ACMA Broadcasting Conference to be held in November

ACMA IS HOLDING A BROADCASTING CONFERENCE ON 9 AND 10 NOVEMBER.

The two-day event will explore the way the industry is changing, and the implications of those changes for its regulation.

The ACMA conference builds on the success of the former Australian Broadcasting Authority's annual conference, which was rated highly by industry professionals, policy makers and analysts, and will present a coherent program with expert speakers.

Day one of the conference will be a series of sessions based on the 'value chain' of the broadcasting industry:

Content Creation > Aggregation > Transmission > Access Devices > Sales & Marketing

Each session will identify current trends and likely developments in that sector of the industry, with discussion led by experts.

CONFIRMED CONVENERS INCLUDE:

*   Martin Dalgleish, CEO Convergent Media, PBL
*   Ross Henderson, Director, Panasonic AVC Networks Australia
*   Rose Herceg, CEO Pophouse
*   Justin Milne, Managing Director, Bigpond.

DAY TWO WILL PROBE LIKELY REGULATORY PRESSURE POINTS:

*   What's the future of news and current affairs regulation in a world of blogging podcasters and search engines?
*   How can platform-based regulation deal with increasingly blurred industry boundaries?
*   What's the future for the role of non-commercial media?

CONFIRMED SPEAKERS INCLUDE:

*   Nick Abrahams, Partner, Deacons
*   John Battle, Head of Compliance, ITN
*   Trevor Cook, Director, Jackson Wells Morris
*   Georgia-Kate Schubert, Manager Public Policy, Vodafone

The conference's keynote presentation will be made by Richard Hooper, Deputy Chair of the UK's merged super-regulator Ofcom. Richard will present a special retrospective on the lessons learned from combining regulators in converging industries.

More information about the conference, including updates and registration details, is on the ACMA website at www.acma.gov.au/events.

PREPARATIONS UNDER WAY FOR ASTAP FORUM IN MELBOURNE

Preparations for the 10th Asia-Pacific Telecommunity Standardization Program forum (ASTAP-10) are under way. The forum will be co-hosted by ACMA and the Asia-Pacific Telecommunity (APT) at Rydges, Melbourne, from 26 to 28 October 2005.

A one-day workshop on next generation networks (NGN) standardisation and internet protocol telephony will be held on Tuesday 25 October.

Recognising the substantial amount of work already undertaken globally on NGN, ASTAP will discuss the role it can play in developing regional input into international NGN standardisation activities.

A second workshop will be held during the forum on accessibility and usability issues in standardisation.

The forum will also continue the work of ASTAP's technical expert groups, for example, on radiofrequency identification, disaster management communication systems and NGN.

ASTAP was established in 1998 to promote and coordinate expert activity in telecommunications standardisation across the Asia-Pacific region. The forum and associated workshops will discuss initiatives to strengthen regional collaboration in standardisation.

Around 100 participants are expected to attend the October forum, representing Asia-Pacific countries, companies and international organisations. Representatives of Australian companies with an interest in telecommunications are encouraged to attend.

A registration form for participation in ASTAP-10 is on the APT website at www.aptsec.org/meetings/2005/ASTAP10/ASTAP10_Attendancen-Form.doc.

More details are on the APT website at www.aptsec.org/Program/ASTAP/pastap.html or contact ACMA's International Telecommunications Section by email to itt@aca.gov.au.