



## PRESS RELEASE

Date: 14 July 2010

### **Skriaig transmitter group - Arqiva confirms first stage of Digital Switch Over**

Arqiva confirms successful implementation of first stage of Digital Switch Over for the Skriaig transmitter group serving Skye, Harris, North Uist, Benbecula, South Uist and parts of Barra.

The first digital TV multiplex is now being transmitted at high power from Skriaig and 15 relay sites at Ardintoul, Attadale, Borve, Bruernish, Clettraval, Daliburgh, Duncraig, Inverarish, Kilbride South Uist, Kylerhea, Lochmaddy HP/VP, Penifiler, Scoval HP/VP, Tarbert Harris and Uig.

The BBC Two analogue signal was switched off at 01:21 on Wednesday 14 July 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 03:30 from Eitshal, with the last of the relays coming on stream by 10:10.

Peter Heslop, DSO Programme Director at Arqiva, said: "We are pleased to confirm that the Eitshal 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 28 July when the other two public-service multiplexes will be added at Skriaig and the relay stations."

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

- Ends -

#### **About Arqiva**

Arqiva, the communications infrastructure and media services company, operates at the heart of the broadcast, satellite and mobile communications markets. The company is at the forefront of network solutions and services in the digital world. Arqiva provides much of the infrastructure behind television, radio, satellite and wireless communications in the UK and has a significant presence in Ireland, mainland Europe and the USA. There are three business units:

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**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, with other major UK offices in London, Warwick, Buckinghamshire and Yorkshire and international offices in the USA, France and Italy. 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.

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

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