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<b>Subject</b>	<b>New SO LP section in IARU R1 VHF contest</b>		
<b>Author/ contact</b>		<b>Status</b>	Proposal

## Introduction

IARU R1 VHF Contest is the largest 2m contest in the world! Analysis of contest showed (<http://slovhf.net/vhfmanager/modules/results.php?ContestID=133&language=S5>) that split between MO (Multi Ops) and SO (Single Op) is around 1:3.

For example, in 2014, there were 291 entrants in MO and 784 entrants in SO section. This means that almost 800 participants were grouped in the same section (same rules). Last year a new SO section was introduced (SO6H) and preliminary results show that SO section split is now around 1:7 between SO6H and SO (87x SO6H and 660x SO). Still quite a large number of participants are put in a single section.

All major HF contests include more than just two sections per band, mostly split by the output power limit or other technical capabilities. It is therefore proposed to introduce new section, the SO LP (Single Op Low Power), to increase the motivation of single operator entrants and to collect more logs for contest adjudication. The aim is to receive at least 5% more logs from single operator "contest community".

The same analysis showed that about 50% of all participants use less than 100W of output power. Taking into account that, for example, in 2014 only about 15% of MO entrants (44 stations) declared less than 100W of output power, it is clear that almost half of the SO contestants actually operate with 100W or less. It is therefore proposed that the "Low Power" limit is set at 100W PEP.

Analysis also revealed a growing trend of using more than one antenna system for transmitting and receiving. Although it is true that this technique is mostly used among MO teams, there are also SO entrants using more antenna systems. The intention of SO LP section is to offer more fair competition to the amateurs that do not want to participate in a "parallel contest of who will set up more equipment".

## Proposal

Therefore it is further proposed that beside 100W PEP limit the SO LP section also limits the number of antenna systems to one.