



**ACIF MUSTERS INDUSTRY LEADERS TO ADVISE ON
CONVERGENCE ISSUES**

- ACIF Convergence Group to focus on self-regulatory outcomes -

Sydney, 2 August 2005 – The Australian Communications Industry Forum (ACIF) has harnessed the expertise of some of the industry's leading figures to consider the issues posed by the converged regulatory and technical environment.

The new ACIF Convergence Group will advise on the best way to tackle issues relating to Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP), Next Generation Networks (NGN), content and other associated areas.

The emphasis of the Convergence Group will be on developing outcomes tailored to the specific issues but will not be responsible for implementing the recommended solutions. These outcomes could involve the production of fact sheets, holding of forums, development of codes or standards etc.

In forming the new group, ACIF sought to draw membership at the highest level from the widest industry sectors in the converged regulatory and technical environment. As well as the traditional telecommunications sector, there are representatives from broadcasting, content providers, internet service providers, regulators and consumer organisations.

ACIF's chief executive officer, Anne Hurley, who chairs the new group, explained that the convergence of multiple technologies was blurring the boundaries of the various regulatory regimes and creating new challenges which the industry needed to address.

"We are certainly entering an era of dynamic flux which will require some new and imaginative responses from a regulatory perspective," Ms Hurley said. "This is the type of situation where the self-regulatory model is at its best because we believe that the best outcomes for all stakeholders can be achieved by co-operation.

"The ACIF Convergence Group will offer the opportunity for a broad cross-section of interested parties to sit down together and come up with some practical solutions without the need for government intervention."



ACIF CONVERGENCE GROUP MEMBERSHIP

Name	Organisation	Position
Anne Hurley	ACIF	CEO
Michael Cosgrave	ACCC	General Manager - Telecommunications
John Butterworth	AIMIA	CEO
Rosemary Sinclair	ATUG	Managing Director
Chris Cheah	ACMA	Acting Deputy Chair
Lyn Maddock	ACMA	Acting Chair
Peppi Wilson	Australian Mobile Telecommunications Association	Policy Manager
Dr Derek Wilding	Communications Law Centre	Director
David Forman	Competitive Carriers' Coalition Inc	CEO
Dr. Terry Cutler	Cutler & Company	Principal
Tom Dale	DCITA	General Manager
Simon Curry	intel Australia	Business Development Manager
David Burden	Legion Interactive Pty Ltd	General Manager
Mark Armstrong	Network Insight Institute	Director
Des Clark	Office of Film and Literature Classification	Director
Paul Fletcher	Optus	Director, Regulatory and Public Affairs
Peter Darling	Pondarosa Communications Pty Ltd	Principal
Mitchell Landrigan	Telstra	Group Regulatory Manager



AUSTRALIAN COMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY FORUM

About ACIF

ACIF is a member-funded organisation established in 1997 to facilitate communications self-regulation in the interests of both industry and consumers. Its membership comprises carriers/carriage service providers, business and residential consumer groups, industry associations and individual companies.

ACIF operates on the central premise that the best outcomes for all stakeholders in Australian telecommunications can be achieved by co-operation, obviating the need for government regulation.

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