

Ofcom Update: Communications Monthly Update: January 2010

This update provides a list of recent Ofcom publications.

This month's update covers:

- Office of the Telecommunications Adjudicator Update
- Extension to BT Pensions Review consultation deadline
- Extension to investigation into preventing annoyance caused by silent and abandoned calls
- Media Literacy E-bulletin
- Digital TV Update
- Consumer Protection Test
- Consumer Bulletin
- Regional production attribution
- Radio licensing monthly update
- Television broadcast licensing update
- Television Aerials Report

Office of the Telecommunications Adjudicator Update

The Independent Office of the Telecommunications Adjudicator (OTA2) today published its update for December 2009. This shows that at the end of December there were 6.36 million unbundled lines and 6.03 million Wholesale Line Rental lines. The number of telephone numbers using Carrier Pre-Select was 3.73 million. The update can be found here:

<http://www.offta.org.uk/>

Extension to BT Pensions Review consultation deadline

Following a stakeholder request, Ofcom has extended the deadline for responses to its BT Pensions Review by two weeks. The closing date is now 23 February 2010. The consultation can be found at:

<http://www.ofcom.org.uk/consult/condocs/btpensions/>

Extension to investigation into preventing annoyance caused by silent and abandoned calls

On 21 December 2009, Ofcom announced an extension to open case CW/00905/06/06 Own-initiative investigation: Monitoring and enforcement of rules preventing annoyance caused to consumers by silent and abandoned calls. For more details, please click on the link below:

http://www.ofcom.org.uk/bulletins/comp_bull_index/comp_bull_ocases/open_all/cw_905/

Media Literacy eBulletin

This month's Media Literacy e-Bulletin features news on the publication of Professor David Buckingham's report into the impact of the commercial world on children's wellbeing, as well as the launch of the UKCCIS' [UK Council for Child Internet Safety] child internet safety strategy. The media literacy e-Bulletin can be found here:

http://www.ofcom.org.uk/advice/media_literacy/medlitpub/bulletins/issue28/

Digital TV Update

Ofcom has published its Digital TV Progress Report for Q3 2009. Consumer survey results show that in the three months to the end of September, take-up of digital television in UK

households stood at 89.5%. The full report can be found here:
http://www.ofcom.org.uk/research/tv/reports/dtv/dtv_2009_q3/

Consumer Protection Test

The Consumer Protection Test for telephone number allocation focuses on communications providers who have used numbers to cause serious or repeated harm to consumers. Ofcom will not allocate 070 personal numbers, 0871/2/3 special service higher rate numbers and 09 premium rate numbers to anyone who appears on either of two lists. We strongly encourage all providers that assign telephone numbers to others to take best use of numbers and consumer protection into account and to refer to the following two lists that we are publishing when making assignment decisions. The latest 'Under Assessment' and 'Number Refusal' lists have been updated here: <http://www.ofcom.org.uk/telecoms/ioi/numbers/cpt/>

Consumer Bulletin

The quarterly Bulletin summarises recent work on consumer advice and protection. It also includes data on the number of calls on telecoms issues such as silent calls and slamming. The Consumer Bulletin can be found here:
http://www.ofcom.org.uk/telecoms/ioi/bulletins/consumers/consumer_dec09.pdf

Regional production attribution

Ofcom has updated its guidance to public service broadcasters on the attribution of regional productions. From 2011, attribution of out-of-London productions to particular nations and English regions will be on the basis of where a simple majority of the three criteria are met: substantive base; 70% of production budget; and 50% of production talent. The updated guidance can be found at http://www.ofcom.org.uk/tv/ifi/guidance/reg_prod/

Radio licensing update

The Monthly Update provides information about Ofcom's broadcast radio licensing activity and details of commercial radio licence re-advertisements. This includes the pre-advertisements for Loughborough and Bolton/Bury; changes to the Formats of stations; and community radio licence awards <http://www.ofcom.org.uk/radio/ifi/rbl/rbupdates/update1209/>

Television broadcast licensing update

The latest information about Ofcom's broadcast TV licensing activity, including details of new licences issued and changes to existing licences, can be found here:
<http://www.ofcom.org.uk/tv/ifi/tvlicensing/tvupdates/monthly/200912>

Television Aerials Report

Ofcom today published new technical and consumer research on household TV aerials and their condition. The report can be found here:
http://www.ofcom.org.uk/research/tv/reports/dsoind/aerials_research.pdf