

Name: Richard Lamont

Representing: Self

What are your comments on these proposals?

I am annoyed at the Establishment's continuing misrepresentation of DAB. It is an awful technology that should be buried, for the following reasons:

1. Very high receiver battery consumption;
2. Very poor audio codec: while the impairment is not as immediately obvious as the impairment of AM, it is more irritating (at 128 kbit/s). (Ofcom's so-called research into DAB quality used a biased sample, flouted ITU-R recommendations for assessing audio quality and is a cynical piece of spin-doctored junk.);
3. Inherent inflexibility of multiplexed operation compared to 'single channel per carrier' operation;
4. COFDM's lack of graceful degradation, which although acceptable for reception with fixed aerials (e.g. DVB-T) is totally unsuitable for a mobile/portable medium;
5. Exorbitant transmission costs, which will only get worse if merger of Arqiva and NGW is allowed to go ahead.