

New appointments complete the ACMA picture

On 1 December 2009, the ACMA announced a restructure designed to carry the organisation into a new era of communications. At the time of the announcement, four primary drivers for the restructure were identified by Chris Chapman, Chairman of the ACMA, including delivering on the mandate to support the digital television transition.

'I established a whole new division — Digital Transition — to drive our work in yielding the digital dividend forward over the next two to three years,' said Mr Chapman.

In March, Mr Chapman appointed two new executive managers to the Digital Transition Division, one of six divisions within the restructured ACMA.

Led by General Manager Giles Tanner, the division is designed to take carriage of all ACMA work connected to the digitisation of television and digital radio broadcasting, together with the scoping and realisation of the spectrum dividend from the cessation of analog services, including planning and running re-stacking exercises and auctions. These tasks are of critical importance to the ACMA over the next few years.

The two appointments are David Brumfield as Executive Manager of the Allocation, Coordination and Policy Branch and Christopher Hose as Executive Manager of the Technical Planning and Evaluation Branch. Mr Brumfield and Mr Hose were both internal ACMA applicants.

All substantive appointments following the ACMA's restructure are now complete. ☎

Draft community broadcasting participation guidelines revised and ready for comment

The ACMA has responded to the views of the community broadcasting sector and revised its draft community broadcasting participation guidelines. Comments are now being sought on the revised draft guidelines, which were reassessed following a period of consultation with the sector last year.

The revised draft guidelines are designed to explain and help community broadcasters understand and comply with the licence condition requirements to:

- > encourage community participation in the operations and programming of their services
- > continue to represent the community interest they represented at the time their licence was allocated or last renewed.

The purpose of these licence condition requirements is to ensure that community broadcasting services are provided not only for, but also by, communities.

Twenty submissions were received by the ACMA following the first round of consultation last year. Many of the comments received have been incorporated into the revised draft guidelines.

After consideration of any further submissions, the ACMA expects to be able to finalise the guidelines for release at the Community Broadcasting Association of Australia's annual conference in October 2010.

Submission details

Submissions marked 'community broadcasting participation guidelines' are due by 5.00 pm on Tuesday 1 June 2010.

Comments can be sent by email to communitybroadcasting@acma.gov.au, by fax to 02 9334 7799 marked 'Attention: Community Allocations and Information Section', or by post to:

Community Allocations and Information Section
Australian Communications and Media Authority
PO Box Q500
Queen Victoria Building
Sydney NSW 1230 ☎

The revised draft community broadcasting participation guidelines are available on the ACMA website at www.acma.gov.au (go to For licensees & industry: Licensing & regulation > Broadcasting: Community broadcasting).