PRESS STATEMENT

Date: 17 October 2007

Arqiva confirms technical success of the first stage of Digital Switch Over in Whitehaven, Cumbria

Arqiva today confirms that the Digital Switch Over process in Whitehaven, Cumbria has begun successfully and a high-power digital TV signal is now being transmitted from three relay sites at Whitehaven, Eskdale Green and Gosforth.

The BBC Two analogue signal was switched off at 02:00 on Wednesday 17 October 2007 and the digital signal for Multiplex 1, which is owned by the BBC and carries channels including BBC One, BBC Two, BBC Three, CBBC, BBC News 24 and BBCi, was switched on at 02:37 on Wednesday 17 October 2007.

“We are pleased to confirm that the first stage of the project for Digital Switch Over in the UK has been a technical success“, said Peter Heslop, DSO Programme Director at Arqiva. “The analogue signal for BBC Two was replaced with a digital multiplex containing BBC Two and a number of other BBC channels. The other analogue channels are due to switch next month. The engineering team at Arqiva is extremely proud to be involved in this moment in television history and we look forward to the progress of the Digital Switch Over plan across the UK.”

“We have been working with the Government and Digital UK for a number of years on what is the most ambitious broadcast engineering project ever undertaken in the UK. It involves the replacement of 5000 analogue and 500 digital transmitter systems with a further 4000 new digital transmitter systems at 1154 sites. What we are doing at Arqiva forms a crucial part of the DSO project and will ensure that almost all of the UK will be able to receive free digital terrestrial television through a roof-top aerial.”

- End -

Digital UK is the independent, non-profit organisation leading the process of digital TV switchover in the UK. For further information consumers should visit www.digitaluk.co.uk or call: 0845 650 50 50

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 ten international satellite teleports, over 60 other manned locations, and around 3500 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.

www.arqiva.com

For more information please contact:

Bethan Thomas/Nick Clark
Nelson Bostock Communications
Tel: +44 (0)20 7792 7424
email: bethan.thomas@nelsonbostock.com

Bruce Randall
Arqiva, Winchester
Tel: +44 (0)1962 822582
email: press.office@arqiva.com