

Policy file

Media Releases

Australian Broadcasting Authority

Media has done great service to nation, Professor David Flint, new Chairman of the ABA, says. 23/10/97

Channels for five new radio services in Cairns made available. 23/10/97

Australian Competition and Consumer Commission

ACCC head Professor Allan Fels welcomes Cabinet's decision to repeal import monopoly laws on music CDs. 8/10/97

ACCC seeks a Federal Court injunction to block the proposed merger of Foxtel and Australis Media. 14/10/97

Australians risk losing millions of dollars to Internet fraud, ACCC warns. 15/10/97

Internet 'scam' sites can be reported by consumers to the ACCC's site at <http://www.accc.gov.au>. 16/10/97

Draft telecommunications access code developed by the Telecommunications Access Forum released for comment. 29/10/97

Minister for Communications and the Arts, Senator Alston

Ms Maureen Barron appointed new Chairman of the Australian Film Commission. 30/10/97

Labor Party 'must explain why it is backing a small group of foreign multinational monopolists' on CD prices, Minister claims. 30/10/97

Agreement between Telstra and Optus on interconnect costs for mobile and long distance services 'a win for competition' says Minister. 20/10/97

Dr Rod Badger acting chief executive officer of the National Office for the Information Economy. 17/10/97

Government to facilitate creation of new peak body to oversee development of a national system for online authentication. 14/10/97

NOIE to host national summit on electronic commerce, 'E-Commerce Enabling Australia', in first quarter of 1998. 13/10/97

National Competition Council

NCC releases its options paper as part of its review of Australian Postal Corporations Act. 7/10/97

NCC raises question whether basic postal rate could be reduced for all customers, including those in rural and remote areas. 18/10/97

Telstra

Non-code access 'preselection' rollout to all Australian capital cities and most regional and provincial centres nominated by access seekers completed. 9/10/97

Telstra defends marketing expert Bob Miller, currently working as a consultant for the corporation, denies Miller is an advocate of illegal or unethical marketing. 14/10/97

Digital mobile phone coverage extended from Mount Burr to Kalangadoo, Nangwarry and Penola, South Australia. 15/10/97

Development of combined public telephone multi-media information kiosk announced. 16/10/97

Telstra announces agreement with Optus Communications on interconnection and other service charges for 1997/98 financial year. 17/10/97

Queensland Government awards Telstra \$53 million telecommunications contract. 18/10/97

New Customer Service Centre opened in Liverpool, NSW. 22/10/97

Digital Mobile phone coverage extended to Paskeville, South Australia. 24/10/97

Digital mobile phone coverage extended to Blayney, NSW. 27/10/97

Conferences & Seminars

November

24, 25 & 26: Australian Key Centre for Cultural and Media Policy, *Cultural Crossroads: Ownership, Access, Identity*, ANA Hotel, Sydney. Speakers include Robyn Archer, Adelaide Festival; Janet Holmes a Court; Brian Kennedy, Director, National Gallery of Australia; Richard Collins, UK Institute for Public Policy Research; Penelope Cottier, National Film and Sound Archive; Anne Cheung, University of Hong Kong. Contact: Karen Perkins, tel (07) 3875 5350, fax (07) 3875 5511, email CMP@hum.gu.edu.au. Website: http://www.gu.edu.au/gwis/akccmp/crossroads_conf.html

December

4 & 5: Australian Institute of Criminology and Office of Film and Literature Classification, Violence, Crime and the Entertainment Media, Swiss Grand Hotel, Bondi. Speakers include Prof Richard Heffner and Prof Donald Roberts (USA), John Dickie, Prof Peter Sheehan, Dr Adam Graycar. Contact: tel (06) 292 9000 fax (06) 292 9002. Cost: \$495 (both days)/\$250 (one day), discount for early full registration.

Publications

Communications Law Centre *Privacy and the Media*, Paul Chadwick and Jenny Mullaly, \$35, (02) 9663 0551 or (03) 9248 1278, e-mail comslaw@ozemail.com.au

Communications Law Centre, *Australian Telecommunications Regulation – the Communications Law Centre Guide*, July 1997. Edited by Alasdair Grant. Written by Holly Raiche, Alasdair Grant, Thomas Jones, Bronwyn James and Jock Given. A comprehensive guide to the new telecommunications regime. Available from the Centre, tel (02) 9663 0551 fax (02) 9662 6839 email comslaw@ozemail.com.au. Cost \$45.

Communications Law Centre, *Crossing the digital threshold*, July 1997. Written by Scott McQuire. Published by the Australian Key Centre for Cultural and Media Policy. Available from the Centre, tel (02) 9663 0551. Cost \$10.

La Trobe University Media Online Program, *Making Money From the Web? Business models for online news*, June 1997. Written by Susan Mings and Peter White. Available from the Online Media Program, tel (03) 9479 2785, fax (03) 9479 3638, email pbwhite@latrobe.edu.au. Website: <http://teloz.latrobe.edu.au/omp/briefs>. Cost: \$150.

Communications Update

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Send to:

Communications Law Centre, The White House, The University of New South Wales, Sydney, NSW, 2052. Tele (02) 9663-0551 Fax (02) 9662-6839. Email: comslaw@ozemail.com.au.

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