

PRESS RELEASE

Date: 21 September 2011

UK digital TV switchover reaches key milestone

- **Emley Moor and Sutton Coldfield take switched UK population to 63%**
- **Nine out of 15 regions completed**
- **Arqiva's implementation of terrestrial DSO on time and on budget**

Arqiva's re-engineering of the UK digital terrestrial TV network has reached a key milestone today as two of the largest transmitters complete Digital Switch Over. With the Emley Moor (Yorkshire) and Sutton Coldfield (West Midlands) transmitter groups completing today, along with Fenton (Stoke-on-Trent and Newcastle-under-Lyme), the cumulative UK population switched to all-digital television has tipped from under 50% to 63%.

Arqiva is investing £700 million and 1200 man-years of work to implement the task over a five-year period, working in partnership with Digital UK. The Yorkshire region becomes the ninth to complete switchover as the number of switched transmission sites across the UK reaches 873, comprising 48 of the 68 transmitter groups. The Central region completes on 28 September with the Oxford transmitter group.

Peter Heslop, Arqiva Digital Switch Over director, explains: "Each transmitter group is treated as a separate project and with 68 projects in total, all phased over the implementation period, this is project management on a very large scale. 2011 is by far the busiest year for switchovers and having started with some smaller population areas we're now racing towards the 98.5 per cent conclusion next year. I'm delighted to report that we're on time and on budget."

Completion milestones for the end of 2011 include 11 out of the 15 TV regions, 80% of transmitter sites and 65% of the population. The London region alone covers 18% of the UK population from just one transmitter group which will switch in April 2012.

From today all six digital multiplexes are being transmitted at high power from Emley Moor, Idle and Keighley, and from Sutton Coldfield, Brierley Hill, Malvern and Fenton, with - for the

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first time – the three public-service multiplexes from 81 dependent relays (see notes to editors).

Following the analogue switch-off for BBC Two on 7 September, the remaining analogue signals for BBC One, ITV1, Channel 4 and Channel 5 ceased by 00:02 on Wednesday 21 September. The new digital signals entered official service at Emley Moor at 06:00, Sutton Coldfield at 06:00 and Fenton at 01:30, with the last of the relays completed by 17:26.

- Ends -

Notes to editors

Emley Moor dependent relays

Addingham, Armitage Bridge, Batley, Beecroft Hill, Blackburn In Rotherham, Bradford West, Calver Peak, Cleckheaton, Conisbrough, Cop Hill, Copley, Cornholme, Cowling, Cragg Vale, Cullingworth, Edale, Elland, Grassington, Hagg Wood, Halifax, Headingley, Hebden Bridge, Heyshaw, Holmfield, Holmfirth, Hope, (Idle, Keighley), Keighley Town, Lydgate, Kettlewell, Longwood Edge, Luddenden, Millhouse Green, Oughtibridge, Oxenhope, Primrose Hill, Ripponden, Shatton Edge, Skipton, Skipton Town, Sutton In Craven, Stocksbridge, Tideswell Moor, Todmorden, Walsden, Walsden South, Wharfedale, Wheatley and Wincobank.

Sutton Coldfield dependent relays

Allesley Park, Brailes, Bretch Hill, Bridgnorth, (Brierley Hill), Cheadle, Earl Sterndale, Edgbaston, Gib Heath, Gravelly Hill, Haden Hill, Hamstead, Harborne, Hartington, Ipstones Edge, Ironbridge, Kenilworth, Kidderminster, Kinver, Leamington Spa, Leek, Long Compton, (Malvern), Oakamoor, Perry Beeches, Queslett, Redditch, Repton, Rugeley, Tenbury Wells, Turves Green, Whittingslow, Winchcombe, Winshill and Woodford Halse.

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. 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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