



## PRESS RELEASE

Date: 8 May 2006

### **Five extends contract with Arqiva until closure of analogue TV**

- **Arqiva to distribute and transmit Five's analogue terrestrial TV channel**
- **New digital satellite-based distribution network to be commissioned**
- **New uplink facility at Chalfont Grove**

Arqiva today announced that Five has renewed its existing ten-year distribution and transmission management contract. The extension to the contract will see Arqiva manage Five's distribution and analogue transmission through to the closure of analogue TV.

Arqiva's end-to-end solution distributes the signals to transmitters via satellite. As part of the renewal agreement Arqiva will re-engineer the existing distribution network to gain from improvements in compression technology and will distribute commercial regional variants of Five continuously on two separate satellites. A new uplink facility will be built at Arqiva's Chalfont Grove site to complement the existing uplink in Winchester.

David Burge, Controller of Broadcasting, Five commented, "It is important for us to ensure an extremely reliable distribution network in the run-up to Digital Switchover and, as Arqiva built and installed our uplink and transmitter system for our launch ten years ago, we're confident that they can provide us with the service and expertise needed to achieve this."

Steve Holebrook, Arqiva's managing director of Terrestrial Media Solutions, said, "We're delighted to continue working with Five. Our 'one-stop shop' solution delivers a reliable and cost-effective satellite digital distribution system to complement the existing nationwide network of analogue TV transmitters. The new satellite network will also provide additional levels of resilience to protect Five's regional advertising."

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**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.

[www.arqiva.com](http://www.arqiva.com)

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