

Contact: Harold Bergin                      Tel: +44 (0)20 7799 3100  
              WHD Public Relations            E-mail: harold@whdpr.com  
              P.O. Box 3035,  
              London SW1P 3BH  
              United Kingdom

## **PHILIPPINES CHOOSES DVB-T Decision Paves The Way For Other 6MHz Countries To Choose DVB-T & Capitalise On Technical & Economic Benefits Of DVB**

**Geneva – 21<sup>st</sup> November 2006** – DVB welcomes the recent publication by the Philippines' National Telecommunications Commission of a draft set of Rules and Regulations for Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT) Broadcast Service mandating the use of DVB-T as the sole digital terrestrial television broadcasting standard for the Philippines. Section 2.1 of the draft Memorandum Circular states: "The Digital Video Broadcast - Terrestrial (DVB-T) standard shall be the sole standard in the delivery of DTT services in the country."

The National Telecommunications Commission (NTC) is the Philippines' telecommunications and broadcasting regulator, and the draft Memorandum Circular, containing the choice of DVB-T and several provisions for the launch of DVB-T services in the Philippines comes after deliberations in a cross industry grouping entitled the Technical Working Group on Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting. The group examined the alternatives such as ATSC and ISDB and recommended DVB-T because it offered "advantages in terms of terrestrial transmission/networking, interoperability with other technology applications, proven capability for mobile terrestrial reception, its ability to satisfactorily address the multipath/ghosting problem, and its capability to support single frequency networks."

Mr. Armand C. Ursal, President of SBETP (Society of Broadcast Television Engineers of the Philippines), Vice-Chairman of the Technical Working Group on Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting, and Director of the Association of Broadcasters in the Philippines (KBP) stated: "Our deliberations took into account many elements, and apart from the technical advantages of DVB-T, the current deployment of DTT systems show that DVB-T is emerging as the global preference, with far more countries having adopted, or in the process of adopting the DVB platform, thus ensuring equipment availability and enhancing affordability. Indeed, comments submitted by various sections to the NTC have made the same recommendation."

Peter MacAvock, Executive Director of the DVB Project, said: "The Philippines recommendation for DVB-T represents an important milestone for DTT. With the importance of end-user equipment cost paramount, the endorsement of DVB-T by a large 6MHz country like the Philippines paves the way for other 6MHz countries to

## **Philippines Chooses DVB-T**

choose DVB-T. We will work with the industry in the Philippines to smooth the rollout of DTT services there and hope that the decision influences countries such as Chile, Colombia, Venezuela and Argentina making their DTT standard choices shortly."

The "Explanatory Memorandum and Draft Memorandum Circular for Digital Terrestrial Television" is available at:

<http://www.ntc.gov.ph/whatsnew/EXP%20MEMO%20digital%20tv.pdf>.

The "Draft Rules and Regulations for Digital Terrestrial Television (DTT)" is available at: <http://www.ntc.gov.ph/whatsnew/MEM%20CIRC%20digitaltv.pdf>.

## **Background**

### **The DVB Project**

The Digital Video Broadcasting Project (DVB) is an industry-led consortium of over 250 broadcasters, manufacturers, network operators, software developers, regulatory bodies and others in over 35 countries committed to designing global standards for the delivery of digital television and data services. The DVB standards cover all aspects of digital television from transmission through interfacing, conditional access and interactivity for digital video, audio and data. The consortium came together in 1993 to create unity in the march towards global standardisation, interoperability and future proofing.

To date, there are numerous broadcast services using DVB standards. There are hundreds of manufacturers offering DVB compliant equipment, which is already in use around the world. DVB dominates the digital broadcasting world. A host of other services is also on-air with DVB-T, DVB-S and DVB-C including data on the move and high-bandwidth Internet over the air. Further information about DVB can be found at: [www.dvb.org](http://www.dvb.org).

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