



Broadcasting Decision CRTC 2007-364

Ottawa, 11 October 2007

The Sports Network Inc. Across Canada

Application 2007-0888-6, received 12 June 2007
Broadcasting Public Notice CRTC 2007-72
3 July 2007

The Sports Network (TSN) – Licence amendment

*The Commission **approves** the application by The Sports Network Inc. to amend the broadcasting licence for the national, English-language specialty television programming undertaking known as The Sports Network (TSN) in order to allow the service to be available for distribution in high definition format.*

The application

1. The Commission received an application by The Sports Network Inc. to amend the broadcasting licence for the national, English-language specialty television programming undertaking known as The Sports Network (TSN).
2. The licensee proposed to replace the following condition of licence:

The Sports Network Inc. is authorized to make available for distribution, until 8 October 2007, a version of TSN in high definition format, provided that not less than 95% of the video and audio components of the upgraded and analog versions of the service are the same, exclusive of the commercial messages and of any part of the service carried on a subsidiary signal.

with the following condition:

The licensee is authorized to make available for distribution, until 8 October 2010, a version of its service in high definition format, provided that not less than 95% of the video and audio components of the upgraded and analog versions of the service are the same, exclusive of commercial messages and of any part of the service carried on a subsidiary signal. All of the programming making up the 5% allowance shall be provided in high definition.

3. The Commission received an intervention commenting on TSN's current high definition (HD) programming to which the applicant replied.

Commission's analysis and determinations

Canada

4. In Broadcasting Public Notice 2006-74, the Commission stated that it would authorize the licensee of a Canadian pay or specialty service to make available an upgraded version of its service by means of an amendment to the licence of the existing service, subject to the requirement initially imposed in Broadcasting Public Notice 2003-61 that the programming on the analog or standard definition service and on the upgraded service be comparable. This authority would be in effect for a term of three years.
5. The Commission notes, however, that the current licence for the undertaking expires on 31 August 2009.
6. Accordingly, in light of the above, the Commission **approves** the application by The Sports Network Inc. to amend the broadcasting licence for the national, English-language specialty television programming undertaking known as TSN in order to allow the service to be available for distribution in HD format until 31 August 2009, the end of the current licence term.
7. The new **condition of licence** reads as follows:

The licensee is authorized to make available for distribution, until 31 August 2009, a version of The Sports Network (TSN) in high definition (HD) format, provided that not less than 95% of the video and audio components of the upgraded and analog versions of the service are the same, exclusive of commercial messages and of any part of the service carried on a subsidiary signal. The remainder of the programming making up the 5% allowance shall be provided in (HD).

Secretary General

Related documents

- *Regulatory framework for the licensing and distribution of high definition pay and specialty services*, Broadcasting Public Notice CRTC 2006-74, 15 June 2006
- *The regulatory framework for the distribution of digital television signals*, Broadcasting Public Notice CRTC 2003-61, 11 November 2003

This decision is to be appended to the licence. It is available in alternative format upon request, and may also be examined in PDF format or in HTML at the following Internet site: <http://www.crtc.gc.ca>