Letter of Understanding
1 October 1999

Regarding

Co-operation between CEPT ERC and World DAB Forum
The Parties

- The European Radio Committee (ERC) of CEPT (la Conférence Européenne des Administrations des Postes et des Télécommunications), and

- The World Forum for Digital Audio Broadcasting (WorldDAB)

recognising that:

- CEPT/ERC is an organisation of governmental bodies, hence with limited possibilities to enter binding agreements with a private association

- WorldDAB is an association of private and public sector broadcasters, regulators, network and transmission providers, research institutes; manufacturers and related organisations with a common interest in developing DAB and moving the technology from its engineering and development phase to the consumer market on an international scale

and considering that:

a) CEPT/ERC is the recognised organisation in Europe responsible for the allocation of spectrum at European level in the field of telecommunications and in areas common to telecommunications, information technology, sound and television broadcasting

b) WorldDAB develops common views among its members i.a. as regards regulatory matters such as spectrum and service licensing;

c) CEPT/ERC and WorldDAB have a reciprocal interest in ensuring Europe-wide, or even world-wide allocations of spectrum for radio access and networks for broadcast DAB services in order to meet the needs of the market

d) The WorldDAB Steering board has authorised the Chairman of the WorldDAB Spectrum Committee to take on the task of Observer in the CEPT ERC;

Agree to co-operate as follows:

1. CEPT/ERC and WorldDAB may exchange from time to time as they agree, free of charge, information on programmes of work in areas of mutual interest related to the use of radio in public telecommunications;

2. Within the areas related to the use of radio in public telecommunications, participation of a nominated Observer from WorldDAB is permitted at meetings of the ERC, its Working Groups, Project Teams and Task Groups, and a nominated Observer from CEPT/ERC will be invited to meetings of the relevant WorldDAB Working Groups, when the agendas contain items of mutual interest.

3. Within the areas related to the use of radio in public telecommunications, copies of relevant working documents from either Party may be made available to the other party on request on topics of mutual interest, agreed from time to time by both parties. The dissemination by one Party of the documents received from the other party will be limited to the members of the receiving Party, and solely for the purpose of the activities relating to the Party's work programme;

4. All copyright, and other intellectual and industrial rights embodied in documents exchanged between CEPT/ERC and WorldDAB, and any copies thereof, remain with the originating party and extend to all media in which the information may be embodied;
5. Observers shall, to the extent permitted by the relevant Party’s organisational statutory, be entitled to participate fully in discussions on relevant work items, and may submit written contributions, but shall have no voting rights;

6. WorldDAB may submit proposals for spectrum activities to the relevant CEPT/ERC Body. These shall be adopted subject to the normal CEPT/ERC process for approval of new work items and outputs.

7. The two parties agree to exchange information and seek a common approach concerning matters such as radio spectrum utilisation within Europe and regulatory affairs;

8. The practical contacts and decisions for the application of this Agreement will be taken between the appointed CEPT representative and the Chairman of the relevant WorldDAB Working Group;

9. Any difficulties arising shall be agreed wherever possible at the working group level between the relevant CEPT Body and WorldDAB Working Group. Matters which cannot be resolved at working level shall be subject to discussion between the two parties at the level of Chairman of CEPT/ERC and Chairman of the WorldDAB Steering Board;

10. This Agreement shall last for three years and shall be tacitly renewed for further one-year periods unless otherwise agreed by the Parties. The Agreement can be terminated by either Party before the expiry date with three months’ notice;

Patrick Carey  
Chairman, CEPT ERC

Date 21 Sept 1999

Michael McEwen  
Chairman, World DAB Steering Board

Date 21 Feb 1999