

Digital Multicast Summary

The Hive (Current Multicast Service)

Summary: The Hive is a community-driven local access television station based in Salt Lake City. Launched in 2005, material on The Hive is largely submitted by viewers, including partnerships with multiple school districts. Content includes locally-produced films, high school sports, public affairs, and a wide variety of entertainment programming. In addition, video simulcasts of Clear Channel's KZHT-FM has created an exciting local platform dubbed ROTV (Radio On TV). For more information on The Hive, see www.thehivetv.com.

Station: KTVX-DT in Salt Lake City, UT

NBC Weather Plus (Current Multicast Service)

Summary: This service provides in-depth local weather information 24/7 to viewers in Mobile/Pensacola and San Antonio. In addition to the extensive coverage of local weather, national weather news is provided by NBC.

Stations: WPMI-DT in Mobile, AL WOAI-DT in San Antonio, TX

The CW (Announced Multicast Service)

Summary: Launching on digital this fall is The CW, the new network featuring the best programming from UPN and The WB. In Cincinnati, The CW will anchor a 24/7 schedule of local and syndicated programming, including ROTV.

Stations: WKRC-DT in Cincinnati, OH KMTR-DT in Eugene, OR
KION-DT in Monterey, CA WWTI-DT in Watertown, NY



Dear FCC Commissioners:

It has come to my attention, that you will be ruling soon on multicast must carry rights for broadcasters. I applaud your efforts to reconsider this important issue. I strongly urge you to support an order that requires cable companies to carry broadcasters' full digital spectrum.

Our NBC affiliate in Las Vegas, Nevada currently uses multicast technology to broadcast local weather information through the NBC Weather Plus system. Weather Plus provides up-to-date weather information for viewers in the immediate Las Vegas area and the numerous outlying communities in Southern Nevada, Northern Arizona and Southern California. Cox Communications, the largest cable provider in the Las Vegas, NV market began carrying our Weather Plus digital channel in February 2006, nearly 6 months after our initial broadcast.

Our station has discussed other possible multicast uses that would benefit the viewers in our community. But without any action by the Commission, there is no way we can predict when or if the cable companies will broadcast this content. Action must be taken in order for viewers to realize the full benefit of digital television.

I urge you to support the future of broadcasting by endorsing full multicast must carry rights.

Sincerely,

Gene Greenberg
Executive Vice President and General Manager
Valley Broadcasting Company
KVBC (TV)

This station strongly urges the Commission to extend must carry requirements for digital television on cable systems.

Currently this station broadcasts two digital channels that bring great value to our community. Our news and weather station brings up to the minute critical weather data to our viewers in times of severe weather. Our radar alone has drawn many viewers comments during times when changing weather conditions causes viewers to be concerned for their property and personal safety.

Our second channel carries a wide variety of programming like extended news conferences by our Governor or local officials; local college coaches shows, time shifted local and network news, courtroom coverage, and public affairs programs like our Communities in Schools program.

It is easy to see that the public is best served by helping broadcasters reach the largest audience they can with these channels. They will continue to evolve and provide even better and more innovative programming in the future.

June 5, 2006
FCC Comments
98-120
Multicast – Must-carry

My name is Mike Taylor and I am the Vice President and Business Manager for Drewry Broadcasting representing licensee KSWO Television Co. Inc. and KSWO-TV/DT, Lawton, Oklahoma. This attachment concerns 98-120 and the multicast must-carry vote scheduled for June 15, 2006.

KSWO-TV/DT is currently broadcasting two additional digital broadcast channels. 11.2 is a Telemundo affiliation, providing Spanish language programming as well as local news and weather information to our viewing audience. It is our hope that as we expand our cable penetration, we will be able to provide at least one, perhaps more, thirty minute local newscasts per day, in Spanish. In addition, we have provided Spanish language broadcasts of Dallas Cowboys Preseason Football, as well as season-long special programs on the Cowboys. These Spanish language broadcasts are very popular with our Hispanic viewers.

11.3 is a local channel, providing weather, news, and special programming concerning the community we serve. For example, we air a program called "Working for You" featuring the Director of Economic Development of the Lawton, Oklahoma Chamber of Commerce. This program is designed to provide information on the local efforts to promote economic development in our viewing area. We also carry prime-time airings of local high school and college sports programs including Oklahoma University, The University of Texas, and Oklahoma State University. In addition KSWO-TV/DT is evaluating the purchase of additional weather equipment which will allow us to provide continuing weather information on this channel while airing the local programs our viewers are interested in at the same time. The long range plan for KSWO-DT 11.3 is a strictly local channel, designed to serve the viewers of the Wichita Falls, Texas – Lawton, Oklahoma DMA, 24 hours a day with local information of importance to the viewers of our area.

KSWO-TV/DT has had limited success in our cable carriage efforts for both 11.2 and 11.3. Objections from cable operators are wide ranging and vary from operation to operation. Some of the smaller operations complain that they do not have the analog channel space and do not have a digital tier available to subscribers. The larger operations are reluctant to down-convert a digital signal to their analog tier and the number of digital subscribers is much smaller than their basic or expanded basic analog subscribers. However, in those locations where we have been successful in getting a cable channel for 11.2 and 11.3, we have had good response from viewers about the service they provide.

In conclusion, it is our hope that the FCC will reconsider its initial vote on the Multicast Must-Carry issue, and vote for it. We believe our local viewers are worth the commitment. What we need is the opportunity to reach them. Multicast must-carry will help make this possible.

June 7, 2006

Comments of Journal Broadcast Group, Inc.
In Re: Proceeding 98-120

Journal Broadcast Group, Inc., headquartered in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, owns and operates nine television stations in 7 states and programs two additional television stations under local marketing agreements.

Journal intends to make use of its digital multicast capabilities to serve its communities of license with additional channels of local news, information, and entertainment. Earlier this year, Journal's WTMJ-TV in Milwaukee launched an all-new 24-hour local weather service on channel 4.2. This service is available to viewers over the air; via video streaming on the WTMJ-TV website; and on Time Warner Cable as part of its basic digital tier. Within the next few weeks, Journal's KTNV-TV in Las Vegas, Nevada plans to launch a similar all-new, all-local information service focused on traffic information and weather in that metropolitan area. Thanks to the willing partnership of local cable franchisees in both Las Vegas and Milwaukee who made channel allocations available to Journal as part of our retransmission consent negotiations, tens of thousands of viewing households will have easy access to these important new local services offered by Journal.

However, Journal has been disappointed to find that not all local cable franchisees are willing to cooperate in delivering such new services to their communities, even when Journal has offered to negotiate in good faith for a channel allocation. For example, in Tucson, Arizona, Journal's KGUN-TV has been flatly rejected by one major cable MSO in its efforts to negotiate a cable channel allocation for new local service. Curiously, this MSO is one with which Journal has successfully negotiated such an allocation in another community. We have been unable to determine any reason for the MSO's intransigence in Tucson, other than the apparent personal preferences of the local market manager at the cable system.

For this reason, Journal believes it is essential for the FCC to require digital multicast must carry. Local broadcasters have invested billions of dollars in capital to build out terrestrial digital broadcast capabilities. Many, like Journal, have committed to invest even more in order to provide important new local service to our communities of license, thanks to the opportunities created by digital multicasting. However, in some communities these new services will never see the light of day unless cable operators are required to carry all local services to their subscribers.

Stopping the stripping of digital programming from broadcast stations' digital signals by cable operators is very important to consumers and broadcasters. KTVN has carried a 24/7 local weather program stream since its digital sign on date of 2/5/03. *It is now carried on part of Charter's system* as a digital tier channel. Adelphia Susanville, CA is carrying our HD signal but not our weather multicast. KTVN has the capacity to carry one more multicast service in addition to its main HD signal and its weather channel but is on hold at this time until carriage issues are resolved.

If the programming is offered free to viewers it should not be stripped by cable operators in an effort by them to reduce competitive pressure generated by more channel offerings in the marketplace.

Thank you,
Lawson Fox
General Manager
KTVN
Reno, NV

KPHO PROGRAMMING

Date: 6/6/06
To: FCC
From: KPHO TV
Re: Possible Options for Digital Multicasting

This is information regarding KPHO's multicasting plans.

Programming and Special Offerings we are broadcasting now:

World Baseball Classic

- Aired 3 games on channel 5.2, 3/12 – 3/14/06

CBS Special Events

- NCAA Basketball Tournament 3/16/06 – 4/1/06. Aired all 63 games of the tournament, up to four games at once, using channels 5, 5.1, 5.2 and 5.3. We expect that multicast to be an annual event.
- The Masters PGA Tournament 4/6/06 – 4/9/06. Aired complete coverage of all four days of the tournament in HD while simultaneously airing CBS regular programming. This is and will be an annual event.

Programming we have in the works

CBS 2

- A second 24/7 entertainment and sports network from CBS.

News Channel

- A live 24/7 local and regional news channel.

Alternatives possible once we're assured extra channels will have an audience

- Expanded / alternate coverage of major events.
- Expanded / continuing coverage of breaking news.
- Low bandwidth 24/7 channel for local weather and/or traffic conditions
- Occasional events of local interest, similar to the WBC games we carried in March.
- Expanded political coverage with local debates and extended local election coverage.

To Whom It May Concern:

Station WISC-TV in Madison, WI believes it is very important for all cable systems to carry the multicast signals of local broadcasters. Cable systems currently carry our entire 6mhz bandwidth and they should not be exempted from doing so in the digital world. We currently provide the UPN network service as a multicast on our digital signal. Our local cable provider is providing our UPN service to all of its subscribers. Furthermore, our latest retransmission consent agreement guarantees carriage of our multicast signal. This language was put in the contract by Charter and not by WISC-TV.

I know there are MSO's that do not want the obligation to carry multicast signals. It seems the FCC should use Charter Communications as the model for other cable companies to follow. Regardless, multicast must carry will insure all citizens can receive the benefit of a diversity of services that will be offered by local broadcasters in the digital world.

It is my understanding that you are considering ruling on multicast must-carry rights for broadcasters in digital television in the upcoming weeks. KBFD has been servicing the diverse ethnic make up of Hawaii residents by providing cultural programming from Asia as an independent channel. We can only continue to promote diversity in Hawaii with your support of digital Must carry rule when the station completes its digital transition. KBFD is a true example of an independent channel promoting diversity servicing public interest in our local community.

It is heartening to hear that the F.C.C. is considering applying the must carry rules to the entire broadcast digital signal!

Part of the "Promise" of the digital conversion to consumers and broadcasters was always the potential for multiple free "over the air" signals from each broadcast station.

While "over the air" multi-cast might happen without "must carry"...any business plan that does not include the viewers who access our signals through cable or satellite delivery is seriously challenged.

We have been discussing possibilities for programming these additional channels for some time. It is exciting to consider the possibilities!

Tomorrow we have a meeting with a local Hispanic group regarding the possibility of doing a local Spanish language channel...including perhaps translations of popular shows and local Spanish language news.

We are actively pursuing the possibility for doing a 24 hour local weather channel.

Likewise, a 24 hour local/regional news channel...perhaps in co-operation with other broadcaster stations has serious appeal.

We do a lot of local high school sports coverage now...the possibility of expanding this coverage is exciting.

In election years...we would finally have the capacity to carry long form political discourse that now is pushed aside because of ratings considerations.

We think a great benefit of this plan that we have never heard mentioned is that any additional programs or channels that are developed because of the economics of must-carry...would also be available for free "over the air" to anyone with a digital set and antenna!

Stephen Morris
General Manager
WSJV-TV
South Bend, Indiana

Brandon Burgess
Chief Executive Officer

98-120

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JUN 9 2006
Federal Communications Commission
Office of the Secretary



June 5, 2006

The Honorable Kevin J. Martin
Federal Communications Commission
Room 8-B201
445 12th Street SW
Washington, DC 20554

Re: Full Digital Must Carry (CS Docket No. 98-120)

Dear Chairman Martin:

Back in February, I wrote to you to emphasize the importance of full digital must carry for the television broadcast industry in the United States. I also noted how cable carriage of all free over-the-air digital broadcasting services would contribute to the fight against broad-based indecency on television and add new community-oriented and public interest programming to the airwaves.

Since that time ION Media Networks has been pleased to announce that, in partnership with some of the most respected names in children's programming and television distribution, it will launch a "Smart Place For Kids", a 24/7 bilingual programming platform for children that will be distributed via free digital over-the-air television.

I am now happy to report that this past Wednesday ION announced its plan to launch the country's first 24-hour digital broadcast network dedicated exclusively to consumer health care and healthy living. This service, which is expected to launch later this year on ION's 60 owned and operated television stations, will feature a programming-lineup drawn from some of the leading providers of credible and informative healthcare content. ION's new health channel will utilize an expert board of medical advisors who will provide guidance on content selection and advertising guidelines. A copy of our press release is attached.

In exploring the possibility of launching this healthcare channel, ION commissioned various studies, which, in summary, revealed that:

- This country faces a healthcare crisis.
- Our existing media (and television in particular) is part of the problem and must step forward to help with the solution.
- Digital broadcast multicasting can be a powerful advocate for preventive healthcare.

I look forward to sharing with you our consumer studies and our plans for utilizing a digital multicast channel to further preventive healthcare. But, I must realistically note

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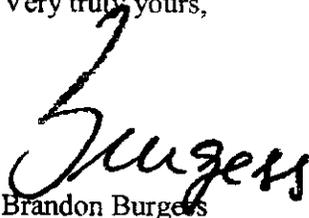
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The Honorable Kevin J. Martin
Federal Communications Commission
June 5, 2006
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that the key to the economic viability and long-term stability of our health channel and of our children's programming channel is full carriage by the cable and satellite operators in all of our markets. Without the ability to reach into each and every household, the economic underpinnings for these channels simply will not exist. Full digital must carry is very important to our ability to sustain the kind of multicast channels that we are now launching, that this Commission is encouraging and that the public wants.

I look forward to the opportunity to discuss these matters more fully with you.

Very truly yours,



Brandon Burgess
Chief Executive Officer
ION Media Networks

cc: Commissioner Michael J. Copps
Commissioner Jonathan S. Adelstein
Commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate
Commissioner Robert M. McDowell

Enc.



ION MEDIA NETWORKS TO LAUNCH NEW DIGITAL HEALTH NETWORK

Consumer Health Programming Serving Vital Community Needs to Launch on Largest TV Station Group

(West Palm Beach, FL – May 31, 2006) – ION Media Networks (AMEX: ION) (the "Company") today announced its plan to launch the country's first 24-hour digital broadcast network dedicated exclusively to consumer healthcare and healthy living. The service is scheduled to launch under the working title "I-Health" in late 2006 on the Company's owned and operated television stations, with the expectation of a full rollout, including additional distribution and content partners, in 2007.

Recognizing rising levels of chronic health conditions as well as the related healthcare crisis in the U.S., ION Media Networks will apply a consumer preventive health care and education-centric approach to programming the network. The mission of the network will be to provide credible, accurate, and life-enhancing information, helping consumers across all age groups, geographies, and income levels make informed health decisions on lifestyle, prevention, treatment, and post-treatment.

"Through extensive research, we confirmed that consumers want trusted healthcare information on television, but no channel today satisfies this important need," said ION Media Networks CEO Brandon Burgess. "The data shows exponential healthcare demand in the coming years, and we want to be the first to offer a dedicated consumer-centric broadcast channel. Digital broadcast multicast technology allows us to launch such a public interest network and advance the digital TV transition by offering this value-added sponsored service at no cost to consumers."

ION will debut I-Health on its group of digital TV stations with a programming line-up drawn from some of the leading providers of credible and informative healthcare content, including the Information Television Network (ITV), which produces such shows as "Cutting Edge Medical Report," "Healthy Body, Healthy Mind," and "Growing Up Hispanic"; Aquarius Health Care Media, which boasts a library of programs covering a broad range of categories, including aging, caregiving, disease and disabilities, children and teen issues, and women's health; and Breakthrough Entertainment, a leading producer of reality-based medical programming with signature series, "Patient Files" and "Little Miracles," focusing on the personal stories of real people facing chronic conditions.

The network will also feature short-form news segments and web-based content on chronic illness, family health issues, and the latest medical technologies and breakthroughs, provided by Ivanhoe Broadcast News and a number of leading health-themed websites. Rounding out the schedule will be a variety of health-oriented programs focusing on topics such as exercise, wellness, medical procedures, and alternative health.



"As dedicated producers of health and wellness programming for the past 15 years, we understand the crucial need for readily accessible and highly credible consumer-focused health content," stated Ed Lerner, President of Information Television Network. "We are pleased to partner with ION Media Networks to bring timely health information to viewers when and where they want it, through one trusted brand."

"With the increasing demand on consumers to better manage their health, we are thrilled to have joined forces with ION Media Networks in creating a dedicated outlet that empowers people with the vital information they need to make informed choices not only for themselves, but also for their families," said Leslie Kussmann, President/Producer of Aquarius Health Care Media.

"The broad healthcare themes and medical integrity provided by our consortium of content partners will be unparalleled, offering consumers an alternative to the existing overly sensational medical programming and the challenges associated with navigating the Internet for important and trusted health information," said ION's Senior Vice President of Business Affairs, Marc Zand, who is overseeing the strategic development of the Company's multicast channels.

To ensure the ongoing medical integrity of the network, ION Media Networks will establish an advisory board of medical experts and health professionals, who will provide guidance on content selection and advertising guidelines.

Earlier this year, ION Media Networks commissioned focus groups and consumer research that addressed the public need and interest in a health-oriented television service. The research concluded that consumers are acutely aware of and affected by the increase in chronic illness, the negative effects of poor lifestyle choices, and the financial strain to obtain medical care focused more on treatment than prevention.

- The U.S. is the most obese country in the world, and the number of obese Americans has increased by over 60% in the last decade. The increase in obesity has led to a greater prevalence of heart disease, hypertension, and diabetes.
- Nearly 50% of those surveyed by ION Media Networks say they have a chronic health condition, and one-third report receiving hospital care within the past year.
- Forty percent of those surveyed report not having enough money in the past year to pay for medical costs or healthcare.

Viewing television as their most trusted medium, but dissatisfied with existing content, consumers universally understand the benefits of possessing credible and educational health information which will allow for healthier lifestyle choices and more informed decisions regarding treatment options.

- Consumers are most likely to learn about new treatments or prevention from television (36%), a doctor (22%), and the Internet (21%).
- Satisfaction with current health information overall is below 50%.



- Nearly 75% of consumers surveyed report low satisfaction with television as a source of health information.
- Close to 50% say it is "extremely important" that suppliers of health information provide accurate, up-to-date information from a trusted source. Satisfaction with health information on television is low among these most important attributes.

Consumers perceive value in new digital television (DTV) channels, with a keen interest in a health channel concept.

- The overall idea of having new DTV channels is appealing to nearly 60% of consumers.
- Health ranks first in interest and need for new DTV channel concepts, with nearly half showing strong interest in a DTV health channel.
- Certain groups over-index in DTV interest (and specific interest in a healthcare channel) at 60% or higher, including consumers with broadcast-only reception, non-whites, consumers with chronic health conditions, consumers unable to pay for healthcare, women, ages 55 to 64, and those with incomes below \$35K.
- More than half (52%) of those surveyed showed strong interest in the I-Health concept.

About ION Media Networks

ION Media Networks owns and operates the nation's largest broadcast television station group and the / network, reaching approximately 92 million U.S. television households via its nationwide broadcast television, cable and satellite distribution systems. On February 28, 2006, the Company announced that it is changing its corporate name from Paxson Communications Corporation to ION Media Networks, Inc. The Company is currently doing business as ION Media Networks pending approval of the corporate name change by its stockholders at its annual meeting on June 23, 2006. For more information, please visit www.ionmedia.tv.

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Commissioners-

I urge you to free the carriage barriers for our multicast signals. Our content plan for Central Arkansas is so relative to the outdoor lifestyles that Arkansans enjoy, yet if they are unable or are blocked from receiving this signal by a Cable operator, they may not be able to enjoy the content we provide. So, please consider enforcement of the Cable industry to carry our multi-cast signal, because as you know--without distribution---our products have little value. Best regards--Chuck Spohn