

ACIF appoints new CEO

Amex executive to lead telco self regulatory body

The Australian Communications Industry Forum (ACIF), Australias leading communications self regulatory body, has appointed former American Express Director, Anne Hurley as its new Chief Executive Officer (CEO).

Hurley will direct ACIFs work on self regulatory codes and standards for the communications industry in Australia.

Hurley brings a wealth of experience to the role, having worked in corporate, legal and academic sectors across communications, trade practices, telecommunications policy and regulation.

Most recently (1997-2001) she held a number of senior roles at American Express. Hurley was the Director of the companys operations in a range of areas including: Telecommunications and Networking Systems, Telecommunications and Network Engineering and Telecommunication Regulatory Affairs.

Prior to this she worked with legal firm Minter Ellison and as a legal adviser to the Office of Telecommunications Authority (OFTA) in Hong Kong. In the academic space, Hurley has published a number of specialised competition and telecommunications law texts and was a lecturer at University of Sydney and the Australian National University.

Hurleys career highlights include being named in the Legal Profiles 1996/1997 as a leading lawyer in trade practices and telecommunications regulation. She was also Chairperson for the Media and Communications Media group, Law Council of Australia from 1996-1999, a Director of the Australian Telecommunications Users Group (ATUG) and an adviser to a number of government inquiries and working groups.

"We are delighted that Anne has chosen to join ACIF. She brings very relevant experience to the role, having worked on communications issues both in Australia and overseas for many years. Anne has an excellent grounding in the current and future issues to be addressed by ACIF, said Neville Stevens, Chairperson, ACIF.

The appointment will become effective 19 April 2004 following the decision of the founding CEO, Johanna Plante to retire this year.

On behalf of the Board I would like to pay tribute to the outstanding contribution made by Johanna Plante. Johanna was the inaugural CEO of ACIF when it started in 1997 and its effectiveness today is a direct product of her wisdom and hard work. We wish Johanna all the best in the next phase of her life," he said.

About ACIF

Established in 1997, ACIF is an industry owned and operated company established to manage communications self-regulation within Australia. Its primary role is to develop and administer technical standards and industry codes, as well as facilitate industry compliance, co-operation and issues resolution for the benefit of the Australian community.

Self regulation spans a diverse range of industry issues. Examples include: pre-selection, number portability, interconnection, charges and billing, fault management, emergency services as well as a range of equipment, cabling and network Codes and Guidelines.