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What's happening in European Commercial and VOD Broadcasting 29 August – 2 September 2022

Policy & business developments go hand in hand. This quick snapshot is designed to help EU media stakeholders to keep up with the innovative world of commercial broadcasting.

- A+E Networks EMEA to launch The World's First Dedicated True Crime Direct-To-Consumer Streaming Service, 'Crime+Investigation Play'
- ITV warms up for the Women's Rugby World Cup with England's pre-tournament matches
- New football season: Mediaset still in the forefront
- Sky backs British Comedy talent with new series of Sky Original shorts
- United Media is bringing the International Emmy Awards competition to Dubrovnik
- Abid Raja's `My Fault' enters development as major Norwegian Viaplay Original
- VMTV Ireland spots Vanishing Triangle with Sundance Channel for fall line-up
- Warner Bros. Discovery and BT Group close transaction to form sports joint venture



A+E Networks EMEA to launch The World's First Dedicated True Crime Direct-To-Consumer Streaming Service, 'Crime+Investigation Play'

A+E Networks EMEA will launch the only dedicated direct-to-consumer destination for true crime Crime+Investigation Play on the 5th of September in the UK. With over 1,000 hours of premium programming and local originals, Crime+Investigation Play will be the ultimate subscription video-on-demand service for true crime content in the UK.



ITV warms up for the Women's Rugby World Cup with England's pre-tournament matches

ITV will show live coverage of England Women's Summer Nations Series matches against USA and Wales. Both matches will be shown in early September on ITV4 and ITV Hub. The matches will provide an opportunity to see England Women in action in the lead up to ITV's coverage of the Women's Rugby World Cup, which kicks off on 8 October in New Zealand.



New football season: Mediaset still in the forefront

The entire Coppa Italia will be an absolute exclusive free-to-air on Mediaset networks for another two seasons. Mediaset will exclusively broadcast all the matches up to the final on 24 May 2023, plus the Italian Super Cup on 18 January 2023 in Riyadh. On 16 and 17 August and 23 and 24 August the Champions League arrives with the first and second matches of



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the playoffs on Italia 1 and Mediaset Infinity. Mediaset will broadcast exclusively 121 matches, including the final, for the next two seasons, in the clear on Channel 5 on Tuesday (the best match for each match day), while the other races will be visible in streaming on Mediaset Infinity. From the clubs to the national teams: from 22 September the most spectacular matches of the Nations League will be unencrypted on Channel 20. And in 2023 the best qualification challenges for the next European football championships, which will be played in Germany in 2024. An extraordinary football offer that will feature more than 330 live matches for the next two years. And finally, Serie A: the infotainment programme "Pressing" returns in a double appointment to comment all matches.



Sky backs British Comedy talent with new series of Sky Original shorts

Sky is supporting the brightest and best in British comedy and extending its search for new voices by investing in seven brand new Sky Original comedy shorts as part of its BAFTA-winning Sky Comedy Shorts programme.



MEDIA

United Media is bringing the International Emmy Awards competition to Dubrovnik

United Media, the media arm of United Group and the leading multi-play telecoms and media provider in south-east Europe, has been selected by the International Academy of Television Arts & Sciences to be part of the selection process of the International Emmy® Awards.



Abid Raja's 'My Fault' enters development as major Norwegian Viaplay Original

`My Fault', the bestselling autobiography by the renowned Norwegian politician and former minister Abid Raja, has begun development by Viaplay as a major drama series. Star director Per-Olav Sørensen (`Quicksand'; `The Playlist') and scriptwriter Odd-Magnus Williamson (`Aber Bergen'; `Nothing to Laugh About') are the first names attached to the ambitious Norwegian-language production, which is developed by The Global Ensemble Drama.







VMTV Ireland spots Vanishing Triangle with Sundance Channel for fall line-up

Virgin Media Television has unveiled a major new scripted coproduction with Sundance Channel US for its fall season. The Vanishing Triangle is an eight-part true crime series produced by Park Films, Paper Plane Productions and 87 Films that draws on real events in the 1990s, when several women went missing in an area of Ireland known as the Vanishing Triangle.



Warner Bros. Discovery and BT Group close transaction to form sports joint venture

Warner Bros. Discovery and BT Group have today completed their transaction to form a 50:50 Joint Venture (JV) that combines the assets of BT Sport and Eurosport UK. The move brings together one of the most extensive line-ups of live sport coverage for fans in the UK & Ireland - including the Olympic Games, the Premier League, UEFA Champions League, UEFA Europa League, the Premier League, Premiership Rugby, MotoGP, UFC, Boxing, WWE, tennis Grand Slams, cycling Grand Tours and the winter sports World Cup season.

About the Association of Commercial Television and Video on Demand Services in Europe

The Association of Commercial Television and Video on Demand Services in Europe represents the interests of leading commercial broadcasters across Europe and beyond. The ACT member companies finance, produce, promote and distribute content and services benefiting millions of Europeans across all platforms. At ACT we believe that the healthy and sustainable commercial broadcasting sector has an important role to play in the European economy, society and culture. Our role is to protect and to promote the interests of the European private broadcasters. We engage with the EU institutions to achieve a balanced and appropriate regulatory framework which will encourage further investment and growth in our sector. This will allow the commercial audiovisual industry to continue to do what we do best – getting great content to viewers.