



PRESS RELEASE

Date: 21 February 2006

More radio transmission contracts for Arqiva

- **Cornwall, Banbury, Norwich, Solent and Torbay**
- **12 year, fully outsourced Total Broadcast Contracts**
- **Existing stations also switch to Arqiva**

Arqiva has announced a further batch of 12-year Total Broadcast Contracts for new FM commercial radio stations. In Cornwall, Atlantic FM will be broadcasting to the county from mid 2006. The Banbury licence was won by The Bear, part of the CN Group of smaller stations, and will provide a locally focused service in and around the town. 99.9 Radio Norwich, backed by the Tindle Group, will be focusing on the city of Norwich. The second Solent licence, won by CanWest-backed Original 106 FM, will provide an 'adult alternative' service aimed at the 40-59 year age range from transmitters on the Isle of Wight, in Bournemouth and in Winchester. Torbay and the surrounding area will have a full local service from Palm FM, a station wholly owned by the London Media Company, whose other interests include Sunrise Radio and the Time FM branded stations.

Paul Eaton, head of broadcast radio at Arqiva, said: "This latest batch of new stations will increase the diversity of local radio in these areas. As always we'll put our full weight and reputation behind getting them on-air by understanding exactly what they want at launch and then building an on-going relationship for the future."

In addition, more long-established stations have recently switched to Arqiva transmission packages: The Bear in Stratford-on-Avon (CN Group), Peak FM in Chesterfield, 107.7 The Wolf in Wolverhampton and Tower FM in Bolton (all UTV Radio), and Win FM in Winchester (The Local Radio Company).

Chris Hurst, group managing director for ILR at UTV Radio, praised the support received from Arqiva: "We now own a broader range of stations and have had great help from Arqiva in achieving improved coverage as part of our ongoing investment in local radio."

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In a Total Broadcast Contract, Arqiva provides a fully outsourced transmission service, including ownership and maintenance of the transmitter system and responsibility for the studio-to-transmitter link. Prime transmission sites and innovative antenna designs are often key factors in maximising coverage while meeting licence conditions.

-Ends-

More on Arqiva

Arqiva has a 50-year history in transmission and has helped pioneer the technologies of the digital age. The company has five operating divisions:

- **Terrestrial Media Solutions** – provides national transmission for UK commercial television including ITV, Channel 4, Five and associated digital multiplexes, playing a leading role in the run-up to digital switchover. Transmission services also provided to vast majority of UK independent radio stations, both analogue and digital.
- **Satellite Media Solutions** – provides high quality and flexible solutions to a diverse range of international customers. Includes permanent and occasional broadcast services as well as IP, voice, data and digital media networks. Operational bases in London, Gerrards Cross, Winchester, Feltham and Bedford.
- **Mobile Media Solutions** – new division dedicated to the delivery of content to handheld devices. Recent technology developments open up new service concepts and revenue streams for broadcasters, content providers and mobile operators alike. Arqiva is platform-neutral and has mounted pioneering technical and commercial trials with partners such as Microsoft, O2 and Nokia.
- **Wireless Solutions** – provides market-leading, multi-operator infrastructure systems and services to wireless telecoms, transport and interior public space businesses. This is done through a portfolio of over 2400 towers, masts and managed sites, plus InBuilding (indoor coverage) and CityCell (urban coverage) products
- **Public Safety** – provides frontline communications for the UK emergency services, government agencies and commercial organisations including design and installation, system maintenance and fully managed services for mobile radio, telecommunications and mobile data solutions.

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