PAWS is protocol above application layer that allows usage of spectrum for secondary users, and at the same time prevents interference for the primary user. For a client device intending to use white space spectrum, it needs to contact the Spectrum database with PAWS for querying the WS(white space) spectrum availability information. The Database checks device’s geo-location of longitude and latitude, and rule set supported by the device. If Database support the device’s rules and region, it computes which frequency range in Hertz is available to the device, power in dbm can be used by the device, and time availability in second the device is allowed to operate. Then Database sends a list of options with time/frequency/power to the device, and the device is allowed to choose one from the list without informing Database. However, PAWS also develops other functionalities that enables spectrum usage notification from device to Database. Below is a brief summary of functions supported by PAWS, (**bolded parts are required,** others are optional)

1. **Database discovery from master device side**
2. **Initialization from master device side**
3. Device registration at database side, but it is optional, and it can be implemented as separate component, or as part of Available spectrum query
4. **Available spectrum query for both master device and database**
5. Device validation
6. Spectrum Use notify at device and database, when database requires it, database lets device knows in its Available spectrum query responses, then device reports its usage later