

# Radio, Television and the New Media

## ABA CONFERENCE

3–4 May 2001, Hyatt Hotel Canberra

Planning for the ABA's first annual conference is now well advanced. While the technical strand of the conference promises to be at least as strong as at previous ABA Planning conferences, this year the conference will cover a full spectrum of television, radio and new media issues of concern to our industry clients and their advisors.

### A few highlights:

The sessions on Australian programming for Australian audiences will feature the Key Centre and the ABA releasing their joint research into future options and issues for Australian content regulation on television. Other speakers will look at television (both free-to-air and subscription) and radio (both commercial and community) issues and there will be a presentation from SBS on its own research into the diverse and changing needs of Australian audiences.

The digital television and datacasting strand of the conference has several highlights, including clearance of analog television—Michael Gordon-Smith will be convening an industry panel whose participants will look beyond the simulcasting period to the spectrum planning and public policy challenges beyond.

Other speakers on digital issues will include Rob Nicholls of Gilbert and Tobin and Malcolm Long will be convening a panel on digital television receivers with participants from ICE, Panasonic, TEN, Nine and Sun Microsystems.

The conference should provide the opportunity for a comprehensive update on digital radio issues and options for Australia, including presentations on:

- Eureka 147
- IBOC
- WorldSpace
- Digital Radio Mondiale

Other themes will include the ABA's sources of news research and new media issues.

The strong technical stream will include international speaker Jeff Gledhill on single frequency networks. On the Government side, there will be presentations from the Department of Communications, Information Technology and the Arts, the Australian Communications Authority, Office of Film and Literature Classification and the Western Australian Government, as well as the ABA.

The ABA members and senior staff will be coming to learn and to meet and mingle with their clients in radio, television and new media and their advisors.

The conference will be attractively priced and the registration form and brochure will be available later this month.

### Some speaker profiles:

**Jeff Gledhill** is director of broadband wireless products at Tandberg Television. He has been involved with the development of digital terrestrial television for more than ten years. Working for the UK Independent Broadcasting Authority he led some of the earliest trials of OFDM for digital television, and was a member of the DVB committee which wrote the DVB-T specification. He went on to lead the team which developed the world's first commercially available DVB-T modulator, and working with Motorola, the first working DVB-T demodulator chipset. He was involved in the trials of the DVB-T and ATSC systems in Australia which ultimately lead to Australia adopting the DVB-T standard.

**Jon Pledge** is manager of the Digital Terrestrial Group at Tandberg Television. He was involved in early demonstrations of analog high definition television for the UK Independent Broadcasting Authority. He then spent several years with Thomson Broadcast, France, developing vision mixers and other studio equipment. From 1995 he has worked on MPEG video encoders and MPEG splicing, and he is currently responsible for the development of OFDM modulators.

### **ABSTRACT: *Improving DVB-T reception with Space Diversity—Multiple Antennas and Single Frequency networks***

The DVB-T system as deployed in Australia was originally envisaged as operating with single antennas at both transmitter sites and in the receiver. There has recently been a great deal of interest in systems using multiple antennas, and in particular so-called Space-Time coding systems. This paper describes how similar techniques can be used in a DVB-T system without modifying the specification. The techniques improve reception particularly in the case of portable / mobile reception, but are also applicable where time varying channels are a problem, for example at transposer sites. A number of methods of implementing antenna diversity in both receivers and at transmitter sites are described. The single frequency network as a special case of transmitter diversity is also discussed.

### **For more information:**

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[www.aba.gov.au/conference/index.htm](http://www.aba.gov.au/conference/index.htm)

