a further extension of the experimental authorization beyond the extension sought in the instant application.⁹

Accordingly, the request for experimental authority filed by Unimas, the licensee of KSTR-DT, Irving, Texas, **IS GRANTED** pursuant to 47 CFR §§ 5.201, 5.601, and 5.602,¹⁰ and is subject to the following conditions:

1. This experimental authorization expires July 4, 2020, subject to the terms and conditions set forth herein.
2. KSTR-DT is authorized to transmit a signal using the Next Gen TV transmission standard, as defined under 47 CFR § 73.682, and KSTR-DT must provide at least one free over-the-air video programming stream over its ATSC 3.0 signal. Such signal must serve KSTR-DT's noise-limited

⁴ *Unimas Experimental Grant Letter* at 1.

⁵ *Authorizing Permissive Use of the "Next Generation" Broadcast Television Standard*, GN Docket No. 16-142, Report and Order and Further Notice of Proposed Rulemaking, 32 FCC Rcd 9930 (2017) (*ATSC 3.0 Report and Order*).

⁶ *Unimas Experimental Grant Letter* at 3-4.

⁷ The World Health Organization classified COVID-19 as a pandemic, and the President declared it a national emergency. See *Extension Request* at 2.

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.*

¹⁰ This action is being taken by the Video Division pursuant to the authority delegated to the Media Bureau under 47 CFR § 0.61.

service contour.

3. Both KSTR-DT and KUVN-DT must continue to provide uninterrupted ATSC 1.0 service. KUVN-DT must provide ATSC 1.0 service pursuant to its licensed parameters. KSTR-DT must provide ATSC 1.0 service by simulcasting the primary video programming stream of its ATSC 3.0 channel in an ATSC 1.0 format over the facility and channel licensed to KUVN-DT for the duration of this authorization. The programming aired on KSTR-DT's ATSC 1.0 simulcast signal must be "substantially similar" to that aired on its ATSC 3.0 primary video programming stream, as defined by 47 CFR § 73.6029(b).
4. Unimas must obtain Commission approval prior to moving KSTR-DT's ATSC 1.0 simulcast signal to another facility.
5. This authorization solely applies to operation on KSTR-DT's post-auction channel – channel 34 – and pursuant to the technical parameters set forth in its request for experimental authority.
6. Unimas must notify the Bureau within two business days after ceasing operation pursuant to the terms of this experimental authorization and commencing operation pursuant to the terms of its ATSC 3.0 license (*see* LMS File No. 0000106487).
7. Both KSTR-DT's ATSC 1.0 simulcast signal and its ATSC 3.0 signal must comply with all programming, technical, and operational obligations applicable to a full power broadcast television station. Unimas will be held liable for any violations of the Communications Act of 1934, as amended, or the Commission's rules related to the transmission of its ATSC 1.0 simulcast signal or ATSC 3.0 signal.
8. Grant of the instant experimental authorization does not indicate that KSTR-DT would be granted a license to operate a single frequency network under the Commission's DTS Rules (47 CFR § 73.626). An evaluation of any technical changes to KSTR-DT's currently licensed facility will occur upon the filing of the appropriate application.
9. Unimas must take all steps necessary to ensure that MVPD subscribers' access to KSTR-DT's programming is not interrupted, and KSTR-DT must continue to deliver a good quality ATSC 1.0 signal to each affected MVPD.
10. Any broadcaster equipment or end-user devices must receive (as applicable) the necessary Commission equipment authorizations prior to use.
11. This experimental authorization has been granted on a non-interference basis (*e.g.*, 47 CFR § 5.84) and may be immediately terminated if the operation causes harmful interference to any other licensed user (*e.g.*, licensed broadcast operations or licensed wireless microphones) or if Unimas fails to comply with the conditions of grant. The Bureau, without the consent of Unimas, may modify the terms of or terminate this authorization for any other reason upon written notice to Unimas.

Sincerely,

/s/

Barbara A. Kreisman
Chief, Video Division
Media Bureau

Cc (via electronic mail):
Matthew S. DelNero, Esq.
Rafael Reyneri, Esq.