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Information Bulletin

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Terrestrial Digital Standard Definition TV

In Summary

- Solve ghosting problems
- Sharper quality viewing
- High quality sound
- More channels
- Additional programming information
- Set-top box compatible with existing TVs
- Receive multi-channeling and basic data casting

Introduction

On January 1, 2001 all Australian television stations started transmitting a digital signal as well as the existing analogue one.

Digital television is a new technology that provides better picture quality, improved sound and superior reception when compared to the analogue signal. There is no interference and ghosting that people put up with today. (Especially if they live in built-up areas or hilly terrain.) Digital broadcasting is broadcasting in which picture and other information is transmitted as a series of discrete 'bits' or numbers of information.

New technology provides that ability to broadcast a better, clearer signal. A digital signal also enables the introduction of additional channels and services because it makes more efficient use of the spectrum.

After 2008, licenses will only be issued to broadcast a digital signal. Licenses to broadcast analogue signal will no longer be available. Therefore, broadcasters must implement these changes over a period of time to ensure that everyone can still view free to air television.

Your TV will continue to receive the existing analogue signal until 2008, however, you can also receive standard definition or high-definition by upgrading your television or purchasing a set-top box which will convert your existing TV.

Set-top box

A set top box is the simplest and cheapest way to start watching digital television because it allows you to use your existing television. As the name suggests, it is a small box that sits on top of your television, just like a satellite TV box. The improvement in picture will come from the fact that the digital signal is resistant to 'snow' and 'ghosting'. You connect your normal antenna to the set-top box (STB) and then the STB produces a signal for your existing TV and VCR. It will also produce a separate video and audio output for connection to the A/V input of your TV, and a hi-fi system. The STB has a remote control, when you are watching digital television you will change channels using this remote, not your TV remote control.

The set-top box will be able to receive multi-channeling, enhancements and basic datacasting.

Installation procedures

Very simple plug and play, no need to retune.

Initial set up download process takes less than one minute. Your VCR and Pay-TV services will work in exactly the same way.

Frequently asked questions

Is Digital TV like pay-TV? Will I have to pay monthly fees?

No, you will not have to pay to receive digital television, however, you will need to purchase a set-top box .

Frequently asked questions cont

What is wide screen television?

Your current television set has an aspect ratio of 4x3. If you have purchased what is known as a wide screen TV, which has an aspect ratio of 16x9, you will be able to view those programs that broadcast in wide-screen format. You can also program your set-top box to produce letter box pictures.

Do I still need an aerial?

Yes, you need an aerial. The digital signal comes in via your existing aerial and improves ghosting and other forms of interference associated with analogue TV reception.

Is HDTV and digital TV the same thing?

Digital television can be transmitted in either standard definition or high definition. Standard definition television (SDTV) has improved reception capability when compared to the existing analogue service. High definition television (HDTV) provides cinema quality viewing with Digital surround sound. Digital television is broadcast in wide-screen format in both SDTV and increasingly HDTV.

Do I need someone to install my set-top box?

No, to install your set-top box, all you need to do is follow the instructions. We are available for telephone support if needed.

Will my VCR still work?

Yes, your VCR will still work in exactly the same way it does today.

Will my Pay-TV service receive the local digital service?

No, a cable TV connection will not carry the Free to Air digital service. Many people use the set-top box in addition to their existing Pay-TV services.

What is Datacasting?

This is a service other than a broadcasting service that delivers information in the form of data, text, speech or images. ie Channel 9 has introduced an Electronic program guide

What is an enhanced service?

An enhanced service is a service which is linked to a program which is being broadcast at the same time. It is not a self contained service, rather it is a service that allows the viewer to get more out of the main program. For example, action replays, progress reports or statistics of a sports match being played; more detailed coverage of news items, or alternate views of the broadcast event such as different camera angles.

About Videosat Pty Ltd

At Videosat we specialise in supplying complete digital satellite systems for self-installation with detailed instructions. With over 16 years of experience in solving poor reception problems behind us, we have a strong reputation for the supply of quality satellite reception equipment at competitive prices. It doesn't end there, we also supply essential support including helpful advice, prompt and efficient service. We have a network of satisfied customers that extends nationwide so you can be sure we're in a position to help you.

Our complete systems are ready to self-install.

Over the years we have encouraged our customers to install their own systems. We have satisfied customers from all walks of life right across Australia who have all successfully self installed. Our Digital Set-top boxes are ready to go and come with comprehensive instructions. Installation is as easy as plug and play and initial download times is around 40 seconds. There is no need to re-tune your TV. We also have a help desk available to assist you which will save you expensive call out and installers fees.

CALL TODAY any time
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Order today \$699*

*Order before 31 December 2002

