



News Update

broadcasters and program makers on the new guidelines, which set out how the ABA will administer the 10 per cent requirement.

'The pay TV industry has changed significantly since we released the original guidelines in May last year. The operation of the pay TV business has become clearer and services are now up and running,' said Mr Webb.

'The new guidelines reflect these developments and should assist both pay TV operators and film and television producers. Services likely to be caught by the requirement would be those like Galaxy's Showtime and Optus Vision's Movie Greats channels.'

Where the format of a pay TV drama service does not easily accommodate showing new Australian drama, for example nostalgia formats, the guidelines allow operators to show the material on one of their other services.

At this stage it is too early to estimate how much will be spent on new Australian drama. The ABA will monitor the requirement for new Australian drama by way of annual returns from operators detailing expenditure.

The ABA intends to finalise the new guidelines in November. They should take effect towards the end of 1995.

ABA allocates pay TV licences to CFM TV

SYDNEY: The ABA has allocated one licence for a non-satellite pay TV broadcasting service to CFM Television Pty Ltd.

CFM says it intends to deliver its pay TV service via MDS (multipoint distribution system which transmits via microwaves) within a fifty kilometre radius of the central business district of Perth. The service will provide a variety of programs with a heavy emphasis on horse racing, greyhound racing and harness racing.

'The ABA examined the shareholding structure of the company and found it complied with the foreign ownership provisions of the Broadcasting Services Act,' said Mr Peter Webb, ABA Chairman. 'In addition, the ABA found no reason to regard the company as being unsuitable to be allocated pay TV licences.'

CFM is 50 per cent owned by the WA Trotting Association and 50 per cent owned by CFM Technology Pty Ltd.

CFM currently operates a narrowcasting service in Perth as CFM Channel 12 which telecasts local greyhound, horse racing and trotting. This narrowcasting service is transmitted to 320 subscribers.

The ABA has now issued a total of 1076 non-satellite subscription television broadcasting licences, see adjoining table for details.

Planning visits

SOUTH AUSTRALIA: On 11 August, Mr Colin Knowles (General Manager ABA Planning and Corporate) and Jenny Brigg (Assistant Manager Implementation Policy), visited the Riverland region to meet with licensees and aspirant broadcasters to discuss planning issues that have emerged as a result of the release of the draft Riverland discussion paper and licence area plan in 1994.

During the visit, ABA representatives met with a group interested in establishing a community radio service, and were impressed with the enthusiasm of this emerging group and the strong support for community radio developing in the Riverland. The ABA sees this as an exciting new development as there is currently

Non-satellite pay TV licences issued by ABA

Licence holder	No. of licences
Access Cable Television Ltd	110
Access Cable TV (Northern Rivers) Pty Ltd	4
Cable Television Services Pty Ltd	20
Central Coast Cablevision Pty Ltd	54
CFM Pty Ltd	1
Cosmvision Cable Television Pty Ltd	50
Cox Media Pty Limited	56
CVC Pay TV Pty Ltd	20
Dergat Pty Ltd	4
Explorer Channel Pty Ltd	1
Graft Pay-Per-View (Australia) Pty Ltd	10
Home Show Cable Australia Pty Ltd	20
Interactive Telecommunications Network Ltd	150
Multicom Australia Pty Ltd	35
Neighborhood Cable Pty Ltd	72
NRS Group Pty Ltd	13
Oberon Broadcasters Pty Ltd	10
Pacific Media Telecommunications Pty Ltd	18
Paynet Telecommunications Pty Ltd	8
Planet Pay TV Pty Ltd	20
PPV TV Pty Ltd	20
Premier Cable Australia Pty Ltd	43
Prime Media Developments Pty Ltd	45
Private Cable Network Pty Ltd	102
Rowcom Holdings Pty Ltd	28
Selectra Pty Ltd	50
Star Vision Pty Ltd	50
Vinastech Pty Ltd	50
Visitor Publishing Group Pty Ltd	2
Wright Weller Rosenblum Pty Ltd	10
Total	1076

Submissions

Submissions on the guidelines close on Monday, 23 October 1995.

Send submissions to:
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For copies of the guidelines, call
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