



PRESS RELEASE

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Tour de France first to use Arqiva's 412 MHz spectrum in the UK

- **Arqiva 412 MHz spectrum provides communications support for European broadcasters during UK leg of Tour**
- **Radios used on the network during the race to provide secure communications between vehicles and roaming broadcast teams**
- **Arqiva's 412-414 MHz/422-424 MHz spectrum suitable for wireless voice and data networks, including Tetra**

Arqiva today announced that it has partnered with Ofcom to provide European broadcasters covering the Tour de France with communications through the use of its 412 MHz spectrum. The broadcasters will benefit from a Private Mobile Radio (PMR) network for use during the UK leg of the Tour de France, which will enable them to maintain contact with their teams based in London and across the Kent countryside.

The broadcasters will use the radio spectrum, which supports both analogue and digital systems, to manage people and equipment during the three days in July (6th – 8th) when the race entourage will be in the UK. Radios will be used on the network during the race, providing crucial, behind the scenes communications on the ground to help facilitate the smooth delivery of broadcast services (TV and radio) back to France.

Broadcasters covering the Tour de France will be the first to benefit from Arqiva's 412 MHz spectrum. The spectrum enables Arqiva to help customers migrate from legacy analogue private mobile radio systems to modern digital networks, including Tetra, or create their own dedicated network from scratch. It has a number of possible market uses for organisations within the public and private sector including local authorities, utilities, transport, bus, taxi and courier companies, logistics, warehousing and any organisation with a large field force.

Alastair Davidson, Managing Director of Arqiva's Public Safety division commented: "We are delighted to be able to work alongside Ofcom to play a role in supporting a prestigious event such as the Tour de France in the UK. Reliable and secure communications, which enable

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all the behind-the-scenes management and logistics, are crucial in delivering the best possible coverage of the event, and our 412MHz spectrum enables just that. We have the ability to work with organisations of all sizes to help with their secure communications requirements and our partnership with Ofcom for the Tour de France is testament to our expertise in this field."

Arqiva was awarded a licence in an Ofcom auction to operate in the 412 to 414 MHz and 422 to 424 MHz paired bands in October last year. The company can use this spectrum for any purpose directly with its own customers, or by acting as a band manager and sub-licensing spectrum to third parties. This spectrum will allow Arqiva to fulfill its plans to develop wireless infrastructure to meet the long-term needs of both its public- and private-sector customers.

- Ends -

About Arqiva

Arqiva operates at the heart of the broadcast and mobile communications industry and is at the forefront of network solutions and services in an increasingly digital world. The company provides much of the infrastructure behind television, radio and wireless communications in the UK and has a growing presence in Ireland, mainland Europe and the USA.

For broadcasters, media companies and corporate enterprises Arqiva has end-to-end capability ranging from outside broadcasts, satellite newsgathering, studios, playout, satellite distribution and terrestrial transmission, the latter including digital switch over and mobile TV development.

In the communications sector the company supports cellular, wireless broadband, video, voice and data solutions for the mobile phone, public safety, public sector, public space and transport markets.

Arqiva has its headquarters in Hampshire, with other major UK offices in London, Buckinghamshire and Yorkshire. It now has seven international satellite teleports, 60 manned bases, and over 2300 shared radio sites throughout the UK and Ireland including masts, towers and rooftops from under 30 to over 300 metres tall.

The company is owned by a consortium of investors led by Macquarie Communications Infrastructure Group and has five operating divisions: Terrestrial Media Solutions, Satellite Media Solutions, Mobile Media Solutions, Wireless Solutions and Public Safety.

Major customers include ITV, Channel 4, Five, the BBC, BSkyB, Classic FM, the five UK mobile operators, the RNLI and the Metropolitan Police.

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