



News Update

Brian Johns



Brian Johns

SYDNEY: Brian Johns, ABA Chairman, has been appointed managing director of the ABC and is expected to leave the ABA in mid-March.

Brian Johns was originally appointed to the ABA for the period 5 October 1992 to 4 October 1997. His period as chairman has seen the development of the ABA as a new organisation implementing the new legislation, the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* which has ushered in a new era of broadcasting in Australia.

In December 1993, Mr Johns was invited to chair the Broadband Services Expert Group.

Before joining the ABA, Mr Johns was managing director of SBS for five years and before that publishing director of Penguin Books.

We wish him well in his new appointment.

Kerrie Henderson appointed to the ABA

CANBERRA: Lawyer Kerrie Henderson has been appointed a part-time member of the ABA.

A legal practitioner with experience in media and communications law, Ms Henderson has been appointed for five years from 17 February 1995. She is currently the administrator of the Vincent Fairfax Ethics in Leadership Awards for the St James Ethics Centre.

Kerrie Henderson



Ms Henderson's experience includes providing consultancy work as a lawyer and lecturer and work with several legal firms. She has produced a number of legal papers and articles on a range of legal issues. She has been Associate Editor for Communications Law Bulletin (the journal of the Communications and Media Law Association of Australia) for three years.

Pay TV licences allocated to PPV

SYDNEY: The ABA has allocated 20 licences for non-satellite pay TV broadcasting services to PPV Pty Ltd (PPV).

PPV has indicated it intends to deliver its services throughout Australia via cable as the cable network is extended.

Philips Electronics Australia Ltd is a 20 per cent shareholder in PPV with the remaining shares held by three of its directors and a company secretary.

PPV is proposing to provide movies on most of the cable services licensed. It plans to dedicate several channels to a single movie with different starting times on each channel. The service would feature several movies running at any given time, giving subscribers both a choice of movies and possible viewing times.

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

This brings the total number of non-satellite subscription television broadcasting licences allocated by the ABA to 769.

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	10
Dergat Pty Ltd	4
Explorer Channel Pty Ltd	1
Home Show Cable Australia Pty Ltd	20
Interactive Telecommunications Network Ltd	150
Multicom Australia Pty Ltd	35
NRS Group Pty Ltd	13
Oberon Broadcasters Pty Ltd	10
Pacific Media Telecommunications Pty Ltd	18
Paynet Telecommunications Pty Ltd	8
PPV TV Pty Ltd	20
Premier Cable Australia Pty Ltd	43
Prime Media Developments Pty Ltd	45
Private Cable Network Pty Ltd	34
Rowcom Holdings Pty Ltd	28
Selectra Pty Ltd	50
Star Vision Pty Ltd	50
Vinatech Pty Ltd	50
Visitor Publishing Group Pty Ltd	2
Wright Weller Rosenblum Pty Ltd	10