

Paul Walsh appointed compliance manager, ACIF

New position created to promote compliance with ACIF codes and standards across Australian telecommunications industry

The Australian Communications Industry Forum (ACIF) today announced that Paul Walsh has been appointed to fill the newly created position of compliance manager. The creation of this role signals ACIF's focus on compliance issues in 2005.

Walsh, who has a strong background in regulatory affairs, will promote compliance with ACIF codes and standards across the telecommunications industry in Australia.

Anne Hurley, chief executive officer, ACIF said: The telecommunications industry is growing at a fast pace. As each field expands, the need for more specialised codes and standards emerges. To compliment this, ACIF has created the position of compliance manager to focus on code compliance and promote the benefits compliance brings to all parties, be they industry, consumers or government.

Paul's experience and expertise in the communications industry ensure he is the ideal person to head this new position. His professional qualifications and experience within the industry will allow him to view his responsibilities from different perspectives.

In his role, Walsh will work in consultation with agencies such as the Australian Communications Authority (ACA) and the Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman (TIO), to promote compliance with ACIF's codes across the telecommunications industry.

A key early focus will be assisting industry members in the implementation of the Consumer Contracts Code, which is expected to be finalised in the near future.

The Consumer Contracts Code will address the intelligibility and fairness of contracts for mobile, home and small business phone services as well as Internet services.

Walsh joins ACIF from Channel Ten, where he was the networks regulatory manager for four years. In his role at Channel Ten, he managed the networks compliance with the Commercial Television Industry Code of Practice, and represented Channel Ten on Free TV Australia's major review of the Code last year.

Prior to this, Walsh worked in broadcasting policy with the Department of Communications, IT and the Arts (DCITA).

Walsh holds degrees in Law (Honours) and Arts from Melbourne University.

About ACIF

ACIF is a member-funded organisation established in 1997 to facilitate communications self-regulation in the interests of both industry and consumers.

ACIF provides a neutral forum in which all participants and end-users in the Australian communications industry can work together to foster an efficient, competitive environment through self-regulatory processes, technical codes and standards.