



## Journalists and new communications

SYDNEY: Journalists' experience in providing high quality content in today's media will open up opportunities in the new communications technologies.

'This will happen because the core of people's interest in news services is curiosity about the local and national community,' said Mr Brian Johns, Chairman of the Broadband Services Expert Group (BSEG), when speaking to the International Federation of Journalists Asia Pacific Regional Meeting in Sydney on 6 February.

BSEG has used a ten year time frame to assess the possibilities of new communications services and has concentrated on the content which will drive new technologies and develop cultural industries.

He said while local entertainment industries may be marginalised by overseas product, it is more difficult to imagine news and current affairs being displaced, whatever the delivery

mechanism or format might be.

'The Australian experience has been that viewers and readers demand a high level of localism in news and current affairs. Providing content for the networks of the future represents an important historical opportunity not only for the profession of journalism, but for Australia,' Mr Johns said.

He said BSEG was enthusiastic about the possibilities of new networks and new formats such as multi media because Australia has some distinct advantages in developing the services of the future: a sophisticated telecommunications infrastructure, a competitive environment for telecommunications services; a strong record of producing content that is both locally relevant and exportable; a commitment through the creative nation policy to developing the skills necessary to build new content industries; and a pay TV industry in the making, which is driving the roll out of important new distribution channels.

## Programs granted C or P classifications

*Programs granted a C or P classification by the ABA between 20 January and 14 February 1995. Producers interested in submitting programs for classification should contact Liz Gilchrist on (02) 334 7830.*

<i>Title</i>	<i>Origin</i>	<i>Clas.</i>	<i>New/renewal</i>	<i>Decision date</i>	<i>Applicant</i>
BOBBY'S WORLD	USA	C	new	31.1.1995	Network TEN Australia Limited
BOBTALES	Australia	PRC	new	8.2.1995	Gripping Films and Graphics
COSMO KIDS	Australia	PRC	new	31.1.1995	Novalis Entertainment
GOODSPORTS (SERIES 3)	Australia	C	new	8.2.1995	Tasmanian Television Pty Ltd
SKY TRACKERS	Australia	CAD	renewal	25.1.1995	Australian Children's Television Foundation

*CAD-C Australian drama PRC-Provisional C Clas-Classification*