



ABA allocates new open narrowcasting services

United Christian Broadcasters Australia Ltd was the highest bidder for eight of the thirteen open narrowcasting licences auctioned by the ABA on 16 December 2004. 3UZ Pty Ltd was the highest bidder in three auctions.

'The people living in the areas where these licences have been offered can look forward to the introduction of additional narrowcasting services in the near future,' said Lyn Maddock, Acting ABA Chair.

A total of \$178,000 was bid for the thirteen licences, with the highest bids being for Darwin East, Northern Territory (\$44,000) and Albany, Western Australia (\$24,000).

Open narrowcasting services are services whose reception is limited because:

- they target special interest groups
- they are intended only for limited locations
- they are provided during a limited period or to cover a special event

- they provide programs of limited appeal
- some other reason.

The overwhelming majority of narrowcasting services already licensed by the ABA are racing or tourist information services.

The highest bidder must pay, immediately following the auction, a deposit of 10 per cent of the price bid, and they must complete a form of acknowledgment which sets out the rights and obligations of the applicant in relation to the licence. Full payment for the licence (price bid less deposit)

must be made by 4.00pm of the business day after the auction.

Full payment for all licences offered for sale on 16 December has been received and the ABA has allocated all the licences to the relevant applicants.

If a successful applicant fails to meet any of the requirements, the licence will not be issued to that applicant. The ABA may then re-offer the licence.

New licence holders must commence service within six months of being allocated a licence, or such longer period of time as approved in writing by the ABA.



Highest bidders at auction for open narrowcasting services

State	Location	Frequency	Amount	Name of applicants
NSW	Walgett	97.9 MHz	\$4000	United Christian Broadcasters Australia Ltd
NT	Darwin East	90.7 MHz	\$44,000	Gumnut Nominees Pty Ltd
QLD	Port Douglas	106.3 MHz	\$17,000	Martin Fineberg
	Tully	92.7 MHz	\$12,000	United Christian Broadcasters Australia Ltd
VIC	Casterton	104.5 MHz	\$8000	United Christian Broadcasters Australia Ltd
	Lakes Entrance	89.9 MHz	\$17,000	3UZ Pty Ltd
	Orbost	95.5 MHz	\$7000	3UZ Pty Ltd
	St Arnaud	106.1 MHz	\$8000	United Christian Broadcasters Australia Ltd
	Terang	90.5 MHz	\$4000	United Christian Broadcasters Australia Ltd
	Warracknabeal	100.5 MHz	\$9000	United Christian Broadcasters Australia Ltd
	Yarram	92.7 MHz	\$14,000	3UZ Pty Ltd
WA	Albany	93.7 MHz	\$24,000	United Christian Broadcasters Australia Ltd
	Newman	96.9 MHz	\$10,000	United Christian Broadcasters Australia Ltd