
TV AND RADIO POST MODERATE PROFIT

Despite strong revenue growth, particularly in television, the commercial television and radio industries recorded only moderate profits in 1992-93, the ABA has announced.

The ABA publication *Broadcasting Financial Results 1992-93* shows both industries reported increases in broadcasting revenue.

'These results confirm the growth reported throughout the industry,' said ABA Chairman, Mr Brian Johns. However broadcasting profit for commercial television dropped 34.3 per cent to \$112.6m in 1992-93 (from \$171.4m in 1991-92), while profit before interest and tax slid 8.8 per cent to \$266.6m (\$292.3m in 1991-92).

Commercial television revenue increased by 9.5 per cent to \$2035.8m compared with the 9.4 per cent increase reported in 1991-92. This revenue increase was offset by a 14.0 per cent increase in total expenditure, with expenditure on Australian programs (up 13.0 per cent), licence fees (up 14.2 per cent) and interest (up 27.5 per cent) being the main contributing factors.

The commercial radio industry's broadcasting profit for 1992-93 was steady at \$40.7m (profit for 1991-92 was \$40.6m). Profit before interest and tax was also steady. The number of profitable commercial radio services increased from 85 in 1991-92 to 99 in 1992-93 while the number of unprofitable services decreased from 64 to 56.

Commercial radio broadcasting revenue increased by 3.5 per cent to \$455.6m, compared with an increase of 1.9 per cent in 1991-92. Radio industry expenditure increased by 3.8 per cent to \$415.0m. Salaries and wages, which represented 32.8 per cent of total expenditure, increased by 4.6 per cent.

Full financial details are contained in *Broadcasting Financial Results 1992-93* (RRP \$60). Financial tables are also available on diskette (RRP \$40). Both prices include postage. Books and diskettes may be ordered from the ABA's Publications Officer.



BRIEFING NOTES

ABA ALLOCATES AM RADIO CHANNELS

The ABA has allocated 13 currently unused high-power AM radio channels in a series of allocation exercise in Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. See p. 2

AFL BROADCASTING ON COMMUNITY RADIO

The ABA has decided that live broadcasts of Australian Football League matches by Melbourne radio station 3INR do not change the nature of the service from community to commercial. See p. 4

ABA TO INVESTIGATE PROPOSALS FOR RETRANSMISSION

The ABA has commenced an investigation into requests from Imparja Television Pty Ltd, Queensland Satellite Television (QSTV), Nhulunbuy Corporation Ltd and Longreach Shire Council for permission to retransmit Imparja and QQQ television services. See p. 4

NEW OPPORTUNITIES IN BROADCAST PROGRAMMING

Keynote address by Hon. Michael

Lee, Minister for Communications and the Arts at the Broadcast Programming conference which discusses convergence, content and culture. See p. 5

PAY TV—NEW AUSTRALIAN DRAMA GUIDELINES

The ABA has released *Guidelines for the implementation of the pay TV new Australian drama licence condition*. See p. 8

DELIVERY OF CABLE VIDEO SERVICES

This paper discusses the delivery of video services using optic fibre, coaxial cable and copper pair cable technology. See p. 14

REVISED LICENSING ARRANGEMENTS FOR LOW POWER INFORMATION SERVICES

There has been strong support for maintaining regulation. See p. 17

CABLE TV LICENCES

The ABA has allocated licences for pay TV broadcasting to Cable Television Services Pty Ltd, NRS Group Pty Ltd and Dergat Pty Ltd. See p. 22

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