



PRESS RELEASE

Date: 24 June 2009

Arqiva confirms first stage of Digital Switch Over for Caldbeck transmitter group (Border region)

Arqiva confirms that the first stage of the Digital Switch Over process for the Caldbeck transmitter group in Cumbria, south-west Scotland and the south Lakes has been implemented successfully.

The high-power digital TV signal is now being transmitted from Caldbeck and 46 dependent relay sites at: Ainstable, Ballantrae, Barskeoch Hill, Bassenthwaite, Bleach Green, Cambret Hill, Coniston, Creetown, Crosby Ravensworth, Crosthwaite, Dentdale, Dumfries South, Eskdale Green, Glenluce, Glenridding, Glenridding Link, Gosforth, Grasmere, Greystoke, Haltwhistle, Hawkshead, Kendal, Kendal Fell, Keswick, Kirkby Stephen, Kirkcudbright, Langholm, Lorton, Lowther Valley, Millthrop, Minnigaff, Moffat, New Galloway, Orton, Pinwherry, Pooley Bridge, Portpatrick, Ravenstonedale, Sedbergh, St Bees, Stranraer, Thornhill, Threlkeld, Whitehaven, Windermere and Workington

The BBC Two analogue signal was switched off at 00:29 on Wednesday 24 June 2009 and the digital signal for the BBC A (PSB1) multiplex, which carries channels including BBC One, BBC Two, BBC Three, CBBC and BBC News, went into official service at 03:30 from Caldbeck for both England and Scotland transmissions, with the last of the relays coming on stream by 12:38.

Peter Heslop, DSO Programme Director at Arqiva, said: "We are pleased to confirm that all stations in the Caldbeck transmitter group have successfully completed the first stage of Digital Switch Over. The remaining analogue channels will be switched off in the early hours of 22 July when the other five digital multiplexes will be added at Caldbeck and the remaining two Public Service multiplexes at the relay stations."

Arqiva is the transmission provider for all terrestrial TV and most radio services in the UK.

- Ends -

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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. There are three business units:

Terrestrial Broadcast provides transmission for all UK terrestrial TV broadcasters, including the new networks being built for the Digital Switch Over. Transmission is also provided for BBC Radio and most commercial radio stations, both analogue and DAB. The company owns and operates two of the six UK digital terrestrial TV multiplexes, enabling major media companies to bring their TV and radio services to Freeview.

Satellite & Media provides global communication platforms to enterprise, government and broadcast customers around the world. It owns and operates teleports at key locations including Los Angeles, Washington, London and Paris, as well as comprehensive satellite capacity, an international terrestrial fibre network and extensive media facilities. These enable Arqiva to provide world leading organisations with a comprehensive range of services to deliver their data, broadcasts and media across the globe.

Wireless Access provides cellular, wireless broadband, voice and data solutions for the mobile communications, public safety, local government, and commercial markets. Arqiva is the largest independent provider of radio sites in the UK and Ireland. With its own spectrum, the company can provide complete mobile communications networks including backhaul links.

Arqiva has its headquarters near Winchester and other major UK offices in London, Warwick, Buckinghamshire and Yorkshire. The company is owned by a consortium of investors led by Macquarie Communications Infrastructure Group. Major customers include the BBC, ITV, Channel 4, Five, BSkyB, Classic FM, the five UK mobile operators, the RNLI and the Metropolitan Police.

www.arqiva.com

For more information please contact:

Simon Rothwell/Alistair Kent
Harvard Public Relations
Tel: +44 (0)20 8759 0005
email: arqiva@harvard.co.uk

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