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About ACT

The Association of Commercial Television in Europe (ACT) is a trade body for the commercial broadcasting sector in Europe. Formed in 1989, the ACT has 27 member companies active in 37 European countries, operating and distributing several thousand free-to-air and pay-tv channels and new media services.

Contact us:

pc@acte.be

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www.acte.be

Members' Newsroom

Discovery Communications Invests in Premium OTT Sports Platform



Discovery Communications recently acquired a minority stake in RugbyPass – a digital content platform that reaches passionate rugby fans across 23 Asian markets with the world's best competitions – live or on demand – from any device. Arthur Bastings, President and Managing Director of Discovery Networks Asia-Pacific said "As our investment in RugbyPass will provide sports fans with greater access to the world's best rugby competitions, making content that they love available on more screens, when and wherever they choose to watch it".

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Mediaset Espana launches new adventurous channel Be Mad



Mediaset Spain launches a new DTT channel targeted at young and urban viewers, entitled Be Mad. Adventure, science, history, gastronomy, nature and mystery among others, are the core content of this new channel. Some of the thematic categories included are Be Mad Extreme, Be Mad Mystery, Be Mad Mechanic, Be Mad Planet, Be Mad Investigation, Be Mad Travel, Be Mad Movies and Be Mad Food.

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MTG launches Viafree across Scandinavia



Launching after summer, Viafree is a new digital platform for all of MTG's advertising funded video content in Sweden, Norway and

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Denmark, making it easy to access and consume free video content online. The new video streaming service will feature thousands of hours of entertainment, including what is currently available on MTG's free-TV Play services and original productions exclusive to Viafree. Content on the service will include full seasons of hit formats.

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RTL Group: The future of media regulation



"The current regulatory arrangement is increasingly struggling to keep pace with a progressively convergent media reality," was one of the main points stressed at the recent Media Advisory Council of Mediengruppe RTL Deutschland convened in Berlin last week. Calling for comparable and fair regulation, the Advisory Council concluded that "only in this way we can be certain of effectively protecting young people, human dignity and the diversity of offerings as well as the appropriate, quantitative regulation of advertising."

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The South Bank Sky Arts Awards celebrate 20th Anniversary



These are the only awards in the world that focus on the arts in their entirety honouring the very best of British culture and achievement. They span the full range of cultural output in the ten categories of Dance, Opera, Comedy, TV Drama, Literature, and Classical Music. The awards were launched in 1997 and have last week celebrated 20 years of existence. Phil Edgar-Jones, Director of Sky Arts, said: "The Awards themselves bring together probably the most inspiring room full of creative people it's possible to assemble and, for us, it's without doubt the most anticipated and exciting event of the Sky Arts year".

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Viacom's Channel 5 to launch high definition channel on Freeview



As of last week, Channel 5, the UK's third largest commercial network, has become available in subscription free high definition on LCN 105 to Freeview HD viewers. Paul Dunthorne, Chief Operating

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Officer for Channel 5 said: "Channel 5 is on an exciting journey as we evolve our content and broaden the appeal of our channel to audiences through increased investment in new genres of programming. We're delighted that Freeview HD viewers will have the opportunity to enjoy the raft of quality programming in high definition".



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