



PRESS RELEASE

Date: 2 June 2010

Rumster Forest transmitter group - Arqiva confirms first stage of Digital Switch Over

Arqiva confirms that the first stage of the Digital Switch Over process for the Rumster Forest transmitter group in Caithness and north Sutherland has been implemented successfully.

The first digital TV multiplex is now being transmitted at high power from Rumster Forest and four relay sites at Ben Tongue, Durness, Melvich and Thurso.

The BBC Two analogue signal was switched off at 01:23 on Wednesday 2 June 2010 and the new high-power 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 04:00 from Rumster Forest, Ben Tongue and Melvich, with the last of the relays completing by 15:31.

Peter Heslop, DSO Programme Director at Arqiva, said: "We are pleased to confirm that the Rumster Forest transmitter group has successfully completed the first stage of Digital Switch Over. The remaining analogue services will be switched off in the early hours of 16 June when the other five multiplexes will be converted at Rumster Forest and the remaining two Public Service multiplexes added at the relay stations."

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

- 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 significant 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.

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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. Customers include major broadcasters such as the BBC, ITV, BSkyB and the independent radio groups, major telco providers including the UK's five mobile network operators, and the emergency services.

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