



regard to matters set out in the Act. These include:

- * whether the applicant is a 'company' and represents a community interest;
- * whether the allocation is subject to any Ministerial 'priority direction';
- * the needs and interests of the community and the extent to which the applicant's proposed service would meet those needs and interests;
- * the applicants capacity to provide the proposed service; and
- * matters related to the control of the licence.

ABA allocates pay TV licence to Dergat

The ABA has allocated a subscription television broadcasting licence to Dergat Pty Ltd.

Dergat has indicated that the licence will be used to provide a bilingual Greek/English service with a mix of Australian and Greek programs using the Optus Vision network. The service will be known as Greek Australian Television (GATV) and started on 25 March 1999.

Unlike apparatus licences or other service delivery permits, this licence does not have geographical limitations.

Therefore, a service licence is valid throughout Australia as long as the programming on that service is the same in all areas of reception. Where the service differs in a location, a separate service licence is required.



Before allocating the licence the ABA examined the foreign holdings in Dergat to establish that allocation of the licence would not lead to a breach of the foreign ownership restrictions on pay TV licences. A foreign person may not have company interests of more than twenty per cent in a pay TV licence, nor may two or more foreign persons hold more than thirty five per cent in aggregate.

The ABA also considered a report from the Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) on whether allocation of the licence would be anti-competitive. The ACCC said it was not of the opinion that allocation of the licence would constitute a contravention of section 50 of the Trade Practices Act.

20 years of C programs

The ABA will mount a number of initiatives later this year to celebrate '20 Years of C programs'.

The ABA is planning a number of activities, including:

- a Children's Television Policy Forum to be held on 22 July 1999 in Sydney, exploring current and upcoming general issues facing children's television in Australia;
- co-ordinating and presenting findings from a joint research project into 20 years of C programming; and
- community education initiatives, aimed at raising awareness about C amongst parents and children.

C programs

The (then) Australian Broadcasting Tribunal introduced the first C (children's) classification on 1 July 1979. This C classification required three hours per week of C programs and 30 minutes per weekday of preschool

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Programs granted C or P Classification

Programs granted C and P classification between 20 March and 8 April 1999.

Producers interested in submitting programs for classification should contact Nadia Mencinsky or Belinda Mullen, ABA Children's Television on (02) 9334 7700.

Program title	Origin	Class	New/renewal	Decision date	Applicant
PIG'S BREAKFAST SERIES 2	Australia	PRC	new	29-3-99	Southern Star Entertainment Pty Ltd

C - children's program, CD - C drama, P - preschool, PRC - provisional C