
FOR HITZ-FM

(weekends only), while Golden Days is scheduled for a test on 89.3MHz for various dates between 18 March and 23 June 1994.

GB Radio (targeting expatriates from Great Britain) is scheduled for a temporary transmission on 94.7MHz from 5 April to 5 July 1994 (weekends only). They have previously had temporary transmissions from 25 December 1993 to 27 March 1994, also weekends only.

OTHER INTERESTED GROUPS

There are other interested community broadcasting groups who have conducted test transmissions in and around Melbourne or who wish to do so. They are RMIT Student Radio, Whitehorse FM, Swinburne, Bulla FM, Bacchus Marsh, Werribee Radio FM, Radio Port Phillip, Southern Victoria Community Radio (Geelong) and 3CR (an existing community broadcaster which wants to convert to FM).

Most tests are for short periods spread throughout a year. HITZ-FM is the first group in Melbourne to use its full annual allowance of 90 days in one block.

ALLOCATION PROCESS FOR COMMUNITY RADIO LICENCES

The ABA is holding public meetings and calling for public submissions on the mix of television and radio services to be available in various parts of Australia. In the last six months, the ABA has visited all the areas given top priority in its planning process. These are areas where there are few existing services, such as remote Australia, Darwin and the Top End, and areas where there is only one commercial television service (including Mildura, Griffith, the Riverland and Spencer Gulf in SA and regional WA).

Areas where there are many services, such as Melbourne and the other metropolitan areas, have been given a lower priority. It is anticipated the ABA will be looking at radio planning for Melbourne in late 1995.

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ABA ALLOCATES PAY TV LICENCES TO CABLE TELEVISION SERVICES

The ABA has allocated licences for pay TV broadcasting services to Cable Television Services Pty Ltd (CTS).

CTS has indicated it intends to deliver pay TV services via Telecom's Laser Cast hybrid cable system to Brisbane, Gold Coast, Sydney, Melbourne, Canberra, Adelaide and Perth.

'The ABA examined the shareholding structure of CTS and found it complied with the foreign ownership provi-

sions of the Broadcasting Services Act', said Mr Brian Johns, ABA Chairman. 'In addition, the ABA found no reason to regard CTS as unsuitable to be allocated pay TV licences.'

CTS has received 10 licences from the ABA, as the Broadcasting Services Act requires a separate licence for each service. The ABA takes a service to be a single stream of programming material.



ABA 'SIPHONING' INVESTIGATION

On 10 and 11 March 1994, as part of the consultation process for the 'siphoning' investigation, the ABA met with a number of sporting bodies based in Melbourne. While in Melbourne the ABA spoke with Tennis Australia, the Australian Cricket Board, the Victorian Racing Club, the Confederation of Australian Motor Sport, Motorcycle Australia, the National Basketball League and the Australian Football League.

The ABA is investigating which events the television of which, or live televising of which, should be available free to

the general public.

Further meetings are planned with broadcasters, pay TV operators, consumer groups and sporting bodies in Sydney during the period up until the close of submissions on 25 March. The ABA is required to present its report and recommendations to the Minister by 26 April 1994. The report will provide options for the Minister's consideration before he finalises a list of events the rights to which should, in the first instance, be available to free-to-air television services.



PAY TV LITIGATION ENDS

Two legal actions seeking review of the ABA's decision to allocate subscription satellite television licences A and B were commenced in the Federal Court on 25 February 1994 and dismissed by the consent of all parties on 11 March 1994.

The ABA and other respondents had sought and were granted an expedited timetable for the hearing of the matters. Both matters were to be heard on March 28 1994.

One action was brought by Austral-

ian Pay Television Pty Ltd against the ABA, Mr Lenfest and the satellite subscription broadcasting licensees, New World Telecommunications Pty Ltd (Licence B) and UCOM PAY TV Pty Ltd (Licence A) and the other by Claybon Pty Ltd against the ABA.

The end of the legal action occurred as a result of the applicants in both matters indicating to the ABA and the other respondents that they no longer wished to pursue their applications.

