

DEADLINE

SE Breaking News -
 HD **Bubble Watch 2022: Look At Every Broadcast Scripted Series That Has Not Been Renewed Yet, From 'FBI' & '9-1-1' To 'AMLT', 'Mr. Mayor' & 'Legacies'**
 BY Nellie Andreeva
 WC 1,579 words
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LP

We are only month away from the broadcast upfront week where the networks will unveil their fall schedules but a significant portion of nets' lineups for next season remain murky. Yet to learn their fate are not only middling performers and other shows that have found themselves on the bubble for one reason or another, but also highly rated series whose renewal is subject to complex negotiations with a non-affiliated studio, such as ABC's *The Goldbergs* (Sony TV) and *The Conners* (Werner Entertainment), CBS' *FBI* franchise and *The Equalizer* (Universal TV) as well as Fox's *9-1-1* franchise and *The Resident* (20th TV), or even with the network's own studio and/or top talent, like is the case with NBC's *Law & Order* and *Law & Order: Organized Crime* and CBS' *Blue Bloods*.

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While these shows are fully expected to continue, the renewals of a slew of bubble shows will depend on the strength of the broadcast networks' crop of 2022 pilots as they will be competing against them for a spot on the schedule.

Here is a close look at the scripted broadcast series that are yet to be renewed or canceled, with analysis of their current status and prospects. Next up, Deadline's Pilot Panic roundup of pilot buzz, which will launch later this month.

ABC, which is seeing off veteran comedy black-ish, has so far renewed its strongest dramas, *Shondaland's Grey's Anatomy* and *Station 19*, stalwart *The Rookie* as well as red-hot newcomer *Abbott Elementary*. Deals are being worked out for veteran family comedies *The Goldbergs* and *The Conners* to come back, along with sophomore drama *Big Sky*. Two other half-hours, freshman *The Wonder Years* and sophomore *Home Economics*, also look promising to continue.

Drama *A Million Little Things*, now in its fourth season, is a true bubble show, with its odds at 50-50. The series, which has drawn praise for its depiction of complex issues such as mental health, has been asked by ABC not to wrap its storyline in the Season 4 finale, I hear, which could be a positive sign for its future. Like Dan Fogelman did with *This Is Us*, *AMLT* creator DJ Nash had pitched the series with a pre-conceived ending, so a possible cancellation would deny the ensemble drama of proper ending.

Freshman drama *Queens* is not likely to come back.

CBS has renewed the *NCIS* franchise, *CSI: Vegas*, comedies *Young Sheldon*, *The Neighborhood*, *Bob Hearts Abishola*, breakout hit *Ghosts* as well as drama *S.W.A.T.*, while veteran *Bull* is ending its run this season.

There are several non-bubble shows that are yet to be picked up, more notably, CBS' top scripted series, *FBI*. The flagship, as well as the other two *FBI* dramas, *Most Wanted* and *International*, are currently in renewal negotiations with lead studio Universal Television, along with two other CBS dramas Universal TV is co-producing, *The Equalizer* and *Magnum PI*. I hear the conversation is

complicated but sources expect deals to be made for all five shows to come back. Magnum PI is believed to be the most uncertain of the bunch but even its odds are said to be better than 50/50.

Blue Bloods has been a rock solid Friday night anchor for CBS and is expected to remain one with a Season 13 renewal contingent on star and executive producer Tom Selleck closing a new deal, which is pending, I hear.

For a second year in a row, the Chuck Lorre-produced comedies B Positive and United States Of Al are on the bubble. Last year, both of them ultimately got renewed. This time around, there is talk that only one of the two may join Lorre's Young Sheldon on the 2022-23 schedule. B Positive currently has a slight edge with a better than 50/50 chance; Al is at 50/50, according to sources.

CBS has had one of the strongest freshmen classes in awhile, with three formidable new additions already renewed for Season 2, Ghosts, NCIS: Hawai'i and FBI: International. Of the other two freshmen, drama Good Sam does not look good. Comedy How We Roll just launched a couple of weeks ago, so the jury is still out. So far, the sitcom been a so-so performer with lead-in retention in the ballpark of B Positive and United States of Al.

Fox has renewed its animated slate as well as freshman drama The Cleaning Lady. Like CBS, the network is yet to pick up its top-rated scripted series, 9-1-1 and spinoff 9-1-1: Lone Star. The duo, along with medical drama The Resident, which also has been a solid performer, are in renewal negotiations with 20th Television. All are expected to continue but talks are complex.

On the comedy side, Call Me Kat is expected to get another go as the network is said to be happy with the show's creative direction under the new Season 2 showrunner and her writing staff. I hear Fox brass also are high on freshman comedy Pivoting, which is looking good for renewal contingent on trimming the budget for Season 2, boosted by strong showing on Hulu. It's early to make a definitive call on midseason comedy Welcome To Flatch but it seems to be playing too young for Fox, with its linear ratings the lowest of any series on the network this season.

Fox already canceled dramedy The Big Leap, with fellow freshman Our Kind Of People heavily on the bubble. There were some positive signs early on as the soapy drama has done well on Tubi but OKOP's chances of renewal have gone down recently, largely due to its high cost.

NBC, which is saying goodbye to its flagship drama This Is Us, has renewed freshman standout La Brea and veteran The Blacklist, and has the Chicago franchise, Law & Order: SVU and New Amsterdam coming back next season as part of three-year renewals. (Next season will be medical drama New Amsterdam's last.)

Law & Order: Organized Crime and revived Law & Order are NBC's highest-rated scripted series that have not been renewed yet. Both are fully expected to come back.

On the comedy side, freshman American Auto, from Superstore creator Justin Spitzer, is considered a slam-dunk for a pickup, with sophomore Young Rock, executive produced by and featuring Dwayne Johnson, also looking good. There are positive signs for Mr. Mayor, based on its pedigree, coming from Tina Fey and Robert Carlock, and its streaming performance, with feelers out about a potential Season 3 writers room. Sophomore Kenan and freshman Grand Crew are heavily on the bubble, though the former involves arguably the two top players on Saturday Night Live, executive producer Lorne Michael and longest-running cast member Kenan Thompson.

NBC recently canceled freshman drama Ordinary Joe, with fellow first-year drama The Endgame, not looking good.

For the first time in years, the CW finds itself with about half of its series on the bubble. The network recently renewed its strongest performers, All American, The Flash, Kung Fu, Nancy Drew, Riverdale, Superman & Lois and Walker. That is just over half the number of series the CW renewed in January-February the past two years (12 and 13, respectively).

The pending ownership change is clearly a factor in the CW's renewal strategy this year. The massive renewal of virtually the entire slate we have seen in years past works for the two studios that supply the CW, Warner Bros. TV and CBS Studios, and their parent companies that co-own the network. The CW's new majority owner is expected to have a say in the remaining renewals, with Warner Bros. getting acquired last Friday additionally complicating decisions. Even if the CW is not bought by the upfronts, the network is not expected to renew shows en masse, making for some tough calls.

Believed to be most vulnerable are low-rated series like freshman The 4400 as well as Dynasty, whose previous renewals had been motivated by the money the series generates for CBS Studios through the

show's Netflix deal. Charmed and Legacies' odds are probably a little better, with Legacies' ties to one of the CW's signature series, The Vampire Diaries, giving it a slight edge.

Then there are the three remaining DC series, veteran Legends of Tomorrow, Batwoman and freshman Naomi, which will be in consideration alongside DC pilot Gotham Knights. Word is that about half of the four projects will make it to next season. Batwoman and Gotham Knights are set in a similar universe, so it is possible that one of them is picked up for next season. It will be a difficult decision on Legends of Tomorrow, which is getting old, currently in its seventh season, having gone through a string of cast changeovers. The CW's President Mark Pedowitz is known for giving the network's long-running series a proper goodbye, so a final season would be logical solution but, given the uncertainty over the CW's ownership, the final decisions may not be the network's to make.

Yet to premiere new seasons are the network's Stargirl, Roswell, New Mexico and In the Dark.

CO cbsbi : CBS Broadcasting Inc. | wstge : Paramount Global Inc. | ccom : ABC Inc | fbinv : Federal Bureau of Investigation | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation | dsnyw : The Walt Disney Company

IN imed : Media/Entertainment | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting

NS gtvrad : Television/Radio | c335 : Franchises | gorgnz : Criminal Enterprises | greg : Regional Politics | c33 : Contracts/Orders | c333 : Non-Government Contracts/Orders | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | gcat : Political/General News | gcrim : Crime/Legal Action | gent : Arts/Entertainment | gpir : Politics/International Relations | gpol : Domestic Politics | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters | nfcpin : C&E Industry News Filter

RE usa : United States | namz : North America

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SE Arts & Leisure
HD **Pete Sutherland & Oliver Scanlon offer digital concert on Neat TV**
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5 Town Friends of the Arts in collaboration with The Lawrence Memorial Library and NEAT TV present Oliver Scanlon and Pete Sutherland in concert Thursday April 21 at 7:30pm. The concert will be at the library. There will be no in person audience but will be broadcast live on NEAT TV. Comcast **Cable** channel1080.

The show will also be streamed live through the NEAT TV website neatbristol.com. For those unable to see the original broadcast, the show can be seen afterwards on the NEAT website at videos on demand. The series has been made possible by a Spark grant from the Vermont Community Foundation.

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Local folk hero Pete Sutherland and his protege Oliver Scanlon met up when Oliver was a shy 4th grader, where the two wordlessly bonded over fiddle music. Several years later they began to play out, later joining forces with guitarist Tristan Henderson to form Pete's Posse, a hard-driving trio that spent half a dozen years touring nationally and internationally with its innovative blend of rocking contradance music, thoughtful and hilarious original songs and soulful three part acappella.

The Posse spent the first months of the largely gig-free pandemic recording a double album of new music. With the trio in hibernation due to the closure of the Canadian and U.S. border, Pete and Oliver have revived their duo act, featuring a wide variety of instrumental combinations, informed by all the musical styles and sounds the trio is known for, and continuing to keep the Posse flame burning while adding new repertoire to the mix.

The post Pete Sutherland & Oliver Scanlon offer digital concert on Neat TV appeared first on Addison Independent.

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DEADLINE

SE Breaking News -
HD **Neon And Universal Group Team On Brett Morgen's David Bowie Doc 'Moonage Daydream' For Post-Cannes Release**
BY Matt Grobar
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Neon and Universal Pictures **Content** Group have announced that they will release Moonage Daydream, the first-ever David Bowie doc sanctioned by his estate, following its bow in the Midnight Screenings section of the 75th Cannes Film Festival. Neon will distribute the film in the U.S., with UPG releasing it internationally. HBO Documentary Films holds North American rights for streaming and **cable** in spring of 2023.

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The film exploring the iconic performer's creative, musical and spiritual journey hails from acclaimed documentarian Brett Morgen (Cobain: Montage of Heck, Jane), and is just now near completion after a rigorous, five-year production and assembly process. It illuminates not only the life, but also the genius of Bowie, who worked across several disciplines—most notably music and film—but also explored art forms throughout his life including dance, painting, sculpture, video and audio collage, screenwriting, acting and live theatre. The motion picture reveals the icon through his own voice and features 48 of his musical tracks, mixed from their original stems.

Morgen wrote, directed, edited and produced the film, with Hartwig Masuch, Kathy Rivkin-Daum and Justus Haerder exec producing for BMG, alongside Michael Rapino, Heather Parry, and Ryan Kroft for Live Nation Productions, Bill Zysblat, Tom Cyrana, Aisha Cohen, and Eileen D'Arcy from RZO, Billy Gerber and Debra Eisenstadt. BMG and Live Nation Productions also served as pic's financiers.

Bowie's estate presented filmmaker Brett Morgen with unfiltered access to Bowie's personal archives, including all master recordings, in 2017. The film will be joined in Cannes' Midnight Section by Lee Jung-Jae's Hunt and Quentin Dupieux's Fumer Fait Toussier, as announced earlier today. Neon's Jeff Deutchman negotiated its deal for North America with Kevin Koloff, as well as Karen Gottlieb of Grubman Shire Meiselas & Sacks, with P.C. Submarine and WME handling sales.

CO uvsv : Universal Studios | comcst : Comcast Corporation | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC
IN i971 : Audiovisual Production | i97101 : Cinema Film Production | imed : Media/Entertainment
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HD An in-depth look into President Tate's cybersecurity and military initiative

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Louisiana State University; Baton Rouge, LA - news

By

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LSU President William F. Tate IV announced last month plans to integrate and improve LSU's cybersecurity and military science programs as part of his scholarship first initiative.

Golden Richard, director of the LSU Applied Cybersecurity Lab, and Greg Trahan, LSU's director of economic development, explained what those plans will look like in the future and how they will affect the university.

Partnerships

Richard said that some local and federal agencies are considering putting labs on LSU's campus. This would allow students to work directly with federal and local law enforcement.

Trahan said that the cybersecurity department is currently partnered with the Louisiana State Police and private defense contractor Radiance Technologies, among others. Part of Tate's plan includes expanding current partnerships as well as seeking new ones.

"At a high level, we've been in conversations with the Secret Service around digital forensics," Trahan said.

Trahan couldn't reveal more details because the partnership was not finalized, but that the Secret Service would be involved with talent development at the university.

Radiance Technologies already has a stable partnership with LSU, Trahan said. The Huntsville, Alabama-based defense contractor, has hired several LSU graduate students and previously sponsored several Ph.D. students.

Trahan said that LSU expects to finalize partnerships with the National Guard and the National Security Agency this year.

Elevating ROTC

Trahan said one of the most important parts of Tate's announcement is the elevation of ROTC.

Trahan said that Tate's plan aims to elevate ROTC in a way that honors LSU's military history as the Ole War Skule, but also looks to the future.

The elevation of ROTC is planned to be accomplished by improving recruiting and infrastructure, creating a leadership certificate program and partnering with state and private agencies for talent development.

Moving of ROTC

Eventually, ROTC, which is currently located in the Military Science Building, will be moved into the Louisiana Emerging Technology Center. Trahan could not comment on when the move will take place.

The Louisiana Emerging Technology Center will be the foundation of a new cyber-military corridor.

Mechanical engineering junior Colin Raby, who was formerly involved in Air Force ROTC, said the current Military Science Building was “in a sorry state of disrepair.”

Business junior and previous member of Air Force ROTC Austin Firmin also commented on the need for new ROTC facilities.

“[Air Force ROTC] recently had a Vietnam veteran alumnus come back and visit, and he was like ‘Dang, this building was old when I was here back in the ‘70s,’” Firmin said.

New Cyber Military Corridor

To integrate the cybersecurity and military programs, Tate’s plan designates a new Cyber Military Corridor on campus. The Louisiana Emerging Technology Center will act as the cornerstone for LSU’s new hub for cybersecurity and defense.

“That’s how you’re going to start generating really great ideas and hopefully elevating a lot of that talent,” Trahan said.

FIREStarter

Last semester, LSU announced a new program called FIREStarter, which partners with the Louisiana State Police to provide students with “an immersive cyber teaching experience that uses Louisiana data and experts as well as real-world, real-time attacks to train a new generation of cyber talent” according to the LSU cybersecurity website.

The lab has since been built, and students are taking class in it. Someone with Louisiana State Police teaches a class in the FIREStarter lab using its resources, Richard said.

Richard also mentioned a proposal for a second FIREStarter lab.

“We are asking for more funding from the state to essentially do something that will be like FIREStarter II,” Richard said. “It’ll be another lab that enhances the capabilities of that stuff and lets people learn about forensics and industrial control systems; so basically stuff you’d see on CSI.”

Richard says the industrial control system aspect is very exciting because there is a great oil, gas and chemical industry in Louisiana.

Cybersecurity Scholarships

Part of Tate’s plan to improve the cybersecurity program is to hire 10 new cybersecurity faculty members. Richard says they have identified two candidates they would like to have in place by the fall and are looking into the process of bringing these candidates in for interviews.

Richard said he expects more scholarships will be offered in the future than what is currently offered as the Office of Research solidifies partnerships with industrial agencies.

“The Office of Research in talking to these industrial and federal partners, they’re interested in making sure that there are internship opportunities for students and potentially scholarships,” Richard said.

Richard also said they are looking to grow the Scholarship for Service program.

Cybersecurity Student Response

Richard said that student interest in cybersecurity has been growing.

“When we started the cybersecurity concentration, we immediately had roughly 20 students, and now it’s way over 100 and we don’t even have the full numbers for this year,” Richard said. “It’s exploding.”

Another part of Tate’s plan is to implement a cyber boot camp for incoming computer science freshmen.

According to Anas Mahmoud, an associate professor of computer science, the boot camp will be more like a summer camp to introduce incoming freshmen to cybersecurity early on.

Mahmoud said the program will include a variety of basic exercises that don’t require a lot of coding experience or knowledge in math that introduce topics like cryptography, security, important threats facing the nation and how to defend against these threats, ethical issues and privacy. Students will also be introduced to tools that will help them in their computer science careers.

The summer camp should bring more awareness to students about cybersecurity scholarships and opportunities from the university, Mahmoud said.

Mahmoud also said he hopes the summer camp will help decrease the computer science drop-out rate.

"Most of the time, dropping out from computer science is because people come here, they don't know what the expectations are and then they get lost and they feel like they have no friends and if they could switch majors they might have a better social life," Mahmoud said. "So I'm hoping this camp will also target these problems.

((Distributed for UWIRE via M2 Communications www.m2.com))

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IN i3302 : Computers/Consumer Electronics | i330202 : Software | i3302021 : Applications Software |
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HD

**Welcome Tech Announces \$30M in New Capital,
Expands Board of Directors and Executive Team**

WC

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Amid record growth, Welcome Tech secures additional **funding**, bolsters its Board of Directors with Mónica Gil of NBCUniversal Telemundo and Michael Camuñez, former Special Counsel to President Obama, and hires its first CMO

LOS ANGELES, April 14, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- Welcome Tech (or "the Company"), a digital **platform** providing immigrant families with the tools and services required to thrive in the U.S., today announced \$30M in new capital, following an oversubscribed \$35 million Series B in April 2021. This capital was raised exclusively from existing institutional investors including TTV Capital, Owl Ventures, SoftBank Group Corp's SB Opportunity Fund, Mubadala Capital, and Next Play Capital, bringing Welcome Tech's total **funding** to date to \$70 million.

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"The immigrant community continues to be the fastest-growing group in the U.S., while remaining underserved by legacy companies," said Gosia Karas, Investment Director and Head of Growth Stage Investments at SB Opportunity Fund. "Leveraging data and technology to address its needs is Welcome Tech's superpower, and we are thrilled to continue supporting Amir, Raul and team as they scale the business."

In 2021, Welcome Tech's primary consumer platform, SABEResPODER, experienced 60 percent year-over-year growth, surpassing 3 million registered users. Welcome's digital wallet and banking services for the immigrant community saw 2200 percent growth and surpassed 1 million app downloads. This new financing will enable further expansion of Welcome Tech's product offerings and diverse team, to support the growth of its digital wallet and subscription healthcare program, and to bolster the national launch of its credit card product in the second half of 2022.

"The impact Welcome Tech's platform has on the lives of millions of people is profound," stated Ross Darwin, at Owl Ventures. "The innovative team is making a major difference in lives with critical educational resources and differentiated, valuable services. We're excited to be a part of Welcome Tech's continued hyper growth."

"Welcome Tech is building a powerful consumer platform and lifestyle brand. The company's first-party data and proprietary technology is unmatched," said Gardiner Garrard, Co-founder and Partner at TTV Capital. "This information enables the company to personally cater its products and services in a way not many others can do."

Welcome Tech has also appointed two new board members: Mónica Gil and Michael Camuñez. Mónica Gil is the EVP, Chief Administrative & Marketing Officer at NBCUniversal Telemundo Enterprises, where she leads the company's Operations, Marketing, Strategy and Insights, and Communications teams. Michael Camuñez is the current President, CEO, & Co-Founder at Monarch Global Strategies, where he advises U.S. companies in domestic and global markets. He is a former White House Special Counsel to President Obama and U.S. Assistant Secretary of Commerce.

Today, Welcome Tech is one of the most diverse teams in the industry, a key alignment to the company's core consumer and mission. Welcome Tech's Board of Directors is now over 71 percent ethnically diverse, in line with the company's leadership team. Including all full-time employees, the company's rapidly growing and changing workforce is made up of almost 50 percent diverse minorities.

Additionally, Brooke Norton Lais has joined Welcome Tech as the company's first Chief Marketing Officer. After spending several years driving digital transformation and revenue growth for emerging fintech firm, Green Dot Corporation and delivering global initiatives for Procter & Gamble Beauty, Brooke will focus on driving revenue via the development and execution of a truly unique integrated marketing strategy spanning consumer insights, advertising, growth marketing, social media, content, communications, customer lifecycle, creative and design.

"We're excited to see our investors recognize that our business model and technology give us the unique ability to deliver a major breakthrough in this market," says Amir Hemmat, Co-Founder, President & CEO of Welcome Tech. "Welcome Tech is also proud to have one of the most diverse Boards and teams in tech. We intend to continue proving that our purpose and vision can improve customers' lives, deliver sustainable business growth and attract the best talent in the world."

For more information on Welcome Tech, please visit: <https://welcome.tech/>

About Welcome Tech

Welcome Tech, an incorporated For Benefit Corporation, is the world's first digital platform to provide the global, multigenerational immigrant community with the linguistically and culturally relevant resources to thrive in a new country. Welcome Tech's unparalleled consumer insights, first-party data, and proprietary technology inform affordable, fair, and best-in-market custom solutions across key services including banking, rewards, credit, healthcare, education, and more.

The company's initial and highly reputable consumer platform, SABEResPODER, currently serves millions of Hispanics.

For additional information, please contact:

Veronica Blum

veronica.blum@welcome.tech

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SOURCE Welcome Technologies

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06:35 EDT Comcast price target lowered to \$60 from \$75 at OppenheimerOppenheimer analyst Timothy Horan lowered the firm's price target on Comcast to \$60 from \$75 and keeps an Outperform rating on the shares. The analyst also reduced his 2022 and 2023 estimates as he anticipates **Cable** to continue to weaken, which will be driven by greater subscriber losses from fixed wireless but also video and voice from less bundling. OPCO

CO comcast : Comcast Corporation

IN i79022 : Wireless Telecommunications Services | i7902 : Telecommunication Services | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

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AN Document FLYWAL0020220414ei4e008sp

SE Culture -
HD **David Bowie Documentary 'Moonage Daydream' Is Coming to Theaters, HBO**

BY Darlene Aderaju

WC 677 words

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An all-new documentary celebrating the life of late British rockstar David Bowie is nearing completion and will be released by NEON and Universal Pictures **Content** Group, the companies announced Wednesday (April 13). Titled Moonage Daydream, the film will be released by NEON in the U.S., while Universal Pictures **Content** Group has international distribution rights.

No theatrical release date has been announced, though the film is slated to premiere on HBO and HBO Max in spring 2023 via HBO Documentary Films. Theatrical engagements for Moonage Daydream — which marks the first film under a multi-picture deal between Morgen and BMG for IMAX Productions — will include IMAX screenings in select markets.

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Five years in the making, Moonage Daydream was written, directed, edited and produced by Brett Morgen, who was given “unfiltered” access to Bowie’s personal archives, including all master recordings, according to a press release. While researching the film, Morgen came across hundreds of hours of never-before-seen 35mm and 16mm footage, allowing him to assemble Bowie’s performances from these original camera masters. The resulting project is described as “an artful and life-affirming film that takes the audience on a journey through Bowie’s creative life.”

Morgen was assisted in the effort by Bowie’s long-time collaborator, friend and music producer Tony Visconti; sound mixer Paul Massey (Bohemian Rhapsody); sound engineer David Giammarco (Ford v. Ferrari); the sound design team of John Warhurst and Nina Hartstone (Bohemian Rhapsody); and visual effects producer Stefan Nadelman (Kurt Cobain: Montage of Heck).

Guided by “Bowie’s narration,” according to the release, Moonage Daydream includes 48 musical tracks mixed from their original stems and is the first film to be officially sanctioned by his estate. BMG has a 25% stake in Bowie’s songs released between 1970 to 1977, including the title song “Moonage Daydream” along with “Changes,” “Starman,” “Ziggy Stardust,” “The Jean Genie,” “All The Young Dudes,” “Life on Mars,” “Rebel Rebel,” “Fame,” “Young Americans” and “Golden Years.” The company additionally has the rights to six early Bowie recordings first released on the Pye label in 1966. BMG notes that its relationship with the Bowie catalog isn’t affected by WMG’s January acquisition of Bowie’s song catalog.

Moonage Daydream is part of an ongoing Bowie75 commemoration in honor of the icon’s life and musical legacy. Bowie died of liver cancer in January 2016 and would have turned 75 on Jan. 8, 2022.

In a statement, BMG executive vp of global repertoire Fred Casimir said, “This has been a five year labour of love to honour one of the greatest song catalogues in music history. BMG is proud to build on our long-term relationship with the David Bowie estate working hand-in-hand with our partners Live Nation Productions to bring Brett Morgen’s vision to the big screen.”

Live Nation Productions partnered with BMG on Moonage Daydream as co-financiers and executive producers. Additional executive producers on the project include Hartwig Masuch, Kathy Rivkin-Daum and Justus Haerder for BMG; Michael Rapino, Heather Parry and Ryan Kroft for Live Nation Productions; Bill Zysblat, Tom Cyrana, Aisha Cohen and Eileen D’Arcy for RZO; Billy Gerber and Debra Eisenstadt.

NEON’s Jeff Deutchman negotiated the North America deal with Kevin Koloff, as well as Karen Gottlieb of Grubman Shire Meiselas & Sacks, P.C. Submarine and WME handled sales.

Moonage Daydream is the latest documentary film project for BMG, which announced its expansion into music-related movies in 2017. Previous releases include Bad Reputation, about the life and career of Joan

Jett; David Crosby: Remember My Name, which was nominated for Best Music Film at the 62nd Grammys; DIO: Dreamers Never Die, about the life and career of Ronnie James Dio; Rudeboy: The Story of Trojan Records; and Echo In The Canyon, about the Laurel Canyon music scene of the '60s and '70s. BMG also recently partnered with Pulse and Quickfire Films to produce Lewis Capaldi's debut feature-length documentary.

CO homboi : Home Box Office, Inc. | uvsv : Universal Studios | amronl : Warner Bros. Discovery, Inc. | comcst : Comcast Corporation | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | sbcatt : AT&T Inc.

IN i971 : Audiovisual Production | i97101 : Cinema Film Production | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS gmusic : Music | gmovie : Movies | gtvrad : Television/Radio | gcat : Political/General News | gent : Arts/Entertainment

RE usa : United States | namz : North America

PUB Billboard-Hollywood Reporter Media Group

AN Document BBRD000020220414ei4d0002z

SE Awards -
HD **CMT Music Awards Score Big Increase in TV Ratings With CBS Move**

BY Rick Porter

WC 364 words

PD 13 April 2022

SN Billboard

SC BBRD

LA English

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LP

The CMT Music Awards scored huge year to year ratings increases on Monday — no surprise, since the show moved from its namesake **cable** outlet to broadcaster CBS. ABC's American Idol finished in a near-tie with the awards, with both coming in way ahead of American Song Contest on NBC.

The CMT Music Awards averaged 5.33 million viewers for CBS, almost four times the 1.43 million who watched the 2021 awards across CMT, Paramount Network and MTV (last year's show also aired on MTV2 and TV Land, but figures from those two aren't immediately available). Monday's show delivered a 0.67 rating among adults 18-49, more than doubling the 0.29 for CMT, Paramount Net and TV Land last year.

TD

By comparison, CBS' last broadcast of the ACM Awards in 2021 brought in 6.28 million viewers, which was an all-time low for the show. (The ACM Awards moved to Amazon's Prime Video this year, rendering audience figures unavailable.)

American Idol, meanwhile, put up more decent numbers for ABC. It narrowly trailed the CMT Music Awards in total viewers with 5.31 million but edged ahead in adults 18-49 with a 0.68 rating, the best of the night across broadcast and cable. The Good Doctor (3.99 million viewers, 0.39 18-49 rating) improved a bit week to week.

Fox's 911 (5.06 million viewers, 0.62 in 18-49) and 911: Lone Star (4.24 million, 0.45) were both up in total viewers from their last outing two weeks ago. American Song Contest slipped to a season-low 1.44 million viewers and matched last week's 0.28 in the 18-49 demographic on NBC; The Endgame (1.51 million, 0.21) was on par with a week ago.

Fox News' The Five (3.41 million viewers) was the most watched cable show on Monday, while WWE Monday Night Raw led the 18-49 demo with a 0.54 rating over its three hours.

This article was originally published by The Hollywood Reporter.

CO cbsbi : CBS Broadcasting Inc. | wstge : Paramount Global Inc. | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS gtvrad : Television/Radio | gmusic : Music | ccawrd : Corporate Awards | gaward : Awards | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | gcat : Political/General News | gent : Arts/Entertainment

RE usa : United States | namz : North America

PUB Billboard-Hollywood Reporter Media Group

AN Document BBRD000020220414ei4d00003

HD Comcast's Effectv taps Comscore for local TV measurement currency

BY BCS Bureau

CR Distributed by Contify.com

WC 305 words

PD 13 April 2022

SN Broadcast & CableSat

SC ATBROC

LA English

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LP

Comscore, Inc. (Nasdaq: SCOR), a partner for planning, transacting and evaluating media across platforms, and Effectv, the advertising sales division of Comcast **Cable**, announced today that Effectv will be using Comscore's local TV measurement solution as a new form of currency.

Effectv will use Comscore's audience impression-based measurement product with local advertising clients to deliver an advanced industry measurement solution for marketers.

TD

Comscore's expanded collaboration with Effectv follows its 2020 agreement with Comcast to integrate de-identified Comcast viewing data into its local and national measurement services.

"With local media emerging as a key channel for brands due to its consumer relevancy and proximity to point of purchase, there is a need for proven, more reliable approaches to measurement," said Bill Livek, CEO and Executive Vice Chair, Comscore. "We are looking forward to working with Effectv to enable advertisers to use Comscore's local TV measurement as currency to deliver that enhanced campaign reporting."

"The pace of change in media measurement continues to accelerate and advertisers today are seeking new solutions and capabilities to better understand consumer behavior and to reach and engage with them across multiple screens and devices," said James Rooke, General Manager, Effectv. "We're looking forward to working with Comscore to drive innovation and new frontiers in measurement, while offering choice and independence for our clients."

As the industry continues to reevaluate the media measurement landscape, Effectv joins other media organizations, such as Paramount, Fox Corporation, WarnerMedia, Discovery, Disney, Spectrum Reach and OpenAP, in adding Comscore as currency. This includes NBCU, which awarded Comscore audience measurement certification at its recent One22 event, allowing their NBC owned and operated stations, as well as their Telemundo stations, to use Comscore as their local market currency.

CO cocaic : Comcast Cable Communications Incorporated | comcst : Comcast Corporation | comscr : Comscore, Inc. | ccsth : Comcast Holdings Corp

IN i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | i97411 : Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment | i83952 : Market Research/Public Relations | i8395201 : Market Research/Opinion Polling | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | iadv : Advertising/Marketing/Public Relations | ibcs : Business/Consumer Services

NS ccat : Corporate/Industrial News

RE usa : United States | namz : North America

PUB ADI Media Pvt. Ltd.

AN Document ATBROC0020220414ei4d00001



HD Comcast Cable Honored as a 2022 VETS Indexes 5 Star Employer

CR Comcast Corporation

WC 286 words

PD 13 April 2022

SN 3BL Media

SC BLMD

LA English

CY Copyright 2022. 3BL Media, LLC.

LP

April 13, 2022 /3BL Media/ We're excited to announce that VETS Indexes recently recognized Comcast **Cable** as a 5 Star Employer as part of the [2022 VETS Indexes Employer Awards](#). The award recognizes our organization's commitment to recruiting, hiring, retaining, developing, and supporting veterans, National Guard and reserve service members, and military spouses.

"One of the best ways to help veterans is to connect them with fulfilling and meaningful careers at organizations where they can develop their skills and grow into senior leaders," said George Altman, Managing Director of VETS Indexes. "As a VETS Indexes 5 Star Employer, Comcast **Cable** has proven to be a welcoming home for veterans and military spouses who want to start the next phases in their lives."

TD

As the most objective and comprehensive evaluation of veteran employers, the VETS Indexes Employer Awards have been featured on CNBC, as well as military-specific outlets, including Military.com.

"It's an honor to once again be recognized by VETS Indexes as a 5 Star Employer," said Carol Eggert, Senior Vice President of Military and Veteran Affairs at Comcast NBCUniversal. "At Comcast, we take pride in creating an inclusive workforce where our military-connected teammates are each empowered to be their authentic self and to grow in their careers."

Comcast NBCUniversal is committed to hiring more members of the military community, which include veterans, National Guard and reserve members, and military spouses.

Jobseekers can explore opportunities at comcastcareers.com and nbcunicareers.com.

Tweet me: [@Comcast Cable honored as a 2022 VETS Indexes 5 Star Employer for its commitment to creating an inclusive workforce for the military community: https://bit.ly/3rcmEbl](#)

CO cocaic : Comcast Cable Communications Incorporated | comcst : Comcast Corporation | ccasth : Comcast Holdings Corp

IN i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS gcrpln : Career Planning/Management | ccawrd : Corporate Awards | nran : Rankings | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | gcat : Political/General News | gjob : General Labor Issues | ncat : Content Types

IPD Awards, Ratings & Rankings

PUB 3BL Media LLC

AN Document BLMD000020220413ei4d0008I

HD 4.2 million Universal Credit claimants eligible for new Sky broadband deal

BY Patrick O'Donnell

WC 757 words

PD 13 April 2022

ET 13:01

SN express.co.uk

SC EXCO

LA English

CY Copyright 2022

LP

MILLIONS of Universal Credit claimants may be eligible for a discount on their broadband thanks to a new deal from Sky.

'Social tariffs' are deals provided by broadband providers which are accessible to 4.2 million households across the country who are in receipt of Universal Credit. These deals could save benefit claimants £144 on their broadband bill if they get the **payment** from the DWP, according to Ofcom. However, the regulator reports that only 1.2 percent of these households who are entitled to this deal are claiming this vital means of support.

TD

Related articles

For those who take Sky's social tariff, they will only need to spend £20 a month for 18 months for 36Mb/s broadband.

As well as this, customers will be able to get Sky Pay and You Talk landline but calls made using this are chargeable.

In comparison, Sky Broadband Superfast costs customers £25 a month and is currently the cheapest offering available by the provider.

After the initial 18 months on the social tariff, customers will be moved onto a standard rate but they can cancel penalty-free at any point before their contract reaches its end.

READ MORE: State pension to hit £10,340 as triple lock saved - some get less

Recently, the country's media regulator called on broadband providers to do more to support their customers amid the cost of living crisis.

Lindsey Fussell, Ofcom's Network and Communications group director, praised Sky's decision to launch its latest deal for Universal Credit claimants.

Ms Fussell said: "We've been calling on broadband firms to do more to support customers suffering financial hardship.

"So we're pleased Sky has responded with a special discount for people on low incomes. We want to see all providers step up and offer these packages, and promote them more widely."

DON'T MISS:

Tone-deaf Tory moans about cost of living on £115k salary [REVEAL]

Rishi Sunak upset over attacks on his wife [LATEST]

Sunak's 'missed opportunity' as widespread price hikes to come [GUIDE]

READ MORE

As well as Sky, NOW has also launched a social tariff package for recipients of Universal Credit and Pension Credit.

The NOW Broadband Basics package includes wifi with an average download speed of 36Mbps and Pay as you Use calls plan included at no extra cost for £20 a month.

Anyone who applies for a social tariff via their broadband provider will need to show evidence that they claim Universal Credit or Pension Credit.

Catherine Hiley, a broadband expert at Uswitch.com, shared why social tariffs are vital support schemes for those on Universal Credit.

[READ MORE](#)

Mr Hiley explained: "The cost of living crisis is really starting to bite, so it's promising to see that other broadband providers have listened to the rallying call for more social tariffs to help vulnerable customers and taken action.

"Broadband is an essential service for most UK households, and tariffs such as these, offered by Sky and NOW, ensure it remains available to those who cannot afford full priced packages.

"With many vulnerable people having never heard of social tariffs, it is important these offers are well promoted among Sky and NOW's customers, to ensure everyone who is eligible has the chance to sign up.

"If you are not eligible for a social tariff, or the option isn't currently available in your location, there are many competitive tariffs available if you're looking to switch.

Related articles

"Before locking into a new contract, consider what speed you actually need from your broadband, so you don't overpay for a superfast service that you don't need."

Examples of other broadband companies who have deals for Universal Credit claimants include:

Broadband provider - Cost - Who can apply

BT Home Essentials - £15 a month - Multiple benefit payments

BT Home Essentials 2 - £20 a month - Multiple benefit payments

Community Fibre - £10 a month - Multiple benefit payments

G.Network Essential Fibre Broadband - £15 a month - Multiple benefit payments

Hyperoptic Fair Fibre 50 - £15 a month - Multiple benefit payments

Hyperoptic Fair Fibre 150 - £25 a month - Multiple benefit payments

KCOM Full Fibre Flex - £19.99 a month - Multiple benefit payments

Virgin Media Essential Broadband - £15 a month - Universal Credit

Related articles Britons could be missing out on DWP benefit worth £292 Unpaid carers to receive £109 more as Carer's Allowance rates increase Jobseeker's Allowance recipients more than £100 better off after rise

CO	ofcom : Office of Communications bsbro : Sky Limited comcst : Comcast Corporation
IN	i97411 : Broadcasting i9741102 : Television Broadcasting i9741110 : Satellite Broadcasting imed : Media/Entertainment isattv : Satellite Television
NS	c33 : Contracts/Orders c333 : Non-Government Contracts/Orders ccat : Corporate/Industrial News ncat : Content Types nfact : Factiva Filters nfcpin : C&E Industry News Filter
RE	uk : United Kingdom eurz : Europe weurz : Western Europe
PUB	Express Newspapers
AN	Document EXCO000020220413ei4d003bk

HD Effectv to use Comscore's local TV measurement platform

WC 105 words

PD 13 April 2022

SN Telecompaper Americas

SC TELAM

LA English

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LP

Comscore and Effectv, the advertising sales division of Comcast Cable, announced that Effectv will use Comscore's local TV measurement platform as a new form of currency. Effectv will use Comscore's audience impression-based measurement product with local advertising clients to deliver an advanced industry measurement platform for marketers.

Comscore's expanded collaboration with Effectv follows its 2020 agreement with Comcast to integrate deidentified Comcast viewing data into its local and national measurement services.

TD

Effectv joins other media organisations, such as Paramount, Fox Corporation, WarnerMedia, Discovery, Disney, Spectrum Reach and OpenAP, in adding Comscore as currency.

CO amronl : Warner Bros. Discovery, Inc. | cocaic : Comcast Cable Communications Incorporated | foxnqw : Fox Corporation | comcst : Comcast Corporation | comscr : Comscore, Inc. | ccasth : Comcast Holdings Corp | sbcatt : AT&T Inc.

IN i7902 : Telecommunication Services | i83952 : Market Research/Public Relations | i8395201 : Market Research/Opinion Polling | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | iadv : Advertising/Marketing/Public Relations | ibcs : Business/Consumer Services | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS ccat : Corporate/Industrial News

RE namz : North America | usa : United States

PUB Telecompaper BV

AN Document TELAM00020220413ei4d0005p

The Official Board

HD Comcast **Cable** - The organizational chart displays its 39 executives, including David Watson and Greg Butz

WC 801 words

PD 12 April 2022

SN The Official Board

SC OFBOAR

LA English

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LP

In the Broadcasting industry, there are 536 large companies in 47 countries, with a total of 7,997 top executives. Within those companies, 3,385 executive movements have been recorded in the last 12 months.

Company: Comcast **Cable**

TD

URL: corporate.comcast.com/our-company/businesses/comcast-cable

Industry: Broadcasting

Comcast Cable is a subsidiary of Comcast. Comcast Cable has 5 subsidiaries, including Comcast Cable Northeast Division and Comcast Cable Central Division.

Name: David Watson

Title: President and Chief Executive Officer

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/david-watson-9g652>

Name: Greg Butz

Title: President, Connectivity Services and Consumer Experience

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/greg-butz-1g57g>

Name: Kevin Casey

Title: President of Northeast Division

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/kevin-casey-d5g8e>

Name: Steve White

Title: President, Special Counsel to the Chief Executive Officer

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/steve-white-5e02e>

Name: Rich Jennings

Title: President of West Division

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/rich-jennings-3e237>

Name: Charlie Herrin

Title: President, Technology, Product and Experience

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/charlie-herrin-5d62d>

Name: Bill Connors

Title: President of Xfinity

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/bill-connors-8ed91>

Name: Steven Croney

Title: Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/steven-croney-g1201>

Name: Greg Rigdon

Title: President, Content Acquisition

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/greg-rigdon-835g3>

Name: Marcien Jenckes

Title: President, Advertising

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/marcien-jenckes-2gd6g>

Name: William Stemper

Title: President of Comcast Business Services

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/william-stemper-958d5>

Name: Christine Whitaker

Title: President, Central Division

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/christine-whitaker-026d2>

Name: Lynn Charytan

Title: Executive Vice President and General Counsel

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/lynn-charytan-238g4>

Name: William Strahan

Title: Executive Vice President, Human Resources

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/william-strahan-e8431>

Name: Peter Kiriacoulacos

Title: Chief Procurement Officer and Executive Vice President

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/peter-kiriacoulacos-50e90>

Name: Samuel Schwartz

Title: Executive Vice President, Chief Business Development Officer

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/samuel-schwartz-g5135>

Name: Loren Hudson

Title: Senior Vice President and Chief Diversity Officer

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/loren-hudson-732ed>

Name: Mark McKee

Title: General Manager

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/mark-mckee-023e2>

Name: Rick Rioboli

Title: Executive Vice President and Chief Information Officer

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/rick-rioboli-3gde6>

Name: Anthony Biggs

Title: Vice President, Operations

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/anthony-biggs-0g1eg>

Name: Jan Hofmeyr

Title: Executive Vice President and Chief Network Officer

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/jan-hofmeyr-25d36>

Name: Troy Griffin

Title: Vice President of National Center of Expertise Strategy and Operations

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/troy-griffin-215e1>

Name: Kalyn Hove

Title: Senior Vice President of Twin Cities Region

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/kalyn-hove-082e1>

Name: Matt Hull

Title: Senior Vice President, Enterprise Business Intelligence

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/matt-hull-d4d59>

Name: Jerome Butler

Title: Vice President of Technical Operations

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/jerome-butler-d0de7>

Name: Tom Kearney

Title: Regional Vice President of Network Maintenance

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/tom-kearney-1g37g>

Name: Dennis Mathew

Title: Senior Vice President of Freedom Region

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/dennis-mathew-d9d72>

Name: Ed Brassel

Title: Executive Vice President of Enterprise Business Intelligence

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/ed-brassel-05e61>

Name: Carlyne Hannan

Title: Senior Vice President of Western New England Region

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/carolyne-hannan-12d82>

Name: Tom Karinshak

Title: Executive Vice President, Customer Service

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/tom-karinshak-250g8>

Name: Premal Shah

Title: Director, Strategic Development

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/premal-shah-675e6>

Name: Peter Armstong

Title: Vice Preseident, Global Audit International

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/peter-armstong-5974d>

Name: Marge Jackson

Title: Senior Vice President, Sales & Multicultural Symphony

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/marge-jackson-28e58>

Name: Laura Cullen

Title: Vice President, Analytics and Customer Experience

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/laura-cullen-437e3>

Name: James Rooke

Title: General Manager, Effectv

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/james-rooke-e7418>

Name: Martha Soehren

Title: Chief Talent Development Officer and Senior Vice President

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/martha-soehren-639e3>

Name: Russell Carter

Title: Regional Vice President, Finance and Accounting

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/russell-carter-g1342>

Name: Tim Nester

Title: Senior Vice President of Financial Operations

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/tim-nester-17e37>

Name: Matthew Zelesko

Title: Chief Technology Officer

Biography: <http://www.theofficialboard.com/biography/matthew-zelesko-d3d51>

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CO cocaic : Comcast Cable Communications Incorporated | comcst : Comcast Corporation | ccasth : Comcast Holdings Corp

IN i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS cboard : Board of Directors | csImc : Senior Level Management | nimage : Images | c41 : Management | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters | nfcpin : C&E Industry News Filter

RE usa : United States | namz : North America

PUB Alta Data

AN Document OFBOAR0020220418ei4c00153



SE TV -
HD **TV Ratings: CMT Music Awards Score Big Increase With CBS Move**

BY Rick Porter

WC 364 words

PD 12 April 2022

SN Hollywood Reporter

SC HLYW

LA English

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LP

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Bookmark [THR.com/Ratings](https://www.thr.com/ratings) for more ratings news and numbers.

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RE usa : United States | namz : North America

PUB Billboard-Hollywood Reporter Media Group

AN Document HLYW000020220413ei4c00006

HD Comcast's Ad Sales Unit Effectv Inks Local TV 'Currency' Deal With Comscore
WC 291 words

PD 12 April 2022

ET 20:58

SN MediaPost.com

SC MPC

LA English

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LP

Effectv, the advertising sales division of Comcast **Cable**, has extend a deal with Comscore's local TV measurement product to be a "new form of currency" for Comcast's local **cable** TV advertising deals.

With the deal, Effectv will use Comscore's audience impression-based measurement product for local advertising clients.

TD

This follows up on a deal Comcast made with Comscore two years ago to integrate de-identified Comcast set-top-box cable TV viewing data into Comscore's local and national measurement services. Comcast Cable is the largest U.S. cable system operator with 18.2 million subscribers at the end of 2021.

In 2021, local cable TV advertising revenue at Comcast Cable was up 8.7% to \$2.8 billion over the previous year.

Concerning its relationship with Nielsen, a Comcast representative tells Television News Daily:

"Nielsen continues as a measurement partner of Effectv. Today's news isn't about selecting Comscore as Effectv's one and only measurement currency provider. From a macro/industry perspective, we want to be able to support buyers who want to use Comscore as their preferred measurement provider."

Comscore has made made similar deals with other media organizations -- including Paramount, Fox Corporation, WarnerMedia, Discovery, Disney, Spectrum Reach and OpenAP -- that have added Comscore as a "currency" for doing business with TV advertisers.

This also includes sister Comcast Corp company NBCUniversal, the TV/movie/media company that has anointed Comscore as its local TV market currency for its NBC owned-and-operated stations, and its Telemundo stations.

Effectv sells TV and digital media advertising time to local, regional and national marketers in in 66 markets with nearly 35 million owned and represented subscribers.

CO cocaic : Comcast Cable Communications Incorporated | comcst : Comcast Corporation | comscr : Comscore, Inc. | ccasth : Comcast Holdings Corp

IN i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | i8382 : TV Advertising | i838 : Advertising Services | i97411 : Broadcasting | iadv : Advertising/Marketing/Public Relations | ibcs : Business/Consumer Services | imark : Marketing | imed : Media/Entertainment | i83952 : Market Research/Public Relations | i8395201 : Market Research/Opinion Polling

NS c1513 : Sales Figures | c32 : Advertising | c15 : Financial Performance | c151 : Earnings | c31 : Marketing | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters | nfcpin : C&E Industry News Filter

RE usa : United States | namz : North America

PUB MediaPost Communications

AN Document MPC0000020220413ei4c00005

HD Comcast's Ad Sales Unit Effectv Inks Local TV 'Currency' Deal With Comscore
WC 289 words

PD 12 April 2022

ET 20:58

SN MediaPost.com

SC MPC

LA English

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In 2021, local cable TV advertising revenue at Comcast Cable was up 8.7% to \$2.8 billion over the previous year.

Concerning its relationship with Nielsen, a Comcast representative tells Television News Daily:

"Nielsen continues as a measurement partner of Effectv. Today's news isn't about selecting Comscore as Effectv's one and only measurement currency provider. From a macro/industry perspective, we want to be able to support buyers who want to use Comscore as their preferred measurement provider."

Effectv touts other media organizations -- including Paramount, Fox Corporation, WarnerMedia, Discovery, Disney, Spectrum Reach and OpenAP -- that have added Comscore as a "currency" for doing business with TV advertisers.

This also includes sister Comcast Corp company NBCUniversal, the TV/movie/media company that has anointed Comscore as its local TV market currency for its NBC owned-and-operated stations, and its Telemundo stations.

Effectv sells TV and digital media advertising time to local, regional and national marketers in in 66 markets with nearly 35 million

owned and represented subscribers.

CO cocaic : Comcast Cable Communications Incorporated | comcst : Comcast Corporation | comscr : Comscore, Inc. | ccasth : Comcast Holdings Corp

IN i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | i8382 : TV Advertising | i838 : Advertising Services | i97411 : Broadcasting | iadv : Advertising/Marketing/Public Relations | ibcs : Business/Consumer Services | imark : Marketing | imed : Media/Entertainment | i83952 : Market Research/Public Relations | i8395201 : Market Research/Opinion Polling

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RE usa : United States | namz : North America

PUB	MediaPost Communications
AN	Document MPC0000020220412ei4c000e2

HD Comcast's Ad Sales Unit Effectv Inks Local TV 'Currency' Deal With Comscore
WC 229 words

PD 12 April 2022

ET 20:58

SN MediaPost.com

SC MPC

LA English

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LP

Effectv, the local advertising sales division of Comcast **Cable**, has struck a deal with Comscore, for its local TV measurement product, to be a "new form of currency" for Comcast's local **cable** TV advertising deals.

With the deal, Effectv will use Comscore's audience impression-based measurement product for local advertising clients.

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This agreement follows up on a deal Effectv made with Comscore two years ago to integrate de-identified Comcast set-top-box cable TV viewing data into Comscore's local and national measurement services. Comcast Cable is the largest U.S. cable system operator with 18.2 million subscribers at the end of 2021.

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CO amronl : Warner Bros. Discovery, Inc. | cocaic : Comcast Cable Communications Incorporated | foxnqw : Fox Corporation | comcst : Comcast Corporation | comscr : Comscore, Inc. | ccasth : Comcast Holdings Corp | sbcatt : AT&T Inc.

IN i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | i8382 : TV Advertising | i838 : Advertising Services | i97411 : Broadcasting | iadv : Advertising/Marketing/Public Relations | ibcs : Business/Consumer Services | imark : Marketing | imed : Media/Entertainment | i83952 : Market Research/Public Relations | i8395201 : Market Research/Opinion Polling | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting

NS c1513 : Sales Figures | c32 : Advertising | c15 : Financial Performance | c151 : Earnings | c31 : Marketing | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters | nfcpin : C&E Industry News Filter

RE usa : United States | namz : North America

PUB MediaPost Communications

AN Document MPC0000020220412ei4c000b9

HD Comcast To Use Comscore Data To Sell Local **Cable** Ads

BY Jon Lafayette

WC 203 words

PD 12 April 2022

SN Broadcasting & Cable

SC BDCTCA

LA English

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LP

Nielsen competitor gains ground in local markets

Comcast's ad sales unit said it will use local audience measurement data from Comscore as a currency for selling local **cable** TV ads.

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"The pace of change in media measurement continues to accelerate and advertisers today are seeking new solutions and capabilities to better understand consumer behavior and to reach and engage with them across multiple screens and devices," said James Rooke, general manager of [Comcast's Effectv](#). "We're looking forward to working with Comscore to drive innovation and new frontiers in measurement, while offering choice and independence for our clients."

Comscore is among the measurement companies media companies are turning to as they see alternatives to Nielsen. Comscore appears to be particularly competitive with Nielsen in measuring local market ratings.

[Also: The Front-Runner: How iSpot Became a Favorite To Claim Nielsen's Measurement Crown](#)

"With local media emerging as a key channel for brands due to its consumer relevancy and proximity to point of purchase, there is a need for proven, more reliable approaches to measurement," said Bill Livek, who [announced plans to step down](#) as CEO of Comscore. ■

[Effectv \(Effectv\)](#)

CO comcast : Comcast Corporation | comscr : Comscore, Inc. | vnu : The Nielsen Company BV | nlsnhb : Nielsen Holdings plc

IN i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment | i83952 : Market Research/Public Relations | i8395201 : Market Research/Opinion Polling | i8395463 : Digital Content Services | i8395465 : Multimedia Content Services | iadv : Advertising/Marketing/Public Relations | ibcs : Business/Consumer Services | idistr : Media Content Distribution | iint : Online Service Providers | itech : Technology

NS ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | gtvrad : Television/Radio | gcat : Political/General News | gent : Arts/Entertainment

PUB New Bay Media

AN Document BDCTCA0020220412ei4c000b7

HD Press Release: Comcast's Effectv Taps Comscore for Local TV Measurement Currency**WC** 543 words**PD** 12 April 2022**ET** 16:44**SN** Dow Jones Institutional News**SC** DJDN**LA** English**CY** Copyright © 2022, Dow Jones & Company, Inc.**LP**

Comcast's Effectv Taps Comscore for Local TV Measurement Currency

The agreement offers Effectv's advertiser clients choice in their selection of a measurement currency **platform**.

TD

NEW YORK--(BUSINESS WIRE)--April 12, 2022--

Comscore, Inc. (Nasdaq: SCOR), a partner for planning, transacting and evaluating media across platforms, and Effectv, the advertising sales division of Comcast Cable, announced today that Effectv will be using Comscore's local TV measurement solution as a new form of currency.

Effectv will use Comscore's audience impression-based measurement product with local advertising clients to deliver an advanced industry measurement solution for marketers.

Comscore's expanded collaboration with Effectv follows its 2020 agreement with Comcast to integrate de-identified Comcast viewing data into its local and national measurement services.

"With local media emerging as a key channel for brands due to its consumer relevancy and proximity to point of purchase, there is a need for proven, more reliable approaches to measurement," said Bill Livek, CEO and Executive Vice Chair, Comscore. "We are looking forward to working with Effectv to enable advertisers to use Comscore's local TV measurement as currency to deliver that enhanced campaign reporting."

"The pace of change in media measurement continues to accelerate and advertisers today are seeking new solutions and capabilities to better understand consumer behavior and to reach and engage with them across multiple screens and devices," said James Rooke, General Manager, Effectv. "We're looking forward to working with Comscore to drive innovation and new frontiers in measurement, while offering choice and independence for our clients."

As the industry continues to reevaluate the media measurement landscape, Effectv joins other media organizations, such as Paramount, Fox Corporation, WarnerMedia, Discovery, Disney, Spectrum Reach and OpenAP, in adding Comscore as currency. This includes NBCU, which awarded Comscore audience measurement certification at its recent One22 event, allowing their NBC owned and operated stations, as well as their Telemundo stations, to use Comscore as their local market currency.

About Comscore

Comscore (NASDAQ: SCOR) is a trusted partner for planning, transacting and evaluating media across platforms. With a data footprint that combines digital, linear TV, over-the-top and theatrical viewership intelligence with advanced audience insights, Comscore allows media buyers and sellers to quantify their multi-screen behavior and make business decisions with confidence. A proven leader in measuring digital and TV audiences and advertising at scale, Comscore is the industry's emerging, third-party source for reliable and comprehensive cross-platform measurement.

About Effectv

Effectv, the advertising sales division of Comcast Cable, helps local, regional and national advertisers use the best of digital with the power of TV to grow their business. It provides multi-screen marketing solutions to make advertising campaigns more effective and easier to execute. Headquartered in New York with offices throughout the country, Effectv has a presence in 66 markets with nearly 35 million owned and represented subscribers. For more information, visit www.effectv.com.

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(END) Dow Jones Newswires

April 12, 2022 11:44 ET (15:44 GMT)

CO cocaic : Comcast Cable Communications Incorporated | comcst : Comcast Corporation | comscr : Comscore, Inc. | ccsth : Comcast Holdings Corp

IN i8382 : TV Advertising | ibcs : Business/Consumer Services | i838 : Advertising Services | iadv : Advertising/Marketing/Public Relations | imark : Marketing | i83952 : Market Research/Public Relations | i8395201 : Market Research/Opinion Polling | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS c32 : Advertising | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | neqac : Equities Asset Class News | npress : Press Releases | c333 : Non-Government Contracts/Orders | c31 : Marketing | c33 : Contracts/Orders | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters | nfcpin : C&E Industry News Filter

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PUB Dow Jones & Company, Inc.

AN Document DJDN000020220412ei4c0039t

HD Comcast's Effectv Taps Comscore for Local TV Measurement Currency**WC** 526 words**PD** 12 April 2022**ET** 16:44**SN** Business Wire**SC** BWR**LA** English**CY** (c) 2022 Business Wire. All Rights Reserved.**LP**

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SOURCE:

Comscore, Inc.

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CO cocaic : Comcast Cable Communications Incorporated | comscr : Comscore, Inc. | comcst : Comcast Corporation | ccsth : Comcast Holdings Corp

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NS c32 : Advertising | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | npres : Press Releases | c31 : Marketing | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters | nfcpin : C&E Industry News Filter

RE usa : United States | namz : North America

PUB Business Wire, Inc.

AN Document BWR0000020220412ei4c000hd

HD Comcast pitches smart solutions for clever cities

BY Phil Harvey

WC 1,112 words

PD 11 April 2022

SN Light Reading

SC LITEREAD

LA English

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LP

Comcast [unveiled Comcast Smart Solutions](#) last week, a new business unit to address the unique needs of **connectivity** and IoT solutions business for cities, communities and campuses.

The company said it will provide **connectivity** and consulting services

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using parts of its vast empire of acquired and internally formed businesses; these include Comcast Business, Xfinity Communities and its enterprise IoT unit, MachineQ.

In Pennsylvania, the cableco said it has been using Philadelphia's Midtown Village neighborhood as a proving ground for its new approach.

[Click here to view Figure 1.](#)

In a recent blog post, Comcast said it was "installing smart streetlights with built-in optical and environmental sensors that can count pedestrians, vehicles, bicyclists, and parked vehicles, and measure temperature, relative humidity, and carbon monoxide."

No more hiding somewhere in the night

Philadelphia's Smart City director, Emily Yates, told the crowd assembled at the Smart Cities Connect conference last week that her city will [continue to be careful](#) with the kind of data that it can collect by monitoring people in public spaces.

During a keynote panel Yates was joined by Comcast's SVP, Community Connections, Stephen Hackley. Both said that there was no personally identifiable information (PII) being collected during this pilot program.

The sensors are looking to see whether objects on a street or sidewalk are pedestrians, vehicles or something else. They're looking to see if an object is a bike, not a Schwinn, according to Hackley.

US Ignite, the government-based nonprofit [that helped match](#) Philadelphia's needs and Comcast's capabilities, had a role in making sure both sides of the pilot program, [called SmartBlockPHL](#), worked well together.

US Ignite's senior director of partnerships and outreach, Mari Silbey (a former Light Reading editor), moderated last week's conference panel and asked Hackley and Yates about what's changed in the relationship between the city of Philadelphia and Comcast.

Hackley's answer ticked all the right boxes. He talked about long-term

relationships with cities, not just rushing to ring up sales.

"It will scale when it's ready to scale and I think the people who are participating in this movement need to understand that they need to have that staying power," Hackley said.

"This can be sort of a quick flash - let's be transactional - because

things move around on us just a bit."

The "movement," has Hackley called it, is nothing new. Telcos have tried to crack the code of selling smart cities solutions before, though they primarily were focused on speeding up small cell installations to boost their 5G networks. Most telco smart city efforts have never lived up to their own hype or expectations.

[Click here to view Figure 2.](#)

The journey, and the destination

If Comcast's new business unit has the autonomy to work and treat cities as something more than a large collection of poles for holding 5G radios, it could succeed. Comcast does have a deep bench of IoT expertise, media and consumer home networking in-house.

On paper, it has the ability to supply more than just connectivity, which, in turn, helps it connect more things to its network.

Though Comcast dominates consumer living rooms and the media landscape, Hackley said that company's approach to smart cities will be to foster collaboration.

"We're not trying to invent new technologies or go back into the lab and do it all ourselves," he said.

"We think it's too new, too early. And so we favor bringing the right solution providers to bear and the right integrators and the right consultancies to solve problems."

The SmartBlockPHL pilot has been, Yates said, a testament to Comcast's patience and flexibility. The project first was centered around stopping illegal dumping in a part of town with high foot traffic and lots of restaurants and retail.

But the pandemic hit, and the approach now focuses on understanding how citizens, who are now doing more outside after COVID-19 lockdowns, are using public spaces.

Want to know more about the Internet of Things? Check out our [dedicated IoT content channel](#) here on Light Reading.

During that time, the city said it was eager to replace 100,000 aging street light fixtures with new LED lights and better technology. Comcast's patience could yet pay off with the scale that Hackley mentioned earlier.

Indeed, Comcast seems to understand that its approach will help it succeed in smart cities applications where many telcos couldn't.

"We know that at the heart of every smart city smart solution is a network and Comcast kind of does network well, whether it's broadband and fiber, Ethernet or CBRS or WiFi," Hackley said.

That Hackley at least mentioned using the right kind of network for the problem, not just answering every question with "5G," is another encouraging sign.

"So, at the heart, we feel like this is a market that we are credentialed to be in," Hackley said on the panel.

"And as we look at where there's growth and excitement, this is a terrific place for us to put a stake in the ground and build a new practice within Comcast."

Some will win, some will lose

Even with the success of SmartBlockPHL, the program's future is still up in the air. The pilot program is expected to run through July. Yates [said in a LinkedIn post](#) that her last day on the job was Friday, April 8.

Now Philly is looking for a new Smart Cities Director who will be charged with picking up the pieces of this and other city pilots, making some sense of them in a broader strategy and making sure they don't run over budget.

[Click to view video.](#)

Meanwhile, Comcast is not just waiting on one city to find a way to make money in this game. The company said it has several pilots and solutions in various stages of completion at Arlington County, Virginia; College Park, Georgia; Pleasanton, California; and Moraga, also in California.

The solutions include using sensors in streetlights and other city-owned fixtures to do everything from counting vehicles, pedestrians and environmental analysis.

Related stories and links:

- * [Rogers puts more weight behind enterprise IoT](#)
- * [Verizon's mmWave 5G deployment continues to polarize](#)
- * [US Ignite, NSF name 7 'Project Overcome' winners to take on the digital divide](#)
- * [Amazon Sidewalk quietly walks on](#)
- * [Verizon, AT&T redraw smart city efforts](#)
- * [How Vegas built an LTE network in 45 days, and what it might do next](#)
- * [Comcast's enterprise IoT unit sets sail for scale](#)
- [Phil Harvey](#), Editor-in-Chief,

[Light Reading](#)

CT	harvey@lightreading.com
CO	comcast : Comcast Corporation
IN	iiot : Internet-of-Things Technologies i3302 : Computers/Consumer Electronics i3303 : Networking itech : Technology i97411 : Broadcasting i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting imed : Media/Entertainment
NS	gsmart : Smart City Development gcat : Political/General News gpir : Politics/International Relations gplan : Urban/Rural Planning gpol : Domestic Politics greg : Regional Politics
RE	namz : North America phili : Philadelphia usa : United States use : Northeast U.S. uspa : Pennsylvania
IPD	Topics
PUB	Light Reading
AN	Document LITEREAD20220412ei4b0000a

HD **Awkwafina voices tech-savvy spidey in Dreamworks Animation's 'The Bad Guys'**

WC 521 words

PD 11 April 2022

SN Business Mirror

SC ABUSMR

LA English

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LP

In the new action-comedy The Bad Guys from DreamWorks Animation, based on The New York Times best-selling book series, a crackerjack criminal crew of animal outlaws are about to attempt their most challenging con yet-becoming model citizens.

Awkwafina lends voice to the tech-savvy Ms. Tarantula along with an immensely talented voice cast in the action animated feature film - Sam Rockwell as the dashing pickpocket **Mr.** Wolf, Marc Maron as the adroit safecracker **Mr.** Snake, Craig Robinson as the master-of-disguise **Mr.** Shark and Anthony Ramos as the short-fused muscle **Mr.** Piranha.

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Sharp-tongued, genius hacker and expert multi-tasker, the most independent member of the gang, Ms. Tarantula is always quick with the comebacks. As the gang's only female member, she doesn't cut the 'Guys' any slack. She prides herself on perfection. When she encounters an un-hackable code, she goes into 'beast mode'-employing her eight legs to achieve super-cyber decrypting speeds.

Ms. Tarantula in 'The Bad Guys'

In Aaron Blabey's book series, Tarantula is actually a 'Mr.' But when adapting the story for the screen, Blabey was supportive of the filmmakers switching the character to be a kick-butt female techie.

Producer Rebecca Huntley has loved audiences' reception to Ms. Tarantula. 'One of the surprising things was how parents responded to the fact that Ms. Tarantula was representing women and girls in S.T.E.M. She's a cool, confident hacker, and to have audiences see her as a role model in that regard was wonderful.'

She was thrilled to join such a brilliant group of fellow voice performers, as well as occasionally work alongside them-a rarity in animation. 'This is a stacked cast of brilliant actors, and I'm a huge fan of all my fellow Bad Guys,' Awkwafina says. 'When I heard who was going to be in it, I was mind-blown.'

The actor enjoyed playing a character who is not unconstrained by societal rules. 'The Bad Guys are pretty much the villains of everything,' Awkwafina says. 'They scare people out of restaurants, which I imagine would be great because you could get a table anywhere. As a group of friends, they do quite like each other. Because they're such outcasts in the world, they relish in who they are.'

Additionally, Awkwafina admired how deftly the source material and the script balanced joyful imagination and poignant themes. 'The story is pretty existential, and these are characters with sincere dilemmas,' Awkwafina says. 'It is symbolic of how we, as humans, see ourselves, how society does and how we embody that-until we realize that we don't have to be defined by certain things. I like the way that The Bad Guys plays with aspects of good and bad. Those are two terms that we see misconstrued all the time. We see people that look bad but aren't, as well as people who look good but aren't.'

A Universal Pictures International release, The Bad Guys will open in cinemas on April 27.

CO dwaskg : DreamWorks Animation SKG Inc | comcst : Comcast Corporation | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC

IN i971 : Audiovisual Production | i97101 : Cinema Film Production | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS gmovie : Movies | gcens : Censorship | ganimf : Animated Films | gcat : Political/General News | gcom : Society/Community | gent : Arts/Entertainment | ghum : Human Rights/Civil Liberties

RE phlns : Philippines | apacz : Asia Pacific | asiaz : Asia | devgcoz : Emerging Market Countries | dvpcoz :
Developing Economies | seasiaz : Southeast Asia

PUB Philippine Business Daily Mirror Publishing Inc.

AN Document ABUSMR0020220412ei4b0001e

HD Comcast **Cable** Communications LLC; Patent Issued for Systems, methods, and apparatuses for device routing management (USPTO 11284330)

WC 1,890 words

PD 11 April 2022

SN Internet Weekly News

SC INTWKN

PG 570

LA English

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2022 APR 11 (VerticalNews) -- By a News Reporter-Staff News Editor at Internet Weekly News -- A patent by the inventors Sharma, Sanjay Kumar (Downingtown, PA, US), Siddalinga, Prasad Ramanahally (Wayne, PA, US), Stephens, Billy (West Chester, PA, US), filed on June 1, 2020, was published online on March 22, 2022, according to news reporting originating from Alexandria, Virginia, by VerticalNews correspondents.

Patent number 11284330 is assigned to Comcast **Cable** Communications LLC (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States).

TD

The following quote was obtained by the news editors from the background information supplied by the inventors: "As wireless communication becomes more ubiquitous, the number of access points for a given network are increasing. Residential as well as commercial locations rely on multiple access points, such as repeaters, to extend wireless communication capabilities throughout a location. Some forms of wireless communication, such as voice over Wi-Fi ("VoWiFi") calls, demand a low level of communication latency in order to properly function. When a user device travels within a location using one or more access point during a VoWiFi call on a wireless network, call failures or handoffs to a cellular network may occur if the wireless network does not properly route incoming network traffic to the user device as it disassociates with a first access point and subsequently associates with a second access point. These and other considerations are addressed by the systems, methods, and apparatuses described herein."

In addition to the background information obtained for this patent, VerticalNews journalists also obtained the inventors' summary information for this patent: "It is to be understood that both the following general description and the following detailed description are exemplary and explanatory only and are not restrictive, as claimed. Provided are methods and systems for device routing management. An access point for a wireless network may monitor network traffic and determine a type of network traffic for each packet of data processed by the wireless network. For example, the access point may determine that a number of packets addressed to a client device are considered a high-priority traffic type, such as traffic associated with a voice over Wi-Fi call. The access point may determine that the client device has associated with another access point. The access point, or the client device, may send a message to a gateway and/or other access point associated with the wireless network. As an example, the access point, or the client device, may send a gratuitous address resolution protocol ("ARP") message to any gateway and/or other access point with which the access point, or the client device, communicates. Each gateway and/or access point may have an ARP cache table that stores information regarding wireless connections between it and each device of the wireless network with which it communicates. The gratuitous ARP message may cause each ARP cache table of each gateway and/or access point associated to be updated to indicate the client device has associated with the other access point, thereby enabling proper routing of network traffic to the client device.

"Additional advantages will be set forth in part in the description which follows or may be learned by practice. The advantages will be realized and attained by means of the elements and combinations particularly pointed out in the appended claims."

The claims supplied by the inventors are:

"1. A method comprising: determining, by a first device of a plurality of devices, that a portion of network traffic at the first device comprises voice call data received from a user device via WiFi; determining that the user device is no longer in communication with the first device; and sending, via the first device, based on: the user device no longer being in communication with the first device, and the portion of network traffic being voice call data, an address resolution protocol (ARP) message to each device of the plurality

of devices, wherein the ARP message comprises a network mapping between an identifier of the user device and an identifier of a second device of the plurality of devices, and wherein the ARP message causes each device of the plurality of devices to update an ARP table entry to indicate the user device has associated with the second device.

"2. The method of claim 1, wherein determining that the portion of network traffic at the first device comprises voice call data received from the user device via WiFi comprises: determining, based on one or more of: a size of a packet associated with the portion of network traffic, a protocol type associated with the portion of network traffic, a frequency of receipt of packets associated with the protocol type, or a destination of the packet associated with the portion of network traffic, that the portion of network traffic comprises voice call data received from the user device via WiFi.

"3. The method of claim 1, wherein the identifier of the second device comprises a media access controller (MAC) address.

"4. The method of claim 1, wherein the identifier of the user device comprises an internet protocol (IP) address.

"5. The method of claim 1, wherein a third device of the plurality of devices is a gateway device.

"6. The method of claim 5, wherein the ARP table entry comprises a time-to-live element indicative of a defined period of time that is based on the portion of network traffic being voice call data, and wherein the time-to-live element causes the third device to update the ARP table entry once the defined period of time has elapsed.

"7. The method of claim 5, further comprising: receiving, by the third device, downstream network traffic addressed to the identifier of the user device; and sending, via the third device, based on the identifier of the second device, the downstream network traffic to the second device.

"8. A method comprising: receiving, from a first device of a plurality of devices, an indication that a portion of network traffic at the first device comprises voice call data received from a user device via WiFi; associating, by a second device of the plurality of devices, with the user device; and sending, via the second device, based on: the indication that the portion of network traffic at the first device comprises voice call data received from the user device via WiFi, and the user device having associated with the second device, an address resolution protocol (ARP) message to each device of the plurality of devices, wherein the ARP message comprises a network mapping between an identifier of the user device and an identifier of the second device, and wherein the ARP message causes each device of the plurality of devices to update an entry of an ARP table to indicate the user device has associated with the second device.

"9. The method of claim 8, further comprising: determining, by the first device, that the portion of network traffic comprises voice call data received from the user device via WiFi; and determining, by the first device, based on one or more of: a size of a packet associated with the portion of network traffic, a protocol type associated with the portion of network traffic, a frequency of receipt of packets associated with the protocol type, or a destination of the packet associated with the portion of network traffic, that the portion of network traffic comprises voice call data received from the user device via WiFi.

"10. The method of claim 8, wherein the identifier of the second device comprises a media access controller (MAC) address.

"11. The method of claim 8, wherein the identifier of the user device comprises an internet protocol (IP) address.

"12. The method of claim 8, wherein a third device of the plurality of devices is a gateway device.

"13. The method of claim 12, wherein the entry of the ARP table comprises a time-to-live element indicative of a defined period of time that is based on the portion of network traffic being voice call data, wherein the time-to-live element causes the third device to update the ARP table once the defined period of time has elapsed.

"14. The method of claim 12, further comprising: receiving, by the third device, downstream network traffic addressed to the identifier of the user device; and sending, via the third device, based on the identifier of the second device, the downstream network traffic to the second device.

"15. A method comprising: determining, by a user device, that a portion of network traffic at the user device comprises voice call data sent or received via WiFi; associating, by the user device, with a first device of a plurality of devices; and sending, via the user device to the first device, based on: the user device having associated with the first device, and the portion of network traffic at the user device

comprising voice call data sent or received via WiFi, an address resolution protocol (ARP) message comprising a network mapping between an identifier of the user device and an identifier of the first device, wherein the first device causes each device of the plurality of devices, based on the ARP message, to update an ARP table entry to indicate the user device has associated with the first device.

"16. The method of claim 15, further comprising: sending, via the first device, the ARP message to each device of the plurality of devices.

"17. The method of claim 15, wherein determining that the portion of network traffic at the user device comprises voice call data sent or received via WiFi comprises: determining, by the user device, based on one or more of: a size of a packet associated with the portion of network traffic, a protocol type associated with the portion of network traffic, a frequency of receipt of packets associated with the protocol type, or a destination of the packet associated with the portion of network traffic, that the portion of network traffic at the user device comprises voice call data sent or received via WiFi.

"18. The method of claim 15, wherein the identifier of the user device comprises one or more of a media access controller (MAC) address or an internet protocol (IP) address.

"19. The method of claim 15, wherein a second device of the plurality of devices is a gateway device.

"20. The method of claim 19, further comprising: receiving, by the second device, downstream network traffic addressed to the identifier of the user device; and sending, via the second device, based the identifier of the first device, the downstream network traffic to the first device."

URL and more information on this patent, see: Sharma, Sanjay Kumar. Systems, methods, and apparatuses for device routing management. U.S. Patent Number 11284330, filed June 1, 2020, and published online on March 22, 2022. Patent URL:

<http://patft.uspto.gov/netacgi/nph-Parser?Sect1=PTO1&Sect2=HITOFF&d=PALL&p=1&u=%2Fnetacgi%2FPTO%2Fsrchnum.htm&r=1&f=G&l=50&s1=11284330.PN.&OS=PN/11284330RS=PN/11284330>

Keywords for this news article include: Business, Electronics, World Wide Web, Wireless Network, Internet Protocols, Wireless Technology, Information Technology, Wireless Communication, Address Resolution Protocol, Comcast Cable Communications LLC.

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IN i7902202 : Mobile Telecommunications | i79022 : Wireless Telecommunications Services | iint : Online Service Providers | i7902 : Telecommunication Services | itech : Technology | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

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AN Document INTWKN0020220411ei4b0005I

HD	Comcast Cable Communications LLC; Patent Issued for Power adapter with networking (USPTO 11281269)
WC	1,752 words
PD	11 April 2022
SN	Journal of Engineering
SC	JOENG
PG	5202
LA	English
CY	© Copyright 2022 Journal of Engineering via VerticalNews.com
LP	<p>2022 APR 11 (VerticalNews) -- By a News Reporter-Staff News Editor at Journal of Engineering -- Comcast Cable Communications LLC (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States) has been issued patent number 11281269, according to news reporting originating out of Alexandria, Virginia, by VerticalNews editors.</p> <p>The patent's inventors are Francisco, Mark (Clarksburg, NJ, US), Grauch, Ted (Philadelphia, PA, US), Stone, Christopher (Newtown, PA, US).</p>
TD	<p>This patent was filed on December 23, 2020 and was published online on March 22, 2022.</p> <p>From the background information supplied by the inventors, news correspondents obtained the following quote: "Users seeking to access media may use a device, such as a set-top box (STB), to access features and content. The device may comprise various communication interfaces, such as a Wi-Fi interface or an Ethernet interface. The device may output content for display on a television or other display device.</p> <p>"Home automation systems may be used to control appliances or other devices, such as electronic devices, within a home. Home automation commands may be transmitted over a wired or wireless connection to home automation devices. A home automation protocol for transmitting the home automation commands may be configured to operate on a wireless interface, such as Wi-Fi."</p> <p>Supplementing the background information on this patent, VerticalNews reporters also obtained the inventors' summary information for this patent: "The following summary is for illustrative purposes only, and is not intended to limit or constrain the detailed description. The following summary merely presents various described aspects in a simplified form as a prelude to the more detailed description provided below.</p> <p>"In certain instances, it may be preferable to physically separate the various systems or components that</p>

comprise a device, such as a set-top box (STB) or any other device configured to output content. For example, a user may wish to place the device in a location that is hidden from view, but that location may limit the range of a Wi-Fi access point contained in the device. Thus, rather than constructing the device with an integrated Wi-Fi access point, it may be preferable to place the Wi-Fi access point in a power adapter, or power supply unit, connected to the device. The power adapter with the Wi-Fi access point may then be positioned in a location that provides for improved Wi-Fi range, while the device can be placed in the location that is hidden from view.

"In certain instances, a user or content provider may wish to add or remove support for communication protocols or features from the device. For example, a user may wish to add home automation protocol features to a device that does not have an integrated home automation protocol communication system. Rather than replacing the device to add home automation protocol functionality, a user may replace a power adapter connected to the device with a power adapter that comprises a home automation protocol system. In another example, a power adapter with a Wi-Fi interface may be connected to a device without integrated Wi-Fi hardware. In this manner, the power adapter of the device is replaced to add hardware components to the system, rather than replacing the entire device.

"A power adapter with one or more networking interfaces or components may communicate with the device using a proxy system. For example, a proxy system may be integrated within the power adapter and the device, and may allow two-way communication between the device and the power adapter. Using the proxy system, the device may access components within the power adapter. In this manner, the device can behave as if the components in the power adapter are integrated within the device.

"The proxy system may be configured to convert or encapsulate data in a variety of formats. For example, the proxy system may encapsulate data received in a wireless protocol so that the data may be transmitted over an Ethernet network. In another example, the proxy system may receive home automation commands over an Ethernet network, and prepare the commands for transmission via a home automation protocol."

The claims supplied by the inventors are:

"1. A method comprising: converting, by a power adapter, an alternating current (AC) power input into a direct current (DC) power output; modulating, at a first frequency and onto the DC power output, first data associated with a first protocol; modulating, at a second frequency and onto the DC power output, second data associated with a second protocol; and sending, to a computing device, the DC power output with the first modulated data and the second modulated data.

"2. The method of claim 1, further comprising: receiving, by the power adapter, the first data via the first protocol; and receiving, by the power adapter, the second data via the second protocol.

"3. The method of claim 1, wherein the first protocol comprises one of Wi-Fi, wireless high-definition multimedia interface (HDMI), a cellular phone service, Bluetooth, near-field communication (NFC), a home automation protocol, or a content transmission system, and wherein the second protocol comprises another one of the Wi-Fi, the wireless HDMI, the cellular phone service, the Bluetooth, the NFC, the home automation protocol, or the content transmission system.

"4. The method of claim 1, wherein the modulating the first data and the modulating the second data comprise modulating at least one of frequency, amplitude, or phase shift.

"5. The method of claim 1, wherein the modulating the first data comprises generating, based on the first data, at least one of a full duplex signal or a half duplex signal.

"6. The method of claim 1, wherein the sending the DC power output comprises sending the DC power output to the computing device via a power over Ethernet (PoE) circuit.

"7. The method of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first data or the second data comprises encapsulated data, and wherein the method further comprises de-encapsulating the encapsulated data.

"8. A power adapter comprising: power input circuitry configured to receive alternating current (AC) power input; and power output circuitry configured to: convert the AC power input into a direct current (DC) power output; modulate, at a first frequency and onto the DC power output, first data associated with a first protocol; modulating, at a second frequency and onto the DC power output, second data associated with a second protocol; and output, to a computing device coupled to the power adapter, the DC power output with the first modulated data and the second modulated data.

"9. The power adapter of claim 8, further comprising: a first communication interface configured to receive the first data via the first protocol; and a second communication interface configured to receive the second data via the second protocol.

"10. The power adapter of claim 8, wherein the first protocol comprises one of Wi-Fi, wireless high-definition multimedia interface (HDMI), a cellular phone service, Bluetooth, near-field communication (NFC), a home automation protocol, or a content transmission system, and wherein the second protocol comprises another one of the Wi-Fi, the wireless HDMI, the cellular phone service, the Bluetooth, the NFC, the home automation protocol, or the content transmission system.

"11. The power adapter of claim 8, wherein the power output circuitry is configured to modulate the first data and the second data by modulating at least one of frequency, amplitude, or phase shift.

"12. The power adapter of claim 8, wherein the power output circuitry is configured to modulate the first data by generating, based on the first data, at least one of a full duplex signal or a half duplex signal.

"13. The power adapter of claim 8, wherein the power output circuitry is configured to send the DC power output via a power over Ethernet (PoE) circuit.

"14. The power adapter of claim 8, wherein at least one of the first data or the second data comprises encapsulated data, and wherein the power output circuitry is further configured to de-encapsulating the encapsulated data.

"15. A system comprising: a computing device; and a power adapter coupled to the computing device, wherein the power adapter comprises: power input circuitry configured to receive alternating current (AC) power input; and power output circuitry configured to: convert the AC power input into a direct current (DC) power output; modulate, at a first frequency and onto the DC power output, first data associated with a first protocol; modulate, at a second frequency and onto the DC power output, second data associated with a second protocol; and output, to the computing device, the DC power output with the first modulated data and the second modulated data.

"16. The system of claim 15, further comprising: a first communication interface configured to receive the first data via the first protocol; and a second communication interface configured to receive the second data via the second protocol.

"17. The system of claim 15, wherein the first protocol comprises one of Wi-Fi, wireless high-definition multimedia interface (HDMI), a cellular phone service, Bluetooth, near-field communication (NFC), a home automation protocol, or a content transmission system, and wherein the second protocol comprises another one of the Wi-Fi, the wireless HDMI, the cellular phone service, the Bluetooth, the NFC, the home automation protocol, or the content transmission system.

"18. The system of claim 15, wherein the power output circuitry is configured to modulate the first data and the second data by modulating at least one of frequency, amplitude, or phase shift.

"19. The system of claim 15, wherein the power output circuitry is configured to modulate the first data by generating, based on the first data, at least one of a full duplex signal or a half duplex signal.

"20. The system of claim 15, wherein the power output circuitry is configured to send the DC power output via a power over Ethernet (PoE) circuit."

For the URL and additional information on this patent, see: Francisco, Mark. Power adapter with networking. U.S. Patent Number 11281269, filed December 23, 2020, and published online on March 22, 2022. Patent URL:

<http://patft.uspto.gov/netacgi/nph-Parser?Sect1=PTO1&Sect2=HITOFF&d=PALL&p=1&u=%2Fnetahtml%2FPTO%2Fsrchnum.htm&r=1&f=G&l=50&s1=11281269.PN.&OS=PN/11281269RS=PN/11281269>

Keywords for this news article include: Business, Ethernet, Networks, Information Technology, Comcast Cable Communications LLC.

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CO	comcst : Comcast Corporation
IN	i97411 : Broadcasting i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting imed : Media/Entertainment
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HD Comcast **Cable** Communications LLC; Patent Issued for Methods, apparatuses, and systems for managing network communications (USPTO 11284454)

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LA English

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2022 APR 11 (VerticalNews) -- By a News Reporter-Staff News Editor at Internet Weekly News -- A patent by the inventors Gladish, Jacob (Blue Bell, PA, US), Katragadda, Anil (Downingtown, PA, US), Nelapati, Giridhar (Mount Laurel, NJ, US), filed on July 24, 2019, was published online on March 22, 2022, according to news reporting originating from Alexandria, Virginia, by VerticalNews correspondents.

Patent number 11284454 is assigned to Comcast **Cable** Communications LLC (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States).

TD

The following quote was obtained by the news editors from the background information supplied by the inventors: "As more computing devices utilize communication networks (e.g., wireless communication networks), backhaul traffic and overall congestion on communication networks increases. The problem is multiplied when a plurality of access points (e.g., network devices) on a communication network receive data from one or more computing devices and forward multiple copies of the data to a backhaul portion of the communication network for processing. Further, computing devices may experience interference when sending data to a given access point. Access points on most communication networks use Wi-Fi, which typically operates in one or more bands (e.g., 2.4 GHz, 5 GHz, etc.). Many computing devices utilize Wireless Personal Area Networks (WPANs), such as ZigBee, Z-Wave, or Bluetooth(TM), which often utilize the same one or more bands as the communication networks. Since computing devices that utilize WPANs tend to be low powered devices, data transmissions from these computing devices may be overpowered by communications between Wi-Fi devices, such as access points and user devices."

In addition to the background information obtained for this patent, VerticalNews journalists also obtained the inventors' summary information for this patent: "It is to be understood that both the following general description and the following detailed description are exemplary and explanatory only and are not restrictive. Methods, apparatuses, and systems for wireless communication are described. A plurality of computing devices may each send data (e.g., a packet of data) to a plurality of network devices (e.g., access points). The plurality of network devices may be in communication with a coordinator device (e.g., a backhaul network device), which may receive multiple copies of data sent by each of the computing devices via the plurality of network devices. The coordinator device may, based on network parameters associated with one or more computing devices, select one or more of the plurality of network devices to process additional data received by each of the computing devices. The network parameters may be based on a determined level of interference associated with one or more of the plurality of network devices and the one or more computing devices (e.g., due to communication with a user device and/or distance from a computing device). The coordinator device may send an instruction signal to the remaining network devices. The instruction signal may be indicative of one or more identifiers for the one or more computing devices. The instruction signal may cause the remaining network devices, for an amount of time, to discard or disregard additional data received from the one or more computing devices (e.g., based on the one or more identifiers). These and other considerations are addressed by the present description."

The claims supplied by the inventors are:

"1. A method comprising: receiving, via a first downstream network device, first data comprising an identifier; receiving, via a second downstream network device, second data comprising the identifier; determining, by an upstream device, based on the first data and the second data each comprising the identifier, that the first data and the second data originated from a computing device associated with the identifier, wherein the first downstream network device, the second downstream network device, and the computing device are downstream of the upstream device; and causing, by the upstream device, based on

the first data and the second data having originated from the computing device, a first instruction signal to be sent to the second downstream network device.

"2. The method of claim 1, wherein the computing device is a Bluetooth Low Energy Device, wherein the first instruction signal comprises the identifier, and wherein the identifier comprises one or more of a media access control (MAC) address, an internet protocol (IP) address, or a universal unique identifier (UUID).

"3. The method of claim 1, wherein the first instruction signal causes the second downstream network device to generate a routing table entry comprising the identifier.

"4. The method of claim 3, wherein the routing table entry causes the second downstream network device, for a period of time, to discard additional data received from the computing device.

"5. The method of claim 1, further comprising: determining, based on an elapsed amount of time during which no additional data is received from the computing device via the first downstream network device, that the computing device has changed position relative to the first downstream network device.

"6. The method of claim 5, further comprising: sending, based on the determination that the computing device changed position, a second instruction signal to the second downstream network device, wherein the second instruction signal causes the second downstream network device to remove a routing table entry, and wherein the routing table entry is generated by the second downstream network device based on the first instruction signal.

"7. The method of claim 6, further comprising: receiving, via the second downstream network device, additional data comprising the identifier.

"8. A method comprising: receiving, via a first downstream network device, first data comprising an identifier; receiving, via a second downstream network device, second data comprising the identifier; causing, by an upstream device, based on the first data and the second data each comprising the identifier, a first instruction signal to be sent to the second downstream network device; determining, by the upstream device, based on an elapsed amount of time during which no additional data is received from a computing device associated with the identifier, that the computing device has changed position relative to the first downstream network device, wherein the first downstream network device, the second downstream network device, and the computing device are downstream of the upstream device; and causing, by the upstream device, based on the determination that the computing device changed position, a second instruction signal to be sent to the second downstream network device.

"9. The method of claim 8, wherein the first instruction signal causes the second downstream network device to generate a routing table entry comprising the identifier.

"10. The method of claim 9, wherein the routing table entry causes the second downstream network device, for a period of time, to discard additional data received from the computing device.

"11. The method of claim 9, wherein the second instruction signal causes the second downstream network device to remove the generated routing table entry.

"12. The method of claim 8, further comprising: determining, based on the first data and the second data each comprising the identifier, that the first data and the second data originated from the computing device.

"13. The method of claim 8, wherein the first instruction signal comprises the identifier.

"14. The method of claim 13, wherein the identifier comprises one or more of a media access control (MAC) address, an internet protocol (IP) address, or a universal unique identifier (UUID).

"15. A method comprising: determining, by an upstream device, based on first data and second data each comprising an identifier, that the first data and the second data originated from a computing device associated with the identifier, wherein the first data is associated with a first downstream network device, wherein the second data is associated with a second downstream network device, and wherein the first downstream network device, the second downstream network device, and the computing device are downstream of the upstream device; and causing, by the upstream device, based on the first data and the second data having originated from the computing device, a first instruction signal to be sent to the second downstream network device, wherein the first instruction signal causes the second downstream network device to generate a routing table entry comprising the identifier, and wherein the routing table entry causes the second downstream network device, for a period of time, to discard additional data received from the computing device.

"16. The method of claim 15, wherein the first instruction signal comprises the identifier.

"17. The method of claim 15, wherein the identifier comprises one or more of a media access control (MAC) address, an internet protocol (IP) address, or a universal unique identifier (UUID).

"18. The method of claim 15, further comprising: determining, based on an elapsed amount of time during which no additional data is received from the computing device, that the computing device has changed position relative to the first downstream network device; and sending, based on the determination that the computing device changed position, a second instruction signal to the second downstream network device.

"19. The method of claim 18, wherein the second instruction signal causes the second downstream network device to remove the routing table entry.

"20. The method of claim 18, further comprising: receiving, via the second downstream network device, additional data comprising the identifier."

URL and more information on this patent, see: Gladish, Jacob. Methods, apparatuses, and systems for managing network communications. U.S. Patent Number 11284454, filed July 24, 2019, and published online on March 22, 2022. Patent URL:
<http://patft.uspto.gov/netacgi/nph-Parser?Sect1=PTO1&Sect2=HITOFF&d=PALL&p=1&u=%2Fnetacgi%2FPTO%2Fsrchnum.htm&r=1&f=G&l=50&s1=11284454.PN.&OS=PN/11284454RS=PN/11284454>

Keywords for this news article include: Business, Electronics, World Wide Web, Internet Protocols, Wireless Technology, Communication Network, Information Technology, Network Communications, Wireless Communication, Comcast Cable Communications LLC.

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HD	Comcast Cable Communications LLC; Patent Issued for Beam failure recovery in carrier aggregation (USPTO 11283674)
WC	1,580 words
PD	11 April 2022
SN	Journal of Engineering
SC	JOENG
PG	1405
LA	English
CY	© Copyright 2022 Journal of Engineering via VerticalNews.com
LP	<p>2022 APR 11 (VerticalNews) -- By a News Reporter-Staff News Editor at Journal of Engineering -- Comcast Cable Communications LLC (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States) has been issued patent number 11283674, according to news reporting originating out of Alexandria, Virginia, by VerticalNews editors.</p> <p>The patent's inventors are Babaei, Alireza (Fairfax, VA, US), Cirik, Ali (Herndon, VA, US), Dinan, Esmael (McLean, VA, US), Jeon, Hyoungsuk (Centreville, VA, US), Park, Kyungmin (Herndon, VA, US), Xu, Kai (Herndon, VA, US), Zhou, Hua (Herndon, VA, US).</p>
TD	<p>This patent was filed on November 1, 2019 and was published online on March 22, 2022.</p> <p>From the background information supplied by the inventors, news correspondents obtained the following quote: "Wireless communications may use one or more beams and/or other wireless resources. A base station and/or a wireless device may experience a failure of one or more beams. A beam failure recovery procedure may be required in response to a failure of one or more beams."</p> <p>Supplementing the background information on this patent, VerticalNews reporters also obtained the inventors' summary information for this patent: "The following summary presents a simplified summary of certain features. The summary is not an extensive overview and is not intended to identify key or critical elements.</p> <p>"Wireless devices may use a beam failure recovery (BFR) procedure to address one or more beam failures. A base station may configure a wireless device with uplink scheduling request resources for an active bandwidth part (BWP) of a primary cell that does not have BFR resources. The wireless device may use the uplink scheduling request resources during a BFR procedure for a secondary cell, for example, if the wireless device does not have BFR uplink resources configured.</p>

"These and other features and advantages are described in greater detail below."

The claims supplied by the inventors are:

"1. A method comprising: receiving, by a wireless device, configuration parameters indicating: at least one first uplink control channel resource, of a first cell, for beam failure recovery (BFR) of a second cell; and at least one second uplink control channel resource for requesting at least one uplink shared channel resource; detecting a beam failure of the second cell; determining that an active uplink bandwidth part (BWP) of the first cell is not configured with the at least one first uplink control channel resource for BFR of the second cell; determining that the active uplink BWP of the first cell is configured with the at least one second uplink control channel resource; and sending, via the at least one second uplink control channel resource, an uplink signal for BFR.

"2. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining, based on a type of data for transmission, the at least one second uplink control channel resource.

"3. The method of claim 1, wherein the configuration parameters comprise: a first field indicating that a scheduling request (SR) configuration is for BFR of a cell; and a second field indicating one or more second uplink control channel resources, of the at least one second uplink control channel resource, for requesting at least one uplink shared channel resource.

"4. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining that the active uplink BWP of the first cell is configured with at least one second uplink control channel comprising the at least one second uplink control channel resource.

"5. The method of claim 1, further comprising: determining that a second active uplink BWP of the first cell is not configured with at least one first uplink control channel comprising the at least one first uplink control channel resource; determining that the second active uplink BWP of the first cell is not configured with at least one second uplink control channel comprising the at least one second uplink control channel resource; and initiating a random access procedure.

"6. The method of claim 1, further comprising determining, based on a highest logical channel priority, at least one second uplink control channel resource of the at least one second uplink control channel resource.

"7. The method of claim 1, further comprising: determining that a second active uplink BWP of the first cell is configured with at least one first uplink control channel comprising at least one of the at least one first uplink control channel resource; sending, via the at least one first uplink control channel, the uplink signal for BFR; and incrementing a BFR transmission counter or starting a prohibit timer.

"8. A method comprising: initiating, based on detecting a beam failure of a second cell, beam failure recovery (BFR); determining that an active uplink bandwidth part (BWP) of a first cell is not configured with at least one

first uplink control channel resource for BFR; determining, based on a type of data for transmission via an uplink control channel, at least one second uplink control channel resource for requesting at least one uplink shared channel resource for BFR; and sending, via the at least one second uplink control channel resource, an uplink signal for BFR.

"9. The method of claim 8, wherein the determining the at least one second uplink control channel resource for requesting at least one uplink shared channel resource for BFR comprises: determining that an uplink grant, based on a scheduling request via the at least one second uplink control channel resource, is sufficient to send a BFR medium access control element (BFR MAC CE).

"10. The method of claim 8, wherein the determining the at least one second uplink control channel resource is based on at least one of: a type of data of the at least one second uplink control channel resource being Ultra Reliable Low Latency Communications (URLLC); a type of data of the at least one second uplink control channel resource being enhanced Mobile Broadband (eMBB); a highest logical channel priority of available uplink control channel resources; the at least one second uplink control channel resource being first-in-time; or the at least one second uplink control channel resource being associated with a largest uplink grant of available uplink control channel resources.

"11. The method of claim 8, further comprising receiving configuration parameters that comprise: a first field indicating that a scheduling request (SR) configuration is for BFR of a cell; and a second field indicating one or more second uplink control channel resources for requesting at least one uplink shared channel resource.

"12. The method of claim 8, further comprising: switching the active uplink BWP to a second active uplink BWP of the first cell during BFR, wherein the second active uplink BWP is configured with the at least one second uplink control channel resource for BFR; and sending, via the at least one second uplink control channel resource, the uplink signal for BFR.

"13. The method of claim 8, further comprising: switching the active uplink BWP to a second active uplink BWP of the first cell during BFR, wherein the second active uplink BWP is configured with at least one second uplink control channel resource for BFR; and resetting a scheduling request transmission counter or a prohibit timer.

"14. The method of claim 8, wherein the at least one second uplink control channel resource is a scheduling request resource.

"15. A method comprising: initiating, based on detecting a beam failure of a second cell, beam failure recovery (BFR); switching, during BFR, a first active uplink bandwidth part (BWP) of a first cell to a second active uplink BWP of the first cell; based on the second active uplink BWP being configured with at least one first uplink control channel resource for requesting BFR, resetting a scheduling request transmission counter or a prohibit timer; and sending, via the at least one first

uplink control channel resource, an uplink signal for BFR.

"16. The method of claim 15, further comprising stopping the sending the uplink signal for BFR.

"17. The method of claim 15, further comprising receiving, based on the uplink signal, an uplink grant.

"18. The method of claim 15, further comprising: determining that an active uplink BWP of the first cell is not configured with at least one first uplink control channel resource for BFR; and sending, via at least one second uplink control channel and using at least one second uplink control channel resource for requesting at least one uplink shared channel resource, an uplink signal for BFR.

"19. The method of claim 15, further comprising determining, based on a type of data for transmission via the at least one first uplink control channel resource, the at least one first uplink control channel resource.

"20. The method of claim 15, further comprising receiving configuration parameters that comprise: a first field indicating that a scheduling request (SR) configuration is for BFR of a cell; and a second field indicating one or more second uplink control channel resources for requesting at least one uplink shared channel resource."

For the URL and additional information on this patent, see: Babaei, Alireza. Beam failure recovery in carrier aggregation. U.S. Patent Number 11283674, filed November 1, 2019, and published online on March 22, 2022. Patent URL:
<http://patft.uspto.gov/netacgi/nph-Parser?Sect1=PTO1&Sect2=HITOFF&d=PALL&p=1&u=%2Fnetacgi%2FPTO%2Fsrchnum.htm&r=1&f=G&l=50&s1=11283674.PN.&OS=PN/11283674RS=PN/11283674>

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HD Magic City Newsmakers: HICA, PRSA, BioHorizons, Leadership Shelby, Comcast and more

BY Stephanie Rebman

WC 880 words

PD 11 April 2022

SN Birmingham Business Journal

SC BIRM

LA English

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LP

Good works

Future Forward Business Grant winners have been named. Winners of the business grant include YOGI DADA, Stêz, West Princeton Dental Clinic, Fountain Heights Farms, Birmingham Compost, Infinity Treats, Right Way Bookkeeping, C&A Drone Solutions, True Life and Health, Homecoming Coffee & Books, RightThere Corp., Bumblebee's Cleaning Services, Project WEvitalize, Erica B Airbrush Designer, AJA ACRES and Love Your Scalp. Love Your Scalp received the most community votes and the honor of Fan Favorite. Grants will be dispersed to each organization ranging from \$500 to \$5,000 in stipends. The Penny Foundation partnered with the Birmingham Business Resource Center, Foundation Capital, Building Alabama Reinvestment, as well as the A.G. Gaston Business Institute and A.G. Gaston Conference to support the programs mission in expanding Birmingham's Black business **ecosystem**. Grant recipients received recognition during the recent A.G. Gaston Conference.

TD

Freshwater Land Trust teamed up with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Jefferson County and other partners to address erosion in Turkey Creek to improve an endangered Vermilion Darter habitat, and the project is now complete. The nonprofit also named Ashton Regard as its spring stewardship intern.

Nonprofit organization Women Donors Network said Tyra Robinson received a Jean Hardisty Initiative Grant for \$50,000 to supply funding for her organization, Good People Vote. Good People Vote is an initiative that aims to break down the barriers of voter communication through art-based education. The Jean Hardisty Initiative Grant enables Robinson and her organization to facilitate insightful conversations about today's issues from various communities in Alabama, relating those current issues to the roles of elected officials for the 2022 state elections.

Comcast is offering free and discounted internet options for Alabama residents through the Affordable Connectivity Program and the company's broadband adoption program, Internet Essentials.

The Alabama chapter of the Public Relations Society of America named its 2022 board of directors. This year, the state chapter president is Betsy Emmons, associate professor of communication and media at Samford University. The executive team includes president-elect LaShana Sorrell, marketing manager of business development at Southern Veterinary Partners; Robin DeMonia, senior vice president at Direct Communications; and Briana Bryant, director of communication at Southern Research. Past president Meg Burton, communications director at Brasfield & Gorrie and second-year past president Rachel Olis, marketing and communications director at Balch & Bingham, also serve on the board's executive team. Other board members include: Jacqueline Allen, Cristina Almanza, Abby Basinger, Robyn Bridges, Sharee Broussard, Missy Burchart, Simone Byrd, Dawnette Chambers, John Cole, Patti Conwell, Christina Crowe, Colleen Dolan, Ally Dorrough, Andrew Felts, Brittany Fillmore, Sara Franklin, Abbie Kate Hancock, Eliza Heidelberg, Josh Kincaid, Buffy Lockette, Holly Lollar, Polly Manuel, John Matson, Chris McCollough, Julie McKinney, Breann Murphy, Tiffany Nabors, Philip Poole, Adam Pope, Susan Ray, Angela Miller Riley, Jacqueline Shaia, Erin Slay-Wilson, Yvonne Taunton, Robyn Tucker, Erin Vogt, Brandon Wilson and Carla Jean Whitley.

Leadership Shelby County Director Carol Bruser has retired and Shelby County Manager of Tourism and Events Kendall Williams has taken over as director, according to the Shelby County Reporter.

BioHorizons, an oral reconstructive device company headquartered in Birmingham, recently donated \$750,000 to Scholarships for Kids, a nonprofit organization in Alabama that offers scholarships and access to better education for underserved children throughout the state.

A Tallassee resident who trains at Lakeshore Foundation has been named to USA Wheelchair Rugby's 2022 Americas Championship Team. Monterius Hucherson was one of 12 athletes competing at the Americas Championship in Colombia.

Sixteenth Street Baptist Church partnered with Red Mountain Theatre to present the musical drama "Memorial" in the historic church's sanctuary March 20.

The Salvation Army Greater Birmingham Area Command's Bessemer Service Center has launched SALT — the Seasoned Adults Lunch and Teaching program. The free program is for seniors, ages 50 and older for arts and crafts, Bible study, lunch and fellowship.

On March 19 at the Vestavia Country Club, 10 aspiring young singers, chosen from 181 applicants from around the country, participated in the 2022 Opera Birmingham Vocal Competition, competing for over \$10,000 in cash prizes and a chance to perform in future Opera Birmingham productions.

Regions Bank is making a \$50,000 contribution to RIP Medical Debt, a nonprofit that leverages donations to purchase large bundles of medical debt and then relieve that debt with no tax consequences to people.

Hispanic Interest Coalition Of Alabama has named new board members and officers, including James Cason, CPA at Warren Averett; Ian Cooley, director of inclusion and diversity at Spire; Deivid Delgado, financial analyst at Royal Cup; Michael Eady, president of Knight Eady; Amanda Storey, executive director of Jones Valley Teaching Farm; ad Michele Jenkins-Utomi, assistant vice president, relationship manager at PNC. The 2022 board officers include Chair Kary Wolfe, a partner in the labor and employment practice group of Jones Walker; Vice Chair Tiffany Kahlon, founder and attorney recruiter at The Kahlon Network; Treasurer Jon Davies, senior vice president of Regions Financial Corp.; and Secretary Amanda Loper, principal at David Baker Architects, Birmingham.

Have good works or news tidbits? Send them to srebman@bizjournals.com.

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RE usa : United States | usal : Alabama | namz : North America | uss : Southern U.S.

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HD DGAP-News: California Cable & Telecommunications Association Announces New President

WC 484 words

PD 11 April 2022

ET 17:00

SN DGAP Corporate News

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LA English

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DGAP-News: Comcast California

11.04.2022 / 18:00

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After an extensive nationwide search, the [California Cable & Telecommunications Association \('CCTA'\)](#), a leader in the development of video, broadband and communications policy in California, announced today that [Janus Norman](#) has been selected as President of the Association. Mr. Norman will commence his employment April 25.

Norman has over a decade of legislative and government experience in California, most recently serving as the Senior Vice President of the California Medical Association (CMA) where he oversaw all legislative and political activities for the organization. Prior to his role at CMA, he served as Legislative Advocate for the American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) and the Judicial Council of California.

'Janus brings a wealth of experience to the role, and our Board of Directors is thrilled to have such a strong and respected leader to guide the next chapter of the CCTA,' said board chairman, Sam Attisha. 'His work with the California State Legislature and regulatory agencies, and his expertise with community advocacy will help CCTA create an even greater and lasting impact within the innovative broadband and telecommunications industry.'

'I could not be more grateful to accept the position as president of this well-established organization with such a long history of accomplishments and successes,' said Janus Norman. 'CCTA is uniquely positioned to capitalize on the ever-changing broadband and telecommunications environment here in California. As the industry evolves, my goal in leading the CCTA will be to continue to build on past successes while pushing forward to the next level.'

Norman was recently awarded Capitol Weekly's Top 100 Influential People in California Politics. He received a BA Degree in Communications Studies from California State University, Sacramento, an MBA from the University of Southern California and was part of the Jesse M. Unruh Assembly Fellowship Program. For more on his background, please visit his LinkedIn profile: [Janus Norman on LinkedIn](#)

[Click to view image](#)

About the California Cable & Telecommunications Association:

The California Cable & Telecommunications Association (CCTA) is the industry's largest state cable and telecommunications association. CCTA is a leader in the development of video, broadband and communications policy in California, and represents the industry before the California State Legislature, state regulatory agencies and the state and federal courts. www.calcable.org

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HD PRESS RELEASE: MARY'S PLACE AND COMCAST PARTNER TO PROVIDE FREE WIFI TO FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN SEATTLE**WC** 925 words**PD** 11 April 2022**ET** 16:05**SN** Dow Jones Institutional News**SC** DJDN**LA** English**CY** Copyright © 2022, Dow Jones & Company, Inc.**LP**

DGAP-News: Comcast Washington 2022-04-11 / 17:05 The issuer is solely responsible for the **content** of this announcement.

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Comcast and Mary's Place today announced a continued commitment to helping advance digital equity for women and families. As a part of an ongoing partnership, Comcast is providing free WiFi access through the company's Lift Zones initiative. With five Lift Zones installed inside Mary's Place shelters in King County, women, children, and families can get online while receiving safe, inclusive shelter services on their journey out of homelessness.

Comcast Lift Zones are located at five Mary's Place shelters in Bellevue, Kenmore, Burien, and Seattle. With the addition of free WiFi access from Comcast, Mary's Place can make online resources and technology available to help guests attain life and job skills through training, education, computer classes, internships, job placement, housing search, doing homework, and more.

'Comcast is helping families find stability and housing by providing free high-speed Internet at our shelters,' said Marty Hartman, Executive Director, Mary's Place. 'We are incredibly grateful for Comcast's generous donation and believe it will help increase digital equity for our community at a time when access to tools and services online continues to get more and more important.'

Between 2019 and 2020 alone, Washington saw a more than 6% increase in people experiencing homelessness - the third-largest increase among all U.S. states. Comcast's Lift Zones will help families experiencing homelessness at Mary's Place access technology integral for economic stability and social connection.

'We believe our partnership with Mary's Place will help them make a significant positive impact for families who are experiencing homelessness in the region,' said Rodrigo Lopez, Region Senior Vice President, Comcast Washington. 'March being Women's History Month also shines a light on the issue of women and families experiencing homelessness and we are proud to be supporting an organization like Mary's Place, which does such great work with families to help them find permanent, stable housing.'

Comcast has partnered with Mary's Place for several years and has supported the organization through grants, in-kind contributions, and educational workshops.

Through its Lift Zone initiative, Comcast is installing free WiFi for those needing Internet access in local community centers across the nation. In collaboration with cities, community organizations, and local nonprofit partners, Comcast has now installed free WiFi in more than 90 community centers statewide.

Lift Zones complement Comcast's Internet Essentials program and are part of the company's ongoing commitment to help connect low-income households to the Internet in and outside of the home. Internet Essentials is Comcast's signature digital equity initiative and the nation's largest and most comprehensive private-sector broadband adoption program. Since 2011, Internet Essentials has connected 560,000 low-income individuals statewide to broadband Internet, including 336,000 people in the Puget Sound area.

This effort is part of Project UP, Comcast's USD1 billion commitment to reach tens of millions of people over the next 10 years with the tools, resources, and skills needed to succeed in a digital world. Project UP is Comcast's company-wide initiative to advance digital equity, which includes Internet Essentials, the nation's largest and most comprehensive broadband adoption program.

About Mary's Place

Mary's Place believes that no one's child should sleep outside. They provide safe and inclusive shelter and resources for women, children and families on their journey out of homelessness. Today, Mary's Place operates six crisis response family shelters providing refuge and community for 700 family members. The organization focuses on an innovative strategy of combining prevention, mobile outreach, emergency shelter, and resources for transition back into housing to end family homelessness. In 2021, Mary's Place helped over 550 families find permanent housing. To learn more, visit www.marysplaceseatle.org. Families that need emergency shelter should call the King County Emergency Family Intake Line at 206-245-1026 between 8 am and 11:30 pm daily.

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Comcast Corporation (Nasdaq: CMCSA) is a global media and technology company that connects people to moments that matter. We are principally focused on broadband, aggregation, and streaming with 57 million customer relationships across the United States and Europe. We deliver broadband, wireless, and video through our Xfinity, Comcast Business, and Sky brands; create, distribute, and stream leading entertainment, sports, and news through Universal Filmed Entertainment Group, Universal Studio Group, Sky Studios, the NBC and Telemundo broadcast networks, multiple cable networks, Peacock, NBCUniversal News Group, NBC Sports, Sky News, and Sky Sports; and provide memorable experiences at Universal Parks and Resorts in the United States and Asia. Visit www.comcastcorporation.com for more information. Contact Details

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HD Drug Abuse - NFVCB and NBC in the Dock**BY** Chuks Akamadu**CR** This Day**WC** 1,110 words**PD** 11 April 2022**ET** 13:57**SN** AllAfrica**SC** AFNWS**LA** English**CY** © 2022 AllAfrica, All Rights Reserved**LP**

Chuks Akamadu urges the National Film and Video Censors Board to be alive to its responsibilities

In 2015, a Nigerian musician named "Olamide" released a substance abuse-promoting song titled "Science Student". A section of the public, for good measure, considered it offensive on account of the song's **content**. The song was so odious that Federal Ministry of Health had to register its displeasure with it by publicly accusing the singer of breaching the Tobacco Act.

TD

But let's face it, Olamide is not alone in this. There are many other influential Nigerian musicians whose movie-videos clearly promote drug abuse in violation of Part VII Section 36 (1) (b) (ii) of National Film and Video Censors Board (NFVCB) Act which gives the Board the power not to register any video that is "likely to induce or reinforce the corruption of private or public morality". Or does the word "video" not include music-videos? If it does not, who then regulates music-video contents that are churned out daily for public consumption?

Quite frankly, we need not go far. There is "Smoke Some Weed" by Burna Boy featuring Onos, "Ginger" by Wizkid and "Energy" by Runtown. Others include "Marry Juana" by Naira Marley & Max Twigg, "Ganja Man" by 9ice and "Kush" Music by Phyno.

Now, given scary figures from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) which indicate that the prevalence of drug abuse in Nigeria is about thrice the world's average and the obvious nexus between drug abuse and the rising wave of violent crimes in the society, is it not disheartening that whilst other government institutions such as National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) and National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control (NAFDAC) are working tirelessly to reverse the drug abuse trend in Nigeria, a key stakeholder like NFVCB (or is it NBC?) is sleeping on its statutory duties that ought to complement the concerted efforts of those other two agencies?

Take for instance, Section 33 (1) of the NFVCB Act states that "As from the commencement of this Act, no person shall exhibit, cause or allow to be exhibited a film without a censorship certificate issued by the Board for such exhibition". Same Act prohibits public consumption of videos with content that is "likely to encourage or glorify the use of violence" as well as "likely to incite or encourage public disorder or crime". The Act - and even the name of the board, as God would have it, acknowledge and separate "film" and "video"; meaning in its literary sense that the Act applies to both films and videos - whether it is music video or not (I think).

For the avoidance of doubt, I am inclined to think that the matter in question is directly under NFVCB's purview because it is too crucial to be accommodated merely under the National Broadcasting Commission's (NBC) Broadcast Code. But in the event that the contrary is the case, then nation has an emergency on its hands whilst the NBC should carry the can.

In the light of the serial contraventions of these extant laws and the presumably complicit role being played the supposed watchdogs, NFVCB and NBC, that I wish to publicly condemn, in its entirety, the making of drug abuse-promoting music videos by our artistes, because such songs do not only corrupt public morality, they lure vulnerable listeners and viewers into the self-destructive arms of drug abuse. In the end, the victim has their mental and physical health put in harm's way; and not only that, they

constitute immense security risk and liability to a society that is contending with violent crimes. In even stronger terms, I give both NFVCB and NBC thumbs down for allowing these injurious breaches go unpunished.

I would therefore like to pray the National Assembly to quickly set up an ad-hoc committee comprising members of their committees on judiciary, information, drugs and narcotics and culture and tourism to undertake the task of (a) Investigating the operations of NFVCB and NBC especially as it relates to their functions and enforcement of the provisions of the Acts that established them; and (b) Determining whether both Acts need amendment for better result.

For the purpose of guaranteeing optimal outcome, it is further suggested that the NASS should also interface with other major stakeholders in the industry such as Performing Musicians Employers' Association of Nigeria (PMAN), Audio Visual Rights Society (AVRS) and Collecting Society of Nigeria (COSON) and get them to collaborate with regulatory bodies (NFVCB and NBC) to ensure the reign of sanity in their industry - as pertains to compliance and enforcement of industry statutes and codes. Who knows, this might just be an opportunity for the parliament to thoroughly examine the relevant portions of our body of laws with a view to identifying the inherent gaps, defects and mischief, and accordingly supply suitable cure and proffer fitting solutions.

You see, for those who do not appreciate the urgency of the times, the future of Nigeria, especially her youths' is under threat. Narcotic, psychotic and psychotropic substances are circulating among our youth population as though the human body needs them more than it needs vitamins C and A. Put bluntly, the nation is at war with harmful drugs and substances. And if one pays attention to credible data that deal with the nation's demography and unemployment rate, it then becomes all too glaring that except we make hay while the sun shines, our tomorrow would be as good as traded!

It is for this reason that NDLEA with the collaboration of other local and international stakeholders painstakingly produced, last year, the National Drug Control Masterplan (2021-2025) for the purpose of nipping the foreseeable tragedy in the bud and eliminating obstacles to our sustainable development.

Please for the sake our children, young adults and youths who do not know their left and right, this matter should be looked into urgently and speedily dealt with. We cannot continue to have our airwaves being polluted at will without consequences. We have the moral, mental and physical health of our children and wards to jealously protect. What we now see on our screens and hear on our airwaves actually assault our cultural essence and violate our moral codes as a people. We can no longer continue to sit idly by and watch some of our artistes stand our values on their heads and sell poisonous lyrics and videos to an obviously susceptible younger generation.

Akamadu, M.IoD is President, Centre for Ethical Rebirth Among Nigerian Youths

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TD

But let’s face it, Olamide is not alone in this. There are many other influential Nigerian musicians whose movie-videos clearly promote drug abuse in violation of Part VII Section 36 (1) (b) (ii) of National Film and Video Censors Board (NFVCB) Act which gives the Board the power not to register any video that is “likely to induce or reinforce the corruption of private or public morality”. Or does the word “video” not include music-videos? If it does not, who then regulates music-video contents that are churned out daily for public consumption?

Quite frankly, we need not go far. There is “Smoke Some Weed” by Burna Boy featuring Onos, “Ginger” by Wizkid and “Energy” by Runtown. Others include “Marry Juana” by Naira Marley & Max Twigz, “Ganja Man” by 9ice and “Kush” Music by Phyno.

Now, given scary figures from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) which indicate that the prevalence of drug abuse in Nigeria is about thrice the world’s average and the obvious nexus between drug abuse and the rising wave of violent crimes in the society, is it not disheartening that whilst other government institutions such as National Drug Law Enforcement Agency (NDLEA) and National Agency for Food and Drugs Administration and Control (NAFDAC) are working tirelessly to reverse the drug abuse trend in Nigeria, a key stakeholder like NFVCB (or is it NBC?) is sleeping on its statutory duties that ought to complement the concerted efforts of those other two agencies?

Take for instance, Section 33 (1) of the NFVCB Act states that “As from the commencement of this Act, no person shall exhibit, cause or allow to be exhibited a film without a censorship certificate issued by the Board for such exhibition”. Same Act prohibits public consumption of videos with content that is “likely to encourage or glorify the use of violence” as well as “likely to incite or encourage public disorder or crime”. The Act – and even the name of the board, as God would have it, acknowledge and separate “film” and “video”; meaning in its literary sense that the Act applies to both films and videos – whether it is music video or not (I think).

For the avoidance of doubt, I am inclined to think that the matter in question is directly under NFVCB’s purview because it is too crucial to be accommodated merely under the National Broadcasting Commission’s (NBC) Broadcast Code. But in the event that the contrary is the case, then nation has an emergency on its hands whilst the NBC should carry the can.

In the light of the serial contraventions of these extant laws and the presumably complicit role being played the supposed watchdogs, NFVCB and NBC, that I wish to publicly condemn, in its entirety, the making of drug abuse-promoting music videos by our artistes, because such songs do not only corrupt public morality, they lure vulnerable listeners and viewers into the self-destructive arms of drug abuse. In the end, the victim has their mental and physical health put in harm’s way; and not only that, they constitute immense security risk and liability to a society that is contending with violent crimes. In even stronger terms, I give both NFVCB and NBC thumbs down for allowing these injurious breaches go unpunished.

I would therefore like to pray the National Assembly to quickly set up an ad-hoc committee comprising members of their committees on judiciary, information, drugs and narcotics and culture and tourism to undertake the task of (a) Investigating the operations of NFVCB and NBC especially as it relates to their

functions and enforcement of the provisions of the Acts that established them; and (b) Determining whether both Acts need amendment for better result.

For the purpose of guaranteeing optimal outcome, it is further suggested that the NASS should also interface with other major stakeholders in the industry such as Performing Musicians Employers' Association of Nigeria (PMAN), Audio Visual Rights Society (AVRS) and Collecting Society of Nigeria (COSON) and get them to collaborate with regulatory bodies (NFVCB and NBC) to ensure the reign of sanity in their industry – as pertains to compliance and enforcement of industry statutes and codes. Who knows, this might just be an opportunity for the parliament to thoroughly examine the relevant portions of our body of laws with a view to identifying the inherent gaps, defects and mischief, and accordingly supply suitable cure and proffer fitting solutions.

You see, for those who do not appreciate the urgency of the times, the future of Nigeria, especially her youths' is under threat. Narcotic, psychotic and psychotropic substances are circulating among our youth population as though the human body needs them more than it needs vitamins C and A. Put bluntly, the nation is at war with harmful drugs and substances. And if one pays attention to credible data that deal with the nation's demography and unemployment rate, it then becomes all too glaring that except we make hay while the sun shines, our tomorrow would be as good as traded!

It is for this reason that NDLEA with the collaboration of other local and international stakeholders painstakingly produced, last year, the National Drug Control Masterplan (2021-2025) for the purpose of nipping the foreseeable tragedy in the bud and eliminating obstacles to our sustainable development.

Please for the sake our children, young adults and youths who do not know their left and right, this matter should be looked into urgently and speedily dealt with. We cannot continue to have our airwaves being polluted at will without consequences. We have the moral, mental and physical health of our children and wards to jealously protect. What we now see on our screens and hear on our airwaves actually assault our cultural essence and violate our moral codes as a people. We can no longer continue to sit idly by and watch some of our artistes stand our values on their heads and sell poisonous lyrics and videos to an obviously susceptible younger generation.

Akamadu, M.LoD is

President, Centre for Ethical Rebirth Among Nigerian Youths

[Click to view image](#)

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RE nigea : Nigeria | africaz : Africa | dvpcoz : Developing Economies | wafrz : West Africa
IPD News
PUB Leaders & Company Limited
AN Document AIWTHD0020220411ei4b0005o

The Sydney Morning Herald

SE Business
HD **Delayed Peacock launch opens door for last US content deals**
BY Zoe Samios
WC 738 words
PD 11 April 2022
SN The Sydney Morning Herald
SC SMHH
ED First
PG 30
LA English
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LP

Streaming

US film studio giant NBCUniversal has delayed plans to launch its streaming service Peacock in the Australian market, setting the stage for a fierce battle between the nation's commercial networks for the last major Hollywood content deal.

TD

The Comcast-controlled media company flew in Justin Che, NBCU's managing director - Asia Pacific from Singapore several weeks ago to formally start the process of selling its programs, films and channels in Australia. Several industry sources, who spoke anonymously because the talks are confidential, said the company has met with local media executives that are expected to bid against one another for the content over the next few months, given most existing deals expire in December.

NBCU's negotiations will be fiercely competitive and expensive as they could be the last major content discussions to occur in the Australian market. Other international players such as Disney and Paramount have already taken back content from local networks and launched direct-to-consumer streaming services.

The decision to strike a content deal delays NBCU's previous plan to launch its streaming service Peacock into the market, or tie-up with a local player such as Seven West Media, which held joint venture talks with the company. NBCU has had commercial deals in place with Stan and Foxtel for several years, but these agreements have become critical as the market fragments and international production companies take back content for their own services.

International exclusivity deals - such as the agreement struck between Netflix and Sony for popular US sitcom Seinfeld - have also affected what content is available on various services.

This masthead reported last year that NBCU was considering bringing Peacock into the market on its own or through a joint venture partnership with a player such as Seven West Media or Paramount (it has a relationship with Paramount internationally).

However, media industry observers believe it could potentially make more money from selling its content to established players in the local market.

NBCUniversal's slate includes content from Peacock, Sky Studios (which parent company Comcast bought in 2018) and traditional NBCU programs. It is the largest deal in terms of volume in this market. Sky Studios, which was behind Chernobyl, has invested a large amount of money in original programming since 2019 and has established a major production studio an effort to become the Hollywood of England. NBCU's library also includes The Office (US), Brooklyn 99, and Downton Abbey.

The existing content deals - including a 2020 deal with Stan for Peacock originals - all expire later this year. For Foxtel and Stan, a deal would reduce the risk of losing market share to another streaming player. Stan, which is owned by Nine Entertainment Co (owner of this masthead), cannot afford to lose

its current output deal as other major international companies, like HBO and Showtime, provide their new content to Foxtel and Paramount.

Foxtel would need a deal with NBCU to ensure it has international content available to subscribers if it loses HBO Max shows such as Succession and Euphoria when its current contract expires in December 2023.

HBO Max is expected to merge with Discovery Plus in the next 18 months following the merger of Discovery and WarnerMedia, which was completed last week. Johannes Larcher, head of HBO Max International, said last week the streaming service had ambitions to hit 190 territories by 2026 by rapidly expanding its slate of international original programs. Such a move would put the current relationship between Foxtel and WarnerMedia at risk.

Seven needs content to be able to operate in the online streaming space and Paramount, which locally owns Network Ten, has a partnership with NBCU in Europe. The value of the contract is unclear because the output is split across multiple services. But sources familiar with the contract most recently signed between WarnerMedia and Foxtel - estimated to be about \$100 million per year - expect the next deal with NBCU in Australia could be worth more.

Observers believe NBCU is in a strong position in negotiations with local networks because it has the option of bringing Peacock to Australia, and because of a scarcity of remaining content available for local players services to buy.

Any contract is expected to include a termination clause allowing NBCU to go direct to consumer at any point in the future. NBCUniversal was unavailable for comment.

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HD Last major US content deal up for grabs as NBCU delays local Peacock launch

BY Zoe Samios

WC 743 words

PD 10 April 2022

ET 20:00

SN The Sydney Morning Herald - Online

SC SMHHOL

LA English

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LP

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IN imssoft : Streaming Services | idistr : Media Content Distribution | iint : Online Service Providers | imed : Media/Entertainment | itech : Technology | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting

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SE US news
HD **Money and morals. Psaki is just the latest to swap White House for **cable** TV**
BY Edward Helmore
WC 1,179 words
PD 10 April 2022
ET 13:35
SN The Guardian
SC GRDN
LA English
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LP

Summer switch to **cable** news likely to sharpen perception in America that both sides are just really in it for the money

The routine trafficking of political personnel in America to the nation's television networks hit a road bump last week after staffers at NBC News complained about White House press secretary Jen Psaki's rumor-as-fact plans to join the liberal news outlet MSNBC when she leaves her West Wing post this summer.

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The clumsily handled move, previewed in [a leak to Axios](#), triggered anger among journalists who said they feared Psaki's hiring would "taint" the NBC brand and reinforce the impression, already well-established in opinion polls, that the news business in the US works hand-in-glove with political factions.

The Psaki saga is hardly new. If the deal goes through, Psaki will join a long line of White House staff who have moved to media roles. In January, Symone Sanders, a former adviser and senior spokesperson for Kamala Harris, [signed](#) a deal with MSNBC to host a show.

But the deals are unexceptional to either side of the political divide. Trump press secretary Kayleigh McEnany joined Fox News last year; Sean Spicer has his own show on Newsmax; and CBS News hired Mick Mulvaney as a paid on-air contributor – also triggering an internal revolt that even prompted late-night host [Stephen Colbert](#) to condemn it on his show.

The anger is easy to explain. The pipeline between politics and lucrative gigs in the media in America is one that appears to sully the public view of both professions, creating a feeling that both sides are really in it for the money. It also encourages a sense that politics in the US is seen by the media in the same veins as sports – where hiring ex-players as commentators is common – where winning races is everything and actual policy means very little.

"The pipeline from the White House to news organizations makes it more difficult for news organizations to have sufficient distance or be perceived to be credibly scrutinizing government," said [Ryan Thomas](#), an associate professor in the Missouri School of Journalism.

"Partisans argue that people won't care or won't notice, but it is wrong irrespective of awareness. It's like they are moving from formal to informal public relations apparatus that is unhealthy in its own terms, irrespective of its potential effects on press accountability."

Psaki's hire comes at a time of press frustration that Joe Biden has given just eight open-access press conferences during his term, leading to an impression of scripted, artificial performances. Psaki's tour of duty, transposed to a cable news with a more generous salary, is likely to increase perceptions that political spin and news coverage at cable news networks are so close as to be indistinguishable.

The outgoing press secretary has said that she is undergoing "rigorous ethics training" as it relates "to future employment" before her move, adding that she hoped the press corps "would judge me for my record and how I treat you and I try to answer questions from everybody across the board".

Yet the transfer of Psaki to MSNBC seemed so natural that the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC) went so far as to launch a fundraiser. "She's fought to restore trust in the free press after the Trump administration's horrific attacks on the media," it said in a statement. "And now, she's planning to join MSNBC's intrepid team of journalists to hold dangerous, far-right Republicans accountable."

Journalism ethics professors express concern that this type of high-profile hiring to a high-profile cable news network, publicized while Psaki is still in a political role, risks becoming the default image for what the public holds as standard practice for journalism at large.

"There's a trickle-down effect from the irresponsibility of cable news organizations to local news journalists who get tarred with the same brush," Thomas said.

Americans of opposing political parties are sharply divided on how much they trust the news reported by national media organizations, according to new research.

[A YouGov/Economist poll](#) published last week found that while Americans are more likely to trust than distrust many prominent news sources, there are few organizations that are trusted by more than a small proportion of Americans on both sides of the political aisle.

At the top of the list was the Weather Channel at 52%, followed by the BBC (39%), the national public broadcaster PBS (41%), and the Wall Street Journal (37%). At the bottom of the list, in descending order, came CNN, OAN, MSNBC, Fox News and Breitbart.

A Gallup poll published last October found that trust in the media to report the news fully, accurately and fairly had edged down to 36%, making last year's reading the second lowest on record. Only 7% of those polled said they had "a great deal" of trust and confidence in newspapers, television and radio news reporting. Thirty-four per cent said they had "none at all".

The issue of reporting bias, never far from the lips of ideological adversaries, comes as cable news ratings has experienced sharp post-Trump declines that helped expose arrangements that had long been in place but never fully acknowledged. One was the information pipeline between [CNN's Jeff Zucker](#), his top colleague Allison Gollust, and CNN anchor Chris Cuomo and his brother Andrew. The exposure of Chris Cuomo's advice to his brother during the sexual harassment scandal that brought the New York governor down eventually helped cost the younger sibling his job, too.

But it does not seem like media executives are learning the lessons of fraught ties and allegiances between their top hosts and the political establishment. [According to the news outlet Puck](#), CNN and MSNBC programming executives were in Washington early in the year, courting potential on-air talent to fill holes in primetime slots exposed by the exit of Cuomo and soon-to-exit MSNBC host Rachel Maddow, whose support for Democratic causes is worn openly.

One of the potential talents, of course, was Psaki who, Puck opined, had "achieved veritable celebrity status for her daily press briefings".

Wooing Psaki, Thomas said, presents an ethical issue that Psaki was negotiating a new job while determining access to reporters or responding to questions from staff at her future employer.

In the longer term, he said, are questions over professional distance between political institutions and news organizations. "These press conferences are a performance of scrutiny rather than actual scrutiny. They become an audition process for a cable news gig," he said.

Not only does the rotation of seats damage the material ability of the press to hold government to account, he adds, but also raises issues of access. "The White House press corps is pretty addicted to access, so they're easily tamed and shy away from asking tougher questions," Thomas added.

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HD RWS Entertainment Group; Broadway And Universal Studios Award-Winning Creatives Join RWS Entertainment Group

WC 710 words

PD 8 April 2022

SN Entertainment Newsweekly

SC ENTWK

PG 15

LA English

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LP

2022 APR 15 (VerticalNews) -- By a News Reporter-Staff News Editor at Entertainment Newsweekly -- RWS Entertainment Group, the world's exclusive, full-service provider of award-winning guest experiences and attractions, welcomes two powerhouse creative leaders to the team. Jason A. Sparks joins as Senior Director, Theatrical Creative **Content** and Damien Gray joins as Director, Immersive Creative **Content**. Sparks, recently Associate Director for the anticipated Broadway revival of Take Me Out, will add a fresh layer of expertise to creative direction, direction and choreography for RWS theatrical productions. Gray, an expert in creating immersive experiences, brings a rich portfolio of international projects.

TD

An award-winning creative director, director and choreographer, Jason A. Sparks has worked in a wide range of mediums, from Broadway musicals and independent short films to award shows and concert dance. He has served as the associate to Warren Carlyle on multiple Tony Award-winning Broadway productions, including Hello, Dolly! with Bette Midler; Kiss Me, Kate; She Loves Me; and After Midnight, as well as choreographing productions for New York City Ballet and the Tony Awards.

Damien Gray is known for his boundary-breaking work for top companies worldwide, including Universal Studios Japan, Universal Beijing Resort and the soon-to-open Ocean Flower Island Resort and theme park in Hainan, China. For Universal Studios and Illumination Entertainment, Gray created the smash concert spectacular, SING ON TOUR, based on the animated hit film SING, which is now playing at the Illumination Theaters in Osaka and Beijing. He also created both Steps in Time, at Disney California Adventure and the long-running hit Animagique, for Walt Disney Studios in Paris. He will infuse RWS experiences with his wild imagination, knowledge of leading-edge technology and love for all things pop culture.

"The level of natural talent and boundary-pushing creativity that Jason and Damien bring to our team is invigorating," said Craig Laurie, Executive Vice President, Creative. "Both are uniquely qualified to bring a vibrant perspective to our productions. With more than thirty years of combined skill, creativity and insight into live and immersive experiences, our clients and their guests will be thrilled with the results."

RWS also welcomes Greg Brown, Vice President, Talent Casting & Recruitment; Ericka Womack, Senior Casting Manager, Performer Casting & Guest Entertainers; and Kendra Lucas, Manager, Performer Casting & Guest Entertainers.

Greg Brown, Vice President, Talent Casting & Recruitment: Previously with Royal Caribbean Group as Manager, Talent Casting, Brown has more than 20 years in the entertainment industry and brings his unique creative output as director, music director, orchestrator, arranger, professor and casting professional. His body of work includes casting for Broadway, concert and performance venues across the globe. With a passion for guiding and training young artists, Brown continues to make an impact on the next generation of arts professionals through his active teaching career and professorship.

Ericka Womack, Senior Casting Manager, Performer Casting & Guest Entertainers: Previously with Royal Caribbean Cruises, Womack brings experience in all aspects of entertainment performance, choreography, show creation and management. She is dedicated to working side by side with front-line performers, management and executives.

Kendra Lucas, Manager, Performer Casting & Guest Entertainers: Previously a performer for RWS, Lucas now uses her knowledge and experience to help guide RWS productions as part of the casting team. She began her casting career in NYC assisting at various casting offices working on projects including national

tours, regional theater productions and musicals on major cruise lines. Lucas has a passion for casting and is committed to making entertainment more equitable, inclusive and diverse.

Over the past two decades, RWS has established a career trajectory for performers and technicians, giving them the opportunity to follow their dreams, develop their skills and showcase their talent on stage and on screen. RWS' 6,500 seasonal roles provide performers and technicians with a memorable summer job, a roadmap to success or the opportunity of a lifetime.

With offices in New York, London and Cincinnati, RWS continues to expand with full-time, seasonal and contract positions: <https://rws.applytojob.com>.

Keywords for this news article include: RWS Entertainment Group.

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PUB NewsRX, LLC
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HD SkyCity's gearing up for April

CR SkyCity

WC 422 words

PD 8 April 2022

ET 05:26

SN Fuseworks Media

SC FUSMED

LA English

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LP

Make the most of the long weekends and the school holidays this April with a jam-packed calendar at SkyCity Auckland with the new DreamWorks Animation action comedy, The Bad Guys activities up the iconic Sky Tower, magic shows, egg hunts, All Black Legends and more!

From 15 April - 8 May, put your detective skills to work as the Sky Tower's mascot Scotty turns the view and spaces up the tower into an interactive egg hunt. **Mr.** Shark from the new DreamWorks Animation action comedy, 'The Bad Guys', has taken off with one of the eggs, be sure to track it down to complete the mystery word and go in the draw to win 1 of 3 bunny approved 'The Bad Guys' prize packs! On your way, pop into Sky Café for a Kapiti ice-cream with easter themed toppings and milkshakes before heading down to the Easter Carnival Fun Zone with three magic shows running every day of the school holidays.

TD

For the more daring, a child walks complimentary with an adult who takes on the SkyWalk. Keen for a challenge? Guides will assist you to lean out over the edge while enjoying a guided tour of Auckland City from 192m above Tāmaki Makaurau.

Across the road, the All Blacks Experience, have brought back the popular 'Player Tours' with a legendary line up of All Black's with Tana Umaga, Jeff Wilson, Josh Kronfeld, Stephen Donal, Junior Tonu'u and Nathan Harris all joining the All Blacks Experience crew for a guided tour like no other.

For the wild and the wonderful, head upstairs to Wētā Workshop Unleashed for a creativity hunt and an easter egg challenge in the Wētā Cave with plenty of prizes up for grabs!

To complete your SkyCity experience, check-in to 4.5-star SkyCity Hotel's popular Family Suite or take advantage of the Stay & Kids Go Free package available at both SkyCity hotels in Auckland this April.

If you're staying at SkyCity, visiting one of the world-class attractions or exploring Auckland City with kids in tow, head in for lunch or an early dinner at one of the award-winning family-friendly Federal Street outlets.

The cherry on top? SkyCity is offering a generous \$12 all-day parking deal to all customers who visit one of their attractions listed during the school holidays!

For more information on SkyCity Auckland's school holiday activities, go to <https://skycityauckland.co.nz/whats-on/?tag=School%20Holidays>

CO dwaskg : DreamWorks Animation SKG Inc | comcst : Comcast Corporation | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC

IN i971 : Audiovisual Production | i97101 : Cinema Film Production | imed : Media/Entertainment

RE nz : New Zealand | auckl : Auckland | apacz : Asia Pacific | ausnz : Australia/Oceania

IPD news

PUB Fuseworks Limited

AN Document FUSMED0020220408ei48001rx

HD Consumer Electronics People

WC 163 words

PD 7 April 2022

SN Warren's Consumer Electronics Daily

SC CEDW

VOL Volume 22; Issue 67

LA English

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LP

Gannett nominates Amy Reinhard, Netflix vice president-studio operations, for election to its board at June 6 annual meeting ... Disney hires Kristina Schake from White House COVID-19 vaccine education campaign as executive vice president-global communications ... Skechers adds Cinedigm Chief **Content** Officer Yolanda Macias to its board, increasing it to eight members ... Digital advertising **platform** Foundation Direct hires Jessie Niespolo, Google's former senior automotive retail strategist, as senior vice president-performance ... Sports media company Dazn Group taps former Sky Deutschland executive Alice Mascia as CEO-Germany, Austria and Switzerland, effective May 1 ... Game developer Streamline Media Group names Kenji Kajiwara, ex-Sony Interactive Entertainment, as general manager, head-Japan ... RealNetworks appoints Mike Cooley, ex-Sprint Nextel, president-KONTXT, messaging and telecom, newly created position ...

TD

Senate confirms Katherine Vidal, from Winston & Strawn, as Commerce Department undersecretary-intellectual property and director-U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (see 2204060041) ... Phosphorus Cybersecurity announces Art Coviello, ex- RSA Security, as board chairman.

CO prgnet : RealNetworks Inc | prmagf : Sky Deutschland GmbH | wistra : Winston & Strawn | bsbro : Sky Limited | comcst : Comcast Corporation

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NS c411 : Management Moves | c1511 : Annual/Shareholder/Board Meetings | c32 : Advertising | gsars : Novel Coronaviruses | cslmc : Senior Level Management | gpol : Domestic Politics | ncdig : Corporate Digests | c31 : Marketing | c41 : Management | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | gcat : Political/General News | gcold : Respiratory Tract Diseases | ghea : Health | gmed : Medical Conditions | gpri : Politics/International Relations | gspox : Infectious Diseases | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters | nfcpx : C&E Executive News Filter | nfcpi : C&E Industry News Filter

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PUB Warren Communications News, Inc.

AN Document CEDW000020220412ei470000h

HD **Wi-Fi 6E Becomes Affordable Option with Comcast's Deployment of 'Supersonic' Gateways**

BY Daniel Frankel

WC 386 words

PD 7 April 2022

SN Multichannel News

SC MULTN

LA English

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LP

Comcast begins rollout of the pricey **devices**, which maximize bandwidth for tasks like video streaming, on a doable \$14-a-month lease

[Wi-Fi 6E](#) dramatically improves the way routers and gateways handle multiple **devices** at once, but the initial product releases have been pricey, coming in at around \$1,500.

TD

Prices have come down — you can get this [Linksys Hydra Pro 6E off Amazon](#) for \$299 right now — but the [biggest advancement in WiFi tech to come along in years](#) still isn't cheap.

For its part, Comcast has provided the most affordable option yet — that is, if you can stomach monthly leasing of "customer premises equipment" from cable companies — with the top U.S. MSO now [rolling out its new "Supersonic Gateway."](#) on a \$14-a-month lease, to customers with its fastest internet speed tiers (those with Xfinity Internet Gigabit and Ultrafast plans).

Comcast [introduced its DOCSIS 3.1-enabled xFi Advanced Gateway at CES](#) earlier this year. Comcast claims the devices provide increase bandwidth in the home by three times, using the sixth iteration of the 802.11 Wi-Fi standard which was introduced in 2019, with certifications by the Wi-Fi Alliance beginning in early 2021.

Wi-Fi 6 has been around for several years, but the "E" — which stands for "extended" — is the new part, with the tech adding a third 6 GHz band to existing 2.4 GHz and 5 GHz bands. The additional 1,200 MHz of midband unlicensed spectrum is super helpful in places like apartments and condos, where users' with more limited Wi-Fi frequency means often bump into each other.

But the other major improvement is how the Wi-Fi is distributed to devices.

Wi-Fi 6 devices tap into OFDMA (orthogonal frequency division multiple access), a modulation scheme similar to what is used in DOCSIS and LTE that helps routers and gateways increase the efficiency of how channels are split.

It all adds up to far more efficient usage of the high-speed internet connection — it's one thing to have a gigabit-level speed come into your home, but you still have to get those ones and zeros to your Roku or Xbox. ■

[Comcast Wi-Fi 6E gateway \(Comcast\)](#)

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IN iwrlssl : Wireless Area Network Technology | i97411 : Broadcasting | i3302 : Computers/Consumer Electronics | i3303 : Networking | imed : Media/Entertainment | itech : Technology | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting

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AN Document MULTN00020220408ei470005r

HD 'What's wrong about what I said?!' Sky News host erupts at Putin spokesman 'humiliation!'

BY Tim McNulty

WC 715 words

PD 7 April 2022

ET 20:18

SN express.co.uk

SC EXCO

LA English

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LP

SKY NEWS host Mark Austin has erupted at Vladimir Putin's spokesman during a fiery clash over Russian atrocities in Ukraine.

Presenter Mark Austin has clashed angrily with Vladimir Putin's spokesman Dmitry Peskov over the Kremlin's line Ukraine staged the mass killing of civilians in Bucha which has been blamed on Russian troops. **Mr** Peskov was also challenged over the humiliating losses the Russian military has suffered since the invasion began.

TD

Related articles

Mark Austin told Mr Peskov: "The reason I said it's not going to plan is you've retreated from the capital, President Zelensky is still in power. You've lost thousands of troops.

"You've lost six generals, hundreds of tanks and others it's a humiliation really, isn't it?"

The Russian spokesman responded: "No, it's the wrong understanding of what is going on."

Mr Austin snapped back: "But what is wrong with what I have just said?"

JUST IN:

Putin rubbing hands as 'scared Europe losing financial war'

The host and spokesman clashed further over the discovery of hundreds of dead civilians in the formerly Russian held city of Bucha.

Mr Austin said: "So you're UN ambassador who said there are no credible reports of civilian casualties and as regards Bucha, according to your ministry of defence on April 3, and I quote, 'not a single local resident has suffered from any violent action while Russia was in control.'

"I mean, do you really expect the world to believe that when system then we insist on that and we insist that the whole situation in Bucha is a well-staged? insinuation? Nothing else?"

Mr Peskov began to deny the involvement of Russian troops in the killing of civilians in Bucha before he was interrupted by the host.

"Let me just show you this satellite image," snapped Mr Austin who produced images released by a private security company that appear to show bodies in the streets while Bucha was still occupied by Russia.

It comes as Ukraine stepped up calls on Thursday for financial sanctions crippling enough to force Moscow to end the war as its officials rushed to evacuate civilians from cities and towns in the east before an anticipated major Russian offensive there.

"Once and for all, we can teach Russia and any other potential aggressors that those who choose war always lose," Zelensky said in an address to the Greek parliament. "Those who blackmail Europe with economic and energy crisis always lose."

In a symbolic move, the United Nations General Assembly voted on Thursday to suspend Russia from the UN Human Rights Council. Ukrainian Foreign Minister Dmytro Kuleba said the General Assembly had chosen the "right side of history".

Washington, which banned Russian oil imports last month, took further steps on Wednesday to isolate Moscow, sanctioning two major lenders and President Vladimir Putin's two adult daughters, and banning U.S. investment in Russia. Washington also called for Russia's expulsion from the Group of 20 major economies.

DON'T MISS

US reveals hypersonic missile test, risks escalating Russia tension [REPORT]

West urged to impose 'realistic red line' on Russia [COMMENTS]

POLL: Would you pay more for energy bills to cut off ALL Russian gas? [POLL]

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The European Union's top diplomat, Josep Borrell, told a NATO meeting that new EU measures, including a ban on Russian coal, initially expected on Wednesday, could be passed on Thursday or Friday and the bloc would discuss an oil embargo next.

Moscow has denied targeting civilians and says images of bodies in Bucha were staged to justify more sanctions against Moscow and derail peace talks.

Ukrainian officials say that after withdrawing from Kyiv's outskirts, Russian forces are regrouping to try to gain full control over the eastern regions of Donetsk and Luhansk, which have been partly held by Russian-backed separatists since 2014.

The besieged southern port of Mariupol, where the mayor said over 100,000 people were still trapped, was also a target.

Related articles Putin's spokesperson confirms 'significant losses' in major admission Ukraine urges civilians in Donbas to flee or 'risk death' 'No pig deserves this name' - Wild boar 'Putin' to be renamed

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BY Daniel Frankel

WC 387 words

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HD

Neal Richter, Director of Science of Amazon Advertising, Named Chair of IAB Tech Lab Board of Directors for Fourth Year

WC

1,074 words

PD

7 April 2022

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13:00

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LP

New Board Members EMX Digital, GroundTruth, Sharethrough, and T-Mobile Join Top Executives from Amazon, Meta, Oracle, GroupM, NBCUniversal, and Microsoft

NEW YORK, April 7, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- IAB Tech Lab, the global digital advertising technical standard-setting body, announced today that they have elected their 2022 board members. Board members are voted in by the wider membership base and are responsible for determining IAB Tech Lab's strategic direction during their appointed term. This year, leadership from EMX Digital, GroundTruth, Sharethrough, and T-Mobile will join the IAB Tech Lab board to contribute to the strength of the digital advertising **ecosystem**.

TD

IAB Tech Lab currently has over 800 members across the digital advertising ecosystem and is responsible for pioneering respected and widely adopted industry standards such as OpenRTB, ads.txt, the Open Measurement SDK, and more. In addition to the new board members, IAB Tech Lab has announced Neal Richter, Director of Science at Amazon Advertising, as Chair of the organization's Board of Directors for the fourth year in a row. As Chair for the past three years, Richter has been a member of the Board since its inception as the IAB Ad Technology Advisory Council.

"Neal has been a member of the Board from the very beginning and has been instrumental in helping to move the industry forward. With a finger on the pulse of the latest innovations in data science, machine learning, and artificial intelligence, Neal has contributed to a number of notable achievements including the development of the OpenRTB protocol, ads.txt, ads.cert, sellers.json, and other associated standards," said Anthony Katsur, Chief Executive Officer, IAB Tech Lab. "Neal is a true visionary and I look forward to another year of working closely alongside him and the Board of Directors to ensure that we create a thriving, unified marketplace to address the concerns of our members and the industry at large."

Richter is a software industry veteran with over 25 years of experience. For the vast majority of his career, he's been focused on data science, machine learning, and AI applications. He is currently the Advertising Science Director for Amazon DSP, where he oversees a team of data scientists and engineers focused on RTB bidding algorithms and systems across display, mobile, audio, and video. Prior to joining Amazon, Dr. Richter was Chief Scientist at SpotX, Chief Technical Officer at Rakuten Marketing, and CTO and Chief Scientist at the Rubicon Project.

"As the industry is at a crucial moment with the changes in rules for cookies and identifiers, IAB Tech Lab is the leading trade organization tackling the issues of privacy, identity, and addressability for all constituents within the digital ad ecosystem," said Richter. "I look forward to continuing to collaborate with the members of the Board, Anthony Katsur and all members of IAB Tech Lab to ensure we evolve the changing ecosystem and meet the needs of companies and the consumers they serve."

New members of the IAB Board of Directors elected for a two-year term include:

-- Michael Zacharski, Chief Executive Officer, EMX Digital

-- Eddie Dingels, Chief Operating Officer, GroundTruth

-- Curt Larson, Chief Product Officer, Sharethrough

--
Michael Peralta, Vice President & General Manager, T-Mobile Marketing Solutions

Additionally, J. Allen Dove, Chief Technology Officer of Magnite, has been appointed to the board in an interim fashion pending next year's election by our members.

The remaining IAB Tech Lab Board of Directors is comprised of the following:

-- Paul Bannister, Chief Strategy Officer, CafeMedia

-- Daniel Brackett, Chief Technology Officer, Extreme Reach

-- Will Bullock, Director, Statistic & Privacy (R&D), Meta

-- Ray (Jiayi) Cao, Managing Director, Head of Global Product Strategy and Operations, TikTok

-- Travis Clinger, Senior Vice President of Addressability and Ecosystem, LiveRamp

-- Karan Dalal, Senior Vice President,
Operations, Media.net

-- Giovanni Gardelli, Senior Director,
Ad Targeting Products, Yahoo

-- Mark Kopera, Senior Director,
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-- Ai Matsubara, Video Ads Specialist,
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-- David Cohen, Chief Executive
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-- Sheryl Goldstein, Executive Vice
President, Member Engagement &
Development, Interactive
Advertising Bureau

-- Neal Richter (Chairperson),
Director of Science, Amazon Advertising

-- Scott Spencer, Vice President,
Product Management, Privacy and User
Trust,

Google

For more information about the IAB Tech Lab Board of
Directors, please visit

iabtechlab.com/about-the-iab-tech-lab/tech-lab-leadership/.

About IAB Technology Laboratory

Established in 2014, the IAB Technology Laboratory (Tech Lab) is a non-profit consortium that engages a member community globally to develop foundational technology and standards that enable growth and trust in the digital media ecosystem. Comprised of digital publishers, ad technology firms, agencies, marketers, and other member companies, IAB Tech Lab focuses on solutions for brand safety and ad fraud; identity, data, and consumer privacy; ad experiences and measurement; and programmatic effectiveness. Its work includes the OpenRTB real-time bidding protocol, ads.txt anti-fraud specification, Open Measurement SDK for viewability and verification, VAST video specification, and Project Rearc initiative for privacy-centric addressability. Board members/companies are listed at <https://iabtechlab.com/about-the-iab-tech-lab/tech-lab-leadership/>. For more information, please visit <https://iabtechlab.com>.

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SE News
HD **Ryman inks landmark deal with NBCUniversal, Atairos**
BY Sandy Mazza and , Matthew Leimkuehler; Nashville Tennessean
WC 777 words
PD 7 April 2022
SN The Oak Ridger
SC OKRGR
ED OKR-OakRidger
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LP

Nashville's music scene is expanding its global reach for country, roots and Americana fans, and the city's iconic entertainment brands are leading the effort.

A new ally in Opry Entertainment Group's ambitions for Circle, home of Opry Live, and other Nashville-centric entertainment brands, has pledged \$300 million to scale up the media network and its **content** providers.

TD

Private-equity firm Atairos Group will take a 30% stake in OEG, a subsidiary of hotel-and-convention-center resort leader Ryman Hospitality Properties.

Opry Entertainment acts as the premier gatekeeper of Nashville's best-known trade – country music.

Together, the companies hope to leverage OEG to be a global powerhouse as "the leading player in country lifestyle live entertainment and media content," according to a joint statement.

The deal includes investment from NBCUniversal that could create future opportunities with other Comcast businesses.

Circle's platform will expand to maneuver in the hyper-competitive streaming landscape where brand giants such as Disney+, HBO Max, Amazon Prime Video – which hosted the ACM Awards last month – and Netflix continuously push to court subscribers with big-budget programming.

"This is a big deal for the company and a big deal for the city of Nashville," Ryman CEO Colin Reed said. "Our philosophy is to put these businesses in markets where the country-lifestyle consumer resides or visits. Ireland is a massive market for country music."

OEG worth \$1.5 billion

Atairos's partnership brings with it another meaningful landmark for the growing enterprise – OEG's first independent market valuation.

The firm signed onto the long-term partnership with Ryman Hospitality Properties after determining its entertainment properties are valued at between \$1.4 billion and \$1.5 billion.

The valuation is based on projected total earnings this year of \$80-88 million, multiplied by up to 18 times, according to company documents.

Assets include the 96-year-old Grand Ole Opry, 130-year-old Ryman Auditorium, WSM 650 AM radio station, media network Circle and Blake Shelton's Ole Red country-bar brand in Nashville, Orlando and Gatlinburg. Coming soon: A location in Las Vegas.

"We are pleased with the valuation," Reed said. "But, more importantly, we are pleased to have culturally compatible strategic partners in Atairos and NBCUniversal who will help us realize our long-term goal of reaching more country music fans than ever before."

Ryman is already investing in the subsidiary with the under-construction Ole Red Las Vegas and a pending \$27 million deal to buy Block 21, Austin's massive music-themed complex, anchored by "Austin City Limits" performance home Moody Theater.

The additions could add a bevy of new content opportunities.

'Durability demonstrated'

Ryman's hotel and resort arm dominates its business model, though its media and entertainment branch is growing. Meanwhile, Ryman's hospitality assets continue to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic's hit to business travel.

RHP is organized as a real-estate investment trust, a structure with low taxes that requires profits be paid to shareholders as dividends.

"If our business continues to recover the way we think it will, we anticipate being a dividend-paying company again in 2023," Reed said. "The hotel business is rapidly recovering. Convention traffic is improving rapidly."

If media and entertainment division OEG also continues to grow, it could be spun into a fully separate vehicle, he added.

There are more than 120 million U.S. consumers predisposed to country-music brands and entertainment experiences, according to Country Music Association's market research. That could expand exponentially with global exposure, officials said.

"If you look at what's happened to the live-entertainment business through the pandemic," RHP CFO Mark Fioravanti said. "Investors are ascribing higher values because of the durability demonstrated for live entertainment."

Sandy Mazza can be reached via email at smazza@tennessean.com, by calling 615-726-5962, or on Twitter @SandyMazza.

The deal by the numbers:

30% Atairos Group stake in Opry Entertainment Group

70% of OEG will remain with Ryman Hospitality Properties

\$1.5 billion valuation of Opry Entertainment Group

\$300 million capital infusion from Atairos Group

\$80-88 million anticipated OEG profit this year

21% increase in country-music listeners outside U.S. since 2015

- ART** The Ryman Auditorium is one asset of Ryman Hospitality Partners, along with the Grand Ole Opry, WSM radio station, the Ole Red bar brand and more. Shelley Mays/The Tennessean file Garth Brooks takes the stage with Trisha Yearwood to perform a song with Lauren Alaina after her Grand Ole Opry induction February 12. Alan Poizner
- CO** okpub : Ryman Hospitality Properties Inc. | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation
- IN** i81502 : Trusts/Funds/Financial Vehicles | i8150206 : Investment Trusts | i815020602 : Real Estate Investment Trusts | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | icre : Real Estate/Construction | ifinal : Financial Services | ihotreit : Hospitality REITs | iinv : Investing/Securities | imed : Media/Entertainment | ireest : Real Estate
- NS** ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | gmusic : Music | gcat : Political/General News | gent : Arts/Entertainment
- RE** ustn : Tennessee | namz : North America | usa : United States | uss : Southern U.S.
- PUB** Gannett Media Corp.
- AN** Document OKRGR00020220407ei4700002

HD News Industry Increasingly Keyed on Streaming: NBCU News Group Head

WC 263 words

PD 6 April 2022

SN Communications Daily

SC COMD

VOL Volume 42; Issue 66

LA English

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LP

Entertainment audiences' consumption patterns are becoming fixed, with a big focus on streaming, but new consumption patterns for news are just starting to form, which is why NBCUniversal is investing heavily in news streaming platforms and product, NBCU News Group Chairman Cesar Conde said Tuesday at an Axios event. Comcast's NBCU and other **content** producers are moving increasingly to a digital model of distributing **content** from talent, brands and franchises via all their various platforms, he said. He said MSNBC commentator Rachel Maddow is an example of the company's omnichannel digital strategy, with her becoming part of its streaming platforms, podcast and long-form documentaries, he said. "We are doing that with a lot of talent," he said, citing CNBC host Jim Cramer. He predicted increasing use of subscription services by NBCU and other media outlets, and said MSNBC **content** will be a paywalled part of its Peacock streaming service, though free news options will remain.

TD

He said there's a large hunger for news in the Spanish-language space and Telemundo will invest in alternative platforms. General Motors CEO Mary Barra predicted personal autonomous vehicles will be available as early as 2025. Northrop Grumman CEO Kathy Warden said the U.S. and allies are aware of the need for space norms, and space policies to promote them are under discussion by the White House, but there likely won't be big developments this year. Warden also discussed work with AT&T on a 5G-based DOD data network (see 2204050051).

CO nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN i7902 : Telecommunication Services | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS c13 : Regulation/Government Policy | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters | nfcpin : C&E Industry News Filter

RE usa : United States | namz : North America

PUB Warren Communications News, Inc.

AN Document COMD000020220410ei460000m

HD News Industry Increasingly Keyed on Streaming: NBCU News Group Head

WC 263 words

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SC CEDW

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CO nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

RE usa : United States | namz : North America

PUB Warren Communications News, Inc.

AN Document CEDW000020220410ei4600007

FINANCIAL REVIEW

SE Features
HD **Rear Window**
BY Joe Aston and Myriam Robin
WC 862 words
PD 6 April 2022
SN The Australian Financial Review
SC AFNR
ED First
PG 40
LA English
CY Copyright 2022. Fairfax Media Management Pty Limited.
LP

Blue Sky's Vinomofo going nowhere

It's now been 14 months since online wine merchant Vinomofo swapped **investment** banks - calling in Jarden after Macquarie Capital conceded defeat - in a quixotic attempt to list itself on the Australian Securities Exchange.

TD

As we'd always suspected, there isn't an equities capital markets desk in this wide brown land that could sell this insipid enterprise to institutional investors.

Only two weeks before Vinomofo switched ECM advisers, Federal Court Justice Michael Lee handed down his judgment in defamation proceedings brought against us by former Blue Sky Alternative Investments executive director Elaine Stead. Regarding our contentions in two 2019 columns that Vinomofo was "unviable" and "a worthless start-up", Justice Lee found that we had failed to prove them true.

Blue Sky, under Stead's direction, had invested \$25 million for 22.7 per cent of Vinomofo in 2016, promoting an internal rate of return of 25 per cent per annum (net of fees) and an anticipated exit in three to five years.

Blue Sky, therefore, sought to achieve a return for its VC fund investors of \$49 million in 2019 or \$76 million in 2021.

At the time of the original investment, Blue Sky provided Vinomofo revenue forecasts depicting a phenomenal trajectory: 42 per cent compound annual growth, from \$55 million in FY16 to \$164 million in FY19. These ludicrous figures were published in the information memorandum.

As we've set out in previous columns, Vinomofo's revenue generation bore no resemblance to these forecasts.

The company's actual revenue was just \$39 million in FY16 and \$45 million in FY19. That's a pitiful CAGR of 4.9 per cent - unheard of in venture capital, a sector devoted to high-growth firms.

It also bears repeating that Vinomofo co-founder Andre Eikmeier brazenly misled the market in July 2017, telling this newspaper that Vinomofo's "revenue run rate" was "around \$70 million". FY17 had just concluded, in which Vinomofo had posted revenue of \$44 million. It posted \$45 million of revenue in FY18.

In August 2020, bankers told Street Talk that Vinomofo "has about \$80 million in annual revenue ... growing at 20 per cent to 30 per cent in recent years". We can now reveal that for the 12 months ending June 30, 2020, Vinomofo booked revenue of \$56 million. Mysteriously, nobody who talks about this company's financials is capable of doing so accurately.

Vinomofo recently lodged its financial accounts for FY21. In that period, Vinomofo generated revenue of \$69 million. Since Blue Sky invested, that's a CAGR of 12 per cent - a long way from the forecast 42 per cent.

Even after COVID-19 provided a heavenly step-change in operating conditions for both e-commerce and alcohol, Vinomofo delivered a profit in FY21 of just \$1.3 million. Five long years since Blue Sky plunged in, Vinomofo is barely profitable.

To meet its targeted investment performance after six years, Blue Sky would need to achieve a \$95 million return from its 22.7 per cent Vinomofo stake. Problem is, 100 per cent of Vinomofo still isn't worth that much.

So nobody is pretending any longer that Vinomofo is headed for the ASX boards. How could they?

End of the road for Brightday

Diversa Trustees is in the process of winding up yet another cohort of the teeny tiny superannuation funds it oversees.

One of the latest to get the chop is Brightday, which was launched to some fanfare in 2014 and was pitched at those who wanted to take an active role in their superannuation without the trouble of setting up a self-managed fund.

Eight years on, you wouldn't describe it as popular. Last June, it had just 161 members. Soon, it won't exist, remaining account holders given the option of transferring into another product or having their funds forwarded to the Australian Taxation Office.

It's an ignominious end for a brand whose corporate history is chequered with associations to some of the biggest names in Australian business media.

It was founded by the then-Alan Kohler-edited Eureka Report in the period it was owned by News Corp, and pitched as a natural extension to that publication's retail investor focus.

Brightday was sold two years later to Celebrity Apprentice host Mark Bouris' Yellow Brick Road as part of that outfit's push into wealth management. Until that company rethought its wealth foray in 2019 (citing growing regulation) and so decided to offload its superannuation arm to Pearl Funds Management, which runs Brightday today.

The one constant through this has been OneVue, which partnered on the launch and merged with current trustee Diversa in 2016. Through its many transitions, it's never been made clear just how much Brightday's various owners paid for it. Wonder if the (evidently immaterial) amounts add up to the \$15 million in funds under management it has today.

Though one thing's clear: with such a piddling FUM figure, we're sure the likes of Rupert Murdoch, Kohler and Bouris aren't among those currently transferring out their savings.

CO bsaltd : Blue SKY Alternative Investments Ltd | bsbro : Sky Limited | comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN i831 : Financial Investment Services | i83107 : Portfolio/Fund/Asset Management | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | i9741110 : Satellite Broadcasting | ifinal : Financial Services | iinv : Investing/Securities | imed : Media/Entertainment | isattv : Satellite Television

NS ccat : Corporate/Industrial News

RE austr : Australia | apacz : Asia Pacific | ausnz : Australia/Oceania

PUB Fairfax Media Management Pty Limited

AN Document AFNR000020220408ei4600019



SE Entertainment
HD **'The Ukrainians will win this': Sean Penn joins Fox News, MSNBC to talk Russia conflict**
BY Elise Brisco
WC 630 words
PD 6 April 2022
SN USA Today Online
SC USATONL
LA English
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LP

Sean Penn appeared on two **cable** news channels in one night to bring awareness to the war in Ukraine and to praise the efforts of Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

The actor and activist talked with Fox News' Sean Hannity and also appeared on MSNBC's "The Last Word with Lawrence O'Donnell" on Tuesday. Just days earlier, Penn was on the ground in Ukraine with his nonprofit organization CORE, which is providing aid and resources to Ukraine amid the conflict with Russia.

TD

Hannity opened his interview with Penn by recalling the first conversation they had when the anchor asked him to come on the show. Penn said the first words out of his mouth to Hannity were "I don't trust you" but added "we got to get on with life."

'Now we are like one family': Despite past tensions, Poles open their homes to Ukrainians in wake of war

"I don't think I've got time to indulge my lack of trust, which becomes a petty thing when people and babies are being vaporized," Penn said. "These people are fighting for the very dreams that are the aspiration for all of us Americans. ... We've got to take their example of solidarity."

'A brutal mistake': Sean Penn condemns Russian invasion of Ukraine while filming documentary

Penn said he'd been in Ukraine since last November to work on an upcoming documentary with the purpose of informing others about the country and culture of Ukraine to profile the actor-turned-war-time president, Zelenskyy. Penn's on-location work put the 61-year-old actor on the frontlines leading up to Russia's declaration of war on the eastern European country.

Sean Penn flees to Polish border on foot: Actor films documentary amid Ukraine-Russia crisis

"I met him face-to-face the day before the invasion," Penn said. "I don't know that there's a person on Earth who could know that they were born for such a day, that they could rise to it."

'Our musicians wear body armor': Ukrainian President Zelenskyy addresses Grammys

After Penn's Fox News appearance, in his O'Donnell interview he called for unity among Americans that he has seen among Ukrainians.

"We've got to get back on track together and realize that Ukraine, with all its diversity, has a unity we've never seen in modern times with the challenge it has," Penn said on MSNBC. "If we can't show solidarity and acknowledge the inspiration that as a man, as a leader, as a nation that Ukraine has become then I don't know where we fall in the legacy of life."

Penn stayed in Ukraine for a few days during Russia's initial attacks before fleeing on foot to Poland. He later returned in March to help support refugees and strategize with Ukrainian politicians and is calling for more non-government organizations to send support.

"We've got to get in there now. We've got to get more of the UN organizations and NGOs into Ukraine which is doable in terms of security," Penn told O'Donnell. "It's doable principally because you have so many Ukrainians who will meet you at the border, pick up those trucks of supplies and they'll get them to where they've got to go."

Days after Russian President Vladimir Putin announced the country's military operation in eastern Ukraine, Penn told USA TODAY in a statement that the ongoing invasion "a brutal mistake of lives taken and hearts broken."

This article originally appeared on USA TODAY: 'The Ukrainians will win this': Sean Penn joins Fox News, MSNBC to talk Russia conflict

CO twcenf : Fox Entertainment Group Inc | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation | dsnyw : The Walt Disney Company | newsc : 21st Century Fox Inc.

IN i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS gvexe : Executive Branch | gtvrad : Television/Radio | gvio : Military Action | gcat : Political/General News | gcns : National/Public Security | gent : Arts/Entertainment | gpir : Politics/International Relations | gpol : Domestic Politics | grisk : Risk News | gvbod : Government Bodies

RE ukrn : Ukraine | russ : Russia | asiaz : Asia | bric : BRICS Countries | devgcoz : Emerging Market Countries | dypcoz : Developing Economies | eeurz : Central/Eastern Europe | eurz : Europe | ussrz : CIS Countries

IPD Newspapers

PUB USA Today Information Network

AN Document USATONL020220406ei46000p6

HD Atairos, NBCUniversal to invest in Ryman Hospitality's Opry Entertainment

BY Karl Angelo Vidal

WC 285 words

PD 6 April 2022

SN SNL Real Estate Securities Daily: North America Edition

SC RESD

VOL Issue: 116033

LA English

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LP

Atairos Management LP and NBCUniversal Media LLC will acquire a 30% stake in Ryman Hospitality Properties Inc. subsidiary OEG Attractions Holdings LLC, which directly or indirectly owns the assets that comprise Opry Entertainment Group.

The 30% equity **investment** will be approximately \$293 million, of which Atairos will directly invest roughly \$278 million and NBCUniversal will directly invest up to approximately \$15 million.

TD

The investment values Nashville, Tenn.-based Opry at about \$1.42 billion, including a recapitalization of Opry with a new \$300 million term loan B and the assumption of a \$137 million commercial mortgage-backed securities facility for Block 21, which Opry is acquiring.

Atairos agreed to make an additional \$30 million investment in Opry depending on certain performance targets.

Ryman will retain a controlling 70% interest in Opry upon completion of the transaction, which is expected to occur in the second quarter, subject to customary conditions.

Opry operates country music brands including the Grand Ole Opry concert series, Ryman Auditorium and WSM 650AM.

Upon closing, Ryman expects to receive gross transaction proceeds of about \$593 million, which the company plans to use to pay transaction expenses and to fully repay its \$300 million term loan A and substantially all of the outstanding borrowings under its revolving credit facility.

Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC is Ryman's financial adviser and Bass Berry & Sims PLC is providing legal advice. Skadden Arps Slate Meagher & Flom LLP is offering tax counsel to Ryman.

Moelis & Co. LLC is financial adviser and Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP is legal adviser to Atairos.

JPMorgan Chase Bank NA and Morgan Stanley Senior Funding Inc. provided financing commitment for the transaction.

CO nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | okpub : Ryman Hospitality Properties Inc. | comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN i81502 : Trusts/Funds/Financial Vehicles | i8150206 : Investment Trusts | i815020602 : Real Estate Investment Trusts | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | icre : Real Estate/Construction | ifinal : Financial Services | ihotreit : Hospitality REITs | iinv : Investing/Securities | imed : Media/Entertainment | ireest : Real Estate

NS ccapex : Capital Expenditure | c181 : Acquisitions/Mergers/Shareholdings | c11 : Corporate Strategy/Planning | c18 : Ownership Changes | cactio : Corporate Actions | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters | nfcpin : C&E Industry News Filter

RE usa : United States | namz : North America

IPD Entries & Add-ons

PUB S&P Global Market Intelligence

AN Document RESD000020220407ei4600004



HD Atairos, NBCUniversal to invest in Ryman Hospitality's Opry Entertainment

BY Karl Angelo Vidal

WC 285 words

PD 6 April 2022

SN SNL Financial Services Daily

SC SFSD

VOL Issue: 116034

LA English

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IN i81502 : Trusts/Funds/Financial Vehicles | i8150206 : Investment Trusts | i815020602 : Real Estate Investment Trusts | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | icre : Real Estate/Construction | ifinal : Financial Services | ihotreit : Hospitality REITs | iinv : Investing/Securities | imed : Media/Entertainment | ireest : Real Estate

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IPD Entries & Add-ons

PUB S&P Global Market Intelligence



SE Extra
HD 'Game of Thrones' prequel on Sky's NOW; Crackle Plus' April content slate
BY Frances Josephine Espeso, Mark Anthony Gubagaras, Mohammad Shayan Javeed
WC 708 words
PD 6 April 2022
SN SNL Financial Extra
SC SNLFE
LA English
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LP

The Program Guide highlights notable programming announcements and upcoming original debuts from online video platforms around the world.

"House of the Dragon" Source: Warner Media

TD

Top News

* Comcast Corp.-owned Sky Ltd. will premiere the "Game of Thrones" prequel series, "House of the Dragon," on Aug. 22 on Sky Atlantic, its NOW streaming service. The show will be available in all Sky markets, including the U.K. and Ireland, Germany, Italy, Austria and Switzerland.

* Chicken Soup for the Soul Entertainment Inc.'s streaming service, Crackle Plus, unveiled its April slate, including the 10-episode limited series "Les Norton," "Sherlock," a mockumentary titled "We Are CVNT5" and "Fairwood."

The Americas

* World Wrestling Entertainment Inc. is stepping into the production of fictionalized TV, Dow Jones Newswires reported. The company is working on two scripted TV series: a Spanish-language comedy about an aspiring female wrestler in Mexico and a drama about a fictional family that runs a wrestling company.

* Apple Inc.'s Apple TV+ is working on the comedy series "Shrinking," which centers on a grieving therapist who begins to break the rules and tells his clients exactly what he thinks, The Hollywood Reporter reported.

* Hulu LLC is working on a psychological drama titled "Saint X," The Hollywood Reporter reported. The eight-episode show is based on a novel by Alexis Schaitkin.

* Amazon.com Inc.'s Prime Video acquired U.S. rights to romantic action comedy "Shotgun Wedding," The Hollywood Reporter reported.

* Fox Corp.'s free streaming service, Tubi, is set to launch the thriller film "Cinnamon" later in 2022, Deadline reported. The film, which is in production, follows the story of a struggling small-town gas station attendant and aspiring singer whose life is sent into a tailspin when there is a robbery at work.

* Netflix Inc. entered into a deal with U.S. filmmaker Nancy Meyers to write, direct and produce a new comedy film for the streamer, Deadline reported.

* Paramount Global's streaming service, Paramount+, acquired crime thriller "Finestkind," Deadline reported. The film will be launched later in 2022.

Europe, Middle East and Africa

* Walt Disney Co. confirmed the launch dates and pricing for its streaming service, Disney+, in 42 countries and 11 territories in Europe, the Middle East and Africa.

* Telefónica SA and DAZN Ltd. reached a nonexclusive distribution agreement, bringing soccer division La Liga's games for the 2022-23 to 2026-27 seasons to Telefónica's Movistar Plus+ streaming platform. The deal is valued at €1.4 billion, according to Bloomberg News.

* Netflix teamed up with Amaury Sport Organisation, along with the participation of France Télévisions SA, on the creation of a new documentary series on the Tour de France 2022, expected to launch in the first half of 2023.

* Warner Media LLC acquired rights to broadcast the action-comedy animated series "Jade Armor" from France's TeamTO SA on its HBO Max streaming platform in Europe, West Asia and North Africa in 2022, Variety reported.

* Nordic Entertainment Group AB's Viaplay streaming service is set to debut in the U.K. by the end of 2022, The Daily Telegraph (London) reported.

* Nordic Entertainment announced an original documentary, "Liv Ullmann: The Road Less Travelled," for its Viaplay streamer. Viaplay also secured exclusive streaming rights to the heavyweight boxing title match between Tyson Fury and Dillian Whyte in 10 European countries.

* The British Broadcasting Corp. unveiled "Floodlights," a new factual drama on former professional soccer player Andy Woodward, set to launch on the iPlayer streamer and BBC Two in the spring.

Asia-Pacific

* "Legends of the Ramayana with Amish," a three-part docuseries, will premiere April 7 on Discovery Inc.'s streaming service discovery+ India, World Screen reported. The Wide Angle Films-produced docuseries, helmed by author Amish Tripathi, will look into the ancient stories and myths about the ancient Indian epic "Ramayana."

* Netflix said Japanese hit thriller series "Alice in Borderland" will release its second season on the platform in December 2022. The first season premiered in December 2020.

Links are current as of publication time, and we are not responsible if those links are unavailable later.

CO amronl : Warner Media, LLC | fufnko : Chicken Soup for the Soul Entertainment Inc | titnsp : World Wrestling Entertainment Inc | bsbro : Sky Limited | comcst : Comcast Corporation | sbcatt : AT&T Inc.

IN i9741112 : Television Program Production | i971 : Audiovisual Production | imed : Media/Entertainment | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | i974110205 : Interactive Television | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | i9741110 : Satellite Broadcasting | i979112 : Sporting Event Promotion | i98209 : Performing Arts/Sports Promotion | ilea : Leisure/Arts/Hospitality | isattv : Satellite Television

NS gtvrad : Television/Radio | c22 : New Products/Services | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | cexpro : Products/Services | gcat : Political/General News | gent : Arts/Entertainment | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters | nfcpin : C&E Industry News Filter

RE usa : United States | namz : North America

IPD Industry News

PUB S&P Global Market Intelligence

AN Document SNLFE00020220407ei46000mh



SE News
HD Sean Penn returns from Ukraine to tell Fox News and MSNBC 'the Ukrainians will win'
BY Brendan Morrow
WC 336 words
PD 6 April 2022
SN The Week
SC TWKUS
LA English
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LP

Actor Sean Penn, who has been filming a documentary in Ukraine amid Russia's invasion, [made dual cable news appearances](#) on Tuesday night and predicted the Ukrainians will win the conflict.

Penn appeared in-studio on [both Fox News and MSNBC](#) to discuss what he has seen in Ukraine amid the war and his meeting with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelensky. On both networks, the actor said he believes a Ukraine victory is certain.

TD

"It is clear to me that the Ukrainians will win this," Penn told Fox News. "The question is, at what cost?"

Penn began filming a Ukraine documentary last year, and he met with Zelensky "the day before" Russia invaded. On Fox News, Penn said Zelensky was "born for" leading his country against Russia.

"In him, I saw something that I've never seen before in my lifetime," Penn said, applauding Zelensky's "extraordinary courage" and calling him the "face of something that you see in all the Ukrainians we saw and talked to."

Penn also told Fox the Ukrainians are "fighting to win" and that "if this thing is not won," "our children in America" are going to "feel it in tangible ways in their lives." On MSNBC, Penn similarly said that if Russia wins the war, "that's going to come to our doorstep very fast," though he doesn't believe this will happen because the Ukrainians are so united.

Penn stopped by Fox News to speak about Ukraine despite the fact that he admitted to host Sean Hannity, "I don't trust you." But supporting Ukraine was one issue they agreed on, and Hannity said that in this case, they could "forget our political differences."

Neither interview [addressed Penn's recent threat](#) to "smelt" his Oscars if Zelensky was not invited to appear at the Academy Awards. Zelensky did not make an Oscars appearance, [though he remotely addressed](#) the Grammys a week later.

CO twcnf : Fox Entertainment Group Inc | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation | dsnyw : The Walt Disney Company | newsc : 21st Century Fox Inc.
IN i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment
NS gmovie : Movies | gcat : Political/General News | gent : Arts/Entertainment
RE ukrn : Ukraine | russ : Russia | asiaz : Asia | bric : BRICS Countries | devgcoz : Emerging Market Countries | dvpcos : Developing Economies | eeurz : Central/Eastern Europe | eurz : Europe | ussrz : CIS Countries
IPD News
PUB Future Publishing Ltd.
AN Document TWKUS00020220406ei46000b7

HD Comcast **Cable** Communications LLC; Patent Issued for Activation and deactivation of configured grant (USPTO 11277862)

WC 1,503 words

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LA English

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LP

2022 APR 6 (VerticalNews) -- By a News Reporter-Staff News Editor at Telecommunications Weekly -- According to news reporting originating from Alexandria, Virginia, by VerticalNews journalists, a patent by the inventors Babaei, Alireza (Fairfax, VA, US), Cirik, Ali (Herndon, VA, US), Dinan, Esmail Hejazi (Herndon, VA, US), Jeon, Hyoungsuk (Oakton, VA, US), Park, Kyungmin (Arlington, VA, US), Zhou, Hua (Herndon, VA, US), filed on October 26, 2018, was published online on March 15, 2022.

The assignee for this patent, patent number 11277862, is Comcast **Cable** Communications LLC (Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, United States).

TD

Reporters obtained the following quote from the background information supplied by the inventors: "In wireless communications, bandwidth parts and other wireless resources may be used by wireless devices. A base station may determine that one or more wireless devices should use or switch to one or more bandwidth parts or other wireless resources. It is desired to improve wireless communications without adversely increasing signaling overhead and/or decreasing spectral efficiency."

In addition to obtaining background information on this patent, VerticalNews editors also obtained the inventors' summary information for this patent: "The following summary presents a simplified summary of certain features. The summary is not an extensive overview and is not intended to identify key or critical elements.

"Systems, apparatuses, and methods are described for activating and deactivating bandwidth parts. A base station may transmit at least one RRC message or other signal to configure at least one configured grant on an active bandwidth part. However, configuring the at least one configured grant after switching the active bandwidth part may cause a latency problem. A wireless device may need a measurement gap, e.g., tens of microseconds or milliseconds, to switch from an active bandwidth part to another bandwidth part. For a latency-sensitive service such as URLLC or a voice call, such a delay that may be caused by the measurement gap and/or the RRC configuration may significantly degrade a quality of service and/or may cause the base station/wireless device to fail the service requirements.

"A base station may transmit at least one RRC message/signaling to pre-configure at least one configured grant on a non-active bandwidth part. If the configured grant on a non-active UL bandwidth part is preconfigured, a wireless device may transmit one or more data packet on one or more radio resources associated with the configured grant, for example, if the non-active UL bandwidth part becomes an active UL bandwidth part without waiting for one or more signaling/messages to activate and/or configure the configured grant. The pre-configuration of the configured grant on a non-active UL bandwidth part may be beneficial in reducing signaling overhead, thereby reducing delays in switching bandwidth parts and providing a higher level of service, particularly for voice and URLLC applications.

"These and other features and advantages are described in greater detail below."

The claims supplied by the inventors are:

"1. A method comprising: receiving, by a wireless device from a base station, at least one message comprising: first configuration parameters of a first bandwidth part and of a second bandwidth part; and second configuration parameters of a configured grant of the first bandwidth part, wherein the second configuration parameters comprise an indication of radio resources of the configured grant of the first bandwidth part; determining to switch from the second bandwidth part to the first bandwidth part as an active bandwidth part; based on the determining to switch, activating the first bandwidth part; based on the

activating the first bandwidth part, activating the configured grant according to the second configuration parameters; and transmitting one or more transport blocks via the radio resources.

"2. The method of claim 1, further comprising: activating the second bandwidth part as the active bandwidth part; and starting, based on a timer value and the activating the second bandwidth part, a bandwidth part inactivity timer.

"3. The method of claim 1, further comprising receiving downlink control information comprising: a bandwidth part identifier indicating the first bandwidth part.

"4. The method of claim 3, wherein the downlink control information comprises at least one of: an uplink grant; an uplink grant indicating one or more radio resources of the first bandwidth part; or a downlink assignment.

"5. The method of claim 3, wherein the bandwidth part identifier indicates a downlink bandwidth part that is paired with the first bandwidth part.

"6. The method of claim 1, wherein the determining to switch is based on receiving downlink control information.

"7. The method of claim 1, wherein the configured grant is a configured grant Type 1.

"8. The method of claim 1, wherein the first configuration parameters indicate at least one of: a subcarrier spacing, a cyclic prefix, a quantity of contiguous physical radio resource blocks, or an offset of a first PRB.

"9. The method of claim 1, wherein the second configuration parameters indicate at least one of: a radio network temporary identifier, a periodicity, or an offset of a resource with respect to a first system frame number.

"10. The method of claim 9, wherein the first system frame number is zero.

"11. The method of claim 1, wherein the at least one message comprises one or more radio resource control (RRC) messages.

"12. A method comprising: receiving, by a wireless device from a base station, at least one message comprising: first configuration parameters of a first bandwidth part and of a second bandwidth part, wherein the first configuration parameters comprise an indication of a timer value of a bandwidth part inactivity timer; and second configuration parameters of a configured grant of the first bandwidth part, wherein the second configuration parameters comprise an indication of radio resources of the configured grant of the first bandwidth part; activating the second bandwidth part as an active bandwidth part; starting, based on the timer value and the activating the second bandwidth part, the bandwidth part inactivity timer; determining to switch from the second bandwidth part to the first bandwidth part as the active bandwidth part; based on the determining to switch, activating the first bandwidth part; based on the activating the first bandwidth part, activating the configured grant according to the second configuration parameters; and transmitting one or more transport blocks via the radio resources.

"13. The method of claim 12, wherein the first configuration parameters further indicate at least one of: the first bandwidth part is a default bandwidth part; or the first bandwidth part is an initial bandwidth part.

"14. The method of claim 12, wherein the determining to switch is based on an expiry of the bandwidth part inactivity timer.

"15. The method of claim 12, wherein the determining to switch is based on receiving downlink control information.

"16. The method of claim 12, wherein the at least one message comprises one or more radio resource control (RRC) messages.

"17. A method comprising: receiving, by a wireless device from a base station, at least one message comprising: first configuration parameters of a first bandwidth part and of a second bandwidth part; second configuration parameters of a configured grant of the first bandwidth part, wherein the second configuration parameters comprise an indication of radio resources of the configured grant of the first bandwidth part; and third configuration parameters of a second configured grant of the second bandwidth part; determining to switch from the second bandwidth part to the first bandwidth part as an active bandwidth part; based on the determining to switch: deactivating the second bandwidth part; and activating the first bandwidth part; based on the activating the first bandwidth part, activating the configured grant according to the second configuration parameters; and transmitting one or more transport blocks via the radio resources.

"18. The method of claim 17, further comprising: based on the deactivating the second bandwidth part, deactivating the second configured grant.

"19. The method of claim 17, wherein the third configuration parameters indicate at least one of: a second radio network temporary identifier, a second periodicity, or a second offset of a second resource with respect to a second system frame number being zero.

"20. The method of claim 17, wherein the determining to switch is further based on comprising determining an expiry of a bandwidth part inactivity timer.

"21. The method of claim 17, wherein the at least one message comprises one or more radio resource control (RRC) messages."

For more information, see this patent: Babaei, Alireza. Activation and deactivation of configured grant. U.S. Patent Number 11277862, filed October 26, 2018, and published online on March 15, 2022. Patent URL:

<http://patft.uspto.gov/netacgi/nph-Parser?Sect1=PTO1&Sect2=HITOFF&d=PALL&p=1&u=%2Fnetacgi%2FPTO%2Fsrchnum.htm&r=1&f=G&l=50&s1=11277862.PN.&OS=PN/11277862RS=PN/11277862>

Keywords for this news article include: Business, Electronics, Wireless Technology, Wireless Communication, Comcast Cable Communications LLC.

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CO comcast : Comcast Corporation

IN i79022 : Wireless Telecommunications Services | i7902 : Telecommunication Services | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS c133 : Patents | cgytmr : Intellectual Property Rights | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | cinrp : Industrial Property Rights

RE usa : United States | uspa : Pennsylvania | usva : Virginia | namz : North America | use : Northeast U.S. | uss : Southern U.S.

IPD Expanded Reporting

PUB NewsRX, LLC

AN Document TELWK00020220406ei4600055



HD DISCOVERY'S STREAMING TV EVERYWHERE GO APPS NOW AVAILABLE ON COMCAST'S XCLASS TV AND XFINITY FLEX - Discovery, Inc.

WC 395 words

PD 6 April 2022

SN M2 Presswire

SC MTPW

LA English

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LP

New York, NY - - Discovery, Inc. today announced that a selection of Discovery's streaming TV everywhere (TVE) GO apps are now available on Comcast's XClass TV and Xfinity Flex, providing more customers with direct and easy access to HGTV GO, TLC GO, Food Network GO, Discovery GO and ID GO.

To access Discovery's TVE GO apps on XClass TV and Flex, customers can simply say the name of the app into the device's voice remote. Built on Comcast's global technology **platform**, XClass TV and Flex offer customers a simple and personalized entertainment **platform** that makes finding live and on demand streaming **content** from hundreds of apps and services just a click or voice command away.

TD

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About Discovery

Discovery, Inc. (Nasdaq: DISCA, DISCB, DISCK) is a global leader in real life entertainment, serving a passionate audience of superfans around the world with content that inspires, informs and entertains. Discovery delivers over 8,000 hours of original programming each year and has category leadership across deeply loved content genres around the world. Available in 220 countries and territories and nearly 50 languages, Discovery is a platform innovator, reaching viewers on all screens, including TV Everywhere products such as the GO portfolio of apps; direct-to-consumer streaming services such as discovery+, Food Network Kitchen and MotorTrend OnDemand; digital-first and social content from Group Nine Media; a landmark natural history and factual content partnership with the BBC; and a strategic alliance with PGA TOUR to create the international home of golf. Discovery's portfolio of premium brands includes Discovery Channel, HGTV, Food Network, TLC, Investigation Discovery, Travel Channel, MotorTrend, Animal Planet, Science Channel, and the forthcoming multi-platform JV with Chip and Joanna Gaines, Magnolia Network, as well as OWN: Oprah Winfrey Network in the U.S., Discovery Kids in Latin America, and Eurosport, the leading provider of locally relevant, premium sports and Home of the Olympic Games across Europe. For more information, please visit corporate.discovery.com and follow @DiscoveryIncTV across social platforms.

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CO discha : Discovery, Inc | comcast : Comcast Corporation

IN i3302 : Computers/Consumer Electronics | imobsoft : Mobile Applications Software | i330202 : Software | i3302021 : Applications Software | icomp : Computing | itech : Technology | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | npress : Press Releases | ncat : Content Types

RE nyc : New York City | usa : United States | namz : North America | use : Northeast U.S. | usny : New York State

PUB Normans Media Ltd

AN Document MTPW000020220406ei46008hl

SE India
HD Sean Penn speaks to viewers across political spectrum about Russia's invasion of Ukraine

WC 485 words

PD 6 April 2022

SN Bollywood Country

SC ATBOLC

LA English

CY Copyright IANS 2022.

LP

Director-actor Sean Penn recently made an appearance on television channels - both the Right-leaning Fox News and Left-leaning MSNBC within a span of two hours to share his thoughts with **cable** viewers across the political spectrum, reports 'Variety'.

Director-actor Sean Penn recently made an appearance on television channels - both the Right-leaning Fox News and Left-leaning MSNBC within a span of two hours to share his thoughts with **cable** viewers across the political spectrum, reports 'Variety'.

TD

Penn took to television to discuss support for Ukraine amid the country's invasion by Russian military forces. As per 'Variety', he began the evening with an in-person appearance on the N.Y.-based 'Hannity', engaging in a conversation with Fox News conservative commentator Sean Hannity. Hannity began the segment by recounting how the comparatively liberal Penn decided to come onto the program.

Hannity said, "I made the first phone call to you. Do you remember what you first said to me?" To which Penn responded by saying, "I said 'I don't trust you. But we have to get on with lifeâ€¦ We all talk about how divisive things are, how divided things are here. When you step into a country of incredible unity, you realize what we've all been missing. I don't think I've got time to indulge my lack of trust, which becomes a petty thing. These people are fighting for the dreams and aspirations of all of us Americans."

He then went on to explain the documentary he was filming in Ukraine before the country was invaded and attacked by Russian forces, and how his relationship with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy evolved as the conflict escalated. He said, "In him, I saw something I'd never seen before. It is clear to me that the Ukrainians will win this. The question is at what cost."

After his conversation with Hannity, Penn appeared on MSNBC's 'The Last Word With Lawrence O'Donnell' in which he extended further praise for President Zelenskyy. As per 'Variety', he told O'Donnell, "(Zelenskyy) is the face of so many Ukrainians. And yet, it's not conceivable that he could've known the day before that he would really be able to rise up. This is leadership that we aspire to."

"This is freedom of thought and true leadership that is just so moving. It's the kind of moving that we need to be able to get [to the United States], which is borderline a kind of populist lap dance of a nation at this point. We've got to get back on track together and realize that Ukraine, with all its diversity, has a unity we've never seen in modern times with the challenge it has", he added.

--IANS

aa/kr

CO nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS gtvrad : Television/Radio | gmovie : Movies | gvexe : Executive Branch | gbolly : Bollywood/Indian Films | gvio : Military Action | gcat : Political/General News | gcns : National/Public Security | gent : Arts/Entertainment | gpir : Politics/International Relations | gppl : Domestic Politics | grisk : Risk News | gvbd : Government Bodies

RE ukrn : Ukraine | russ : Russia | asiaz : Asia | bric : BRICS Countries | devgcoz : Emerging Market Countries | dvpcoz : Developing Economies | eeurz : Central/Eastern Europe | eurz : Europe | ussrz : CIS Countries

PUB IANS India Pvt. Ltd.

AN Document ATBOLC0020220406ei4600002

HD Comcast launches Eros Now streaming app on X1 & Flex **devices**

BY BestMediaInfo Bureau

CR Distributed by Contify.com

WC 345 words

PD 6 April 2022

SN Best Media Info

SC ATBEMI

LA English

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LP

Comcast announced it has launched the Eros Now app, an **OTT** South Asian entertainment **platform** owned by Eros STX Global Corporation, on its X1 and Flex platforms.

The service replaces the Eros Now SVOD product, offering Xfinity customers the ability to stream high-definition, ad-free titles including blockbuster Bollywood films, original comedy and drama series and movies, and Indian cinema classics.

TD

Eros Now's catalogue with over 12,000 titles feature a breadth of South Asian language content in Hindi, Kannada, Marathi, Telugu, Tamil and other regional languages.

"We are excited to bring Xfinity subscribers even more great international entertainment through our partnership with Eros Now. We are committed to expanding our offering of thousands of hours of premium South Asian movies, originals and music in high definition and multiple languages, as well as making it more easily accessible to our customers who can simply say 'Eros Now' into the Xfinity voice remote," said Keesha Boyd, Executive Director, Multicultural Video & Entertainment, Xfinity Consumer Services.

"We are excited to offer the most extensive repository of Indian movies and Original series to Comcast's X1 and Flex platforms subscribers. The US is the largest market for us outside India. With this partnership, Eros Now will further consolidate its position as a preferred platform for the consumption of Indian content," said Ali Hussein, Chief Executive Officer, Eros Now.

Xfinity customers can subscribe to the Eros Now app via their X1 TV Box or Xfinity Flex streaming TV Box.

Some highlights available to stream on Eros Now include Bollywood blockbusters like Bajirao Mastani, Devdas, Golmaal 3, Cocktail, Haathi Mere Saathi and more, original series and movies such as Flesh, Metro Park Season 1&2, Barun Rai And The House On The Cliff, Switchh, Halahal to name a few. In addition, consumers can also watch the upcoming show - Caves, a supernatural thriller that changes the lives of five best friends who embark on an adventure trip to a haunted cave.

Info@BestMediaInfo.com

CO eromel : Eros STX Global Corp. | comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN i97105 : Film/Video Exhibition | ilea : Leisure/Arts/Hospitality | i971 : Audiovisual Production | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS gbolly : Bollywood/Indian Films | gmovie : Movies | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | c22 : New Products/Services | cexpro : Products/Services | gcat : Political/General News | gent : Arts/Entertainment | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters | nfcpin : C&E Industry News Filter

RE india : India | asiaz : Asia | bric : BRICS Countries | devgcoz : Emerging Market Countries | dvpcoz : Developing Economies | indsubz : Indian Subcontinent | sasiaz : Southern Asia

PUB Best Media Info

AN Document ATBEMI0020220406ei460005x

HD Comcast starts to put Wi-Fi 6E to work

BY Jeff Baumgartner

WC 485 words

PD 6 April 2022

SN Light Reading

SC LITEREAD

LA English

CY Copyright 2022. Light Reading, Inc.

LP

Comcast said it has begun to roll out a new DOCSIS 3.1 equipped with Wi-Fi 6E, a new form of the standard that adds support for the 6GHz band alongside the legacy 2.4GHz and 5GHz bands.

The new "Supersonic WiFi" device, as Comcast calls it, is initially available to customers on the **cable** operator's two fastest residential tiers offered on hybrid fiber/coax (HFC) network: a service that tops out at 1.2 Gbit/s down by 35 Mbit/s upstream and an "Ultrafast" tier that delivers up to 900 Mbit/s downstream and 20 Mbit/s upstream.

TD

[Click here to view Figure 1.](#)

Comcast noted that the new gateway, which is also equipped with Zigbee for IoT applications, is capable of supporting symmetrical 1-Gig speeds, but the company did not announce when it might launch such a service on HFC ("Gigabit Pro," Comcast's fiber-to-the-premises residential offering, pumps out symmetrical speeds of 3 Gbit/s). Meanwhile, the company has been upgrading the amount of spectrum it can dedicate to the upstream path on the DOCSIS 3.1 network and has made progress with DOCSIS 4.0 in [trials](#) that have pumped out symmetrical speeds of about 4 Gbit/s.

The rollout arrives about four months after Comcast [introduced its new xFi Advanced Gateway](#), a product that's also known internally as the XB8. [FCC documentation](#) indicates that Technicolor is a lead source for the new Wi-Fi 6E gateway, which is a follow-on to the XB7, Comcast's first D3.1 gateway to support Wi-Fi 6.

Comcast confirmed that it is also offering the new gateway to customers who subscribe to xFi Complete, a package that sells for an additional \$25 per month, bundling in the operator's unlimited data plan (regularly \$30 more per month on a standalone basis) and, if needed, one xFi Pod Wi-Fi extender. Comcast also leases the new gateway for an additional \$14 per month.

Supporting faster home broadband services is just one of the use cases that broadband service providers envision for Wi-Fi 6E. They're also expected to take advantage of the 6GHz band and the fast lane it offers to offload video to a new class of Wi-Fi-enabled set-top boxes or to use Wi-Fi 6E to support app-specific services such as online gaming and telemedicine.

Related posts:

* [Comcast debuts Wi-Fi 6E gateway as it preps for faster speeds on HFC](#)

* [Comcast tests 4-Gig speeds on DOCSIS 4.0 modem prototype](#)

* [How Comcast is paving the road to 10G](#)

* [Smartphones top Comcast's Wi-Fi consumption list](#)

* [CableLabs helps take Wi-Fi 6E to the test](#)

* [Wi-Fi 6E poised to pave a 'VIP lane' for service providers](#)

— Jeff Baumgartner, Senior Editor, [Light Reading](#)

CT baumgartner@lightreading.com

CO comcast : Comcast Corporation

IN iwrissl : Wireless Area Network Technology | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | i7902 : Telecommunication Services | iint : Online Service Providers | i3302 : Computers/Consumer Electronics | i3303 : Networking | i97411 : Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment | itech : Technology

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RE namz : North America

IPD Topics

PUB Light Reading

AN Document LITEREAD20220406ei4600003

DEADLINE

SE Breaking News -
HD **Starzplay Acquires HBO Max's 'Tokyo Vice'; DAZN Makes Key European Hire; Vice's Flight MH370 Doc Sells – Mip TV Briefs**
BY Jesse Whittcock
WC 510 words
PD 6 April 2022
SN Deadline
SC DLINE
LA English
CY Deadline Hollywood, LLC, a subsidiary of Penske Business Media. All Rights Reserved.

LP

Starzplay Acquires HBO's Max's Ken Watanabe Crime Thriller Series 'Tokyo Vice'

HBO Max's upcoming crime thriller Tokyo Vice is headed to streaming service Starzplay in Europe. The Starz streamer has acquired rights in Austria, Germany, German-speaking Switzerland, Ireland and the U.K. and will debut with two episodes on Sunday May 15. The Endeavor **Content** series, penned by J.T. Rogers, is loosely based on American journalist Jake Adelstein's firsthand account of the Tokyo Metropolitan Police in the late 1990s. It stars Ansel Elgort as Adelstein and Hiroto Katagiri, a detective who guides Jake through the neon-soaked underbelly of the city.

TD

DAZN Hires Ex-Sky M&A Exec Alice Mascia For Key European Role

Sports entertainment streamer DAZN has hired former Sky Deutschland exec Alice Mascia as CEO for Germany, Austria and Switzerland. She will join on 1 May to oversee the strategically-important region, where DAZN has rights to the German Bundesliga, UEFA Champions League, Italy's Serie A and Spain's La Liga. DAZN has made a series of management shifts in recent months, following Shay Segev's appointment as group CEO. Mascia's hire comes soon as Bosco Aranguren was tapped to lead Spain and Franco Bernabè and Stefano Azzi were appointed to oversee Italy.

History Boards Vice & Paramount+'s Doc 'MH370: The Last Flight'

Cable channel History is among three buyers of Paramount+ and SBS's upcoming three-part doc MH370: The Last Flight (working title). TV2 in Denmark and Viaplay (Sweden, Norway, Finland, Poland and pan-Baltic) have also snapped up the three-part series, which Vice Distribution launched at Mip TV this week. MH370: The Last Flight looks into the unexplained disappearance of the Malaysian Airlines flight in March 2014 through the eyes of victims' families. Paramount+ originally commissioned The Vice World News-produced doc along with Australian public broadcaster SBS.

Paramount's Pluto TV Adds A+E Networks UK Channels To Its FAST Streaming Service

Paramount's free streaming service Pluto TV has added a pair of A+E Networks UK channels. Inside Crime UK and Mystery TV are the latest channels to launch on the FAST service, which currently offers 1,000+ channels globally. Inside Crime will offer the likes of Crimes That Shook Britain and Britain's Darkest Taboos, while Mystery TV will include William Shatner's supernatural investigations series Weird or What.

Film & TV VFX House Misc Studios Launches In London

London's latest VFX house is Misc Studios, which post-production veterans Adam Luckwell and Michael Elson have launched this week. The company, based just north of post-production hub Soho, is already working on Amazon drama The Rig, LucasFilm's Trapper Keeper and Disney+ European original Nautilus. Lucwell and Elson, who also run advertising post house Unit, plan to run Misc with progressive culture based around sustainability and well being.

CO prmagf : Sky Deutschland GmbH | homboi : Home Box Office, Inc. | amronl : Warner Media, LLC | bsbro : Sky Limited | comcst : Comcast Corporation | sbcatt : AT&T Inc.

IN imsoft : Streaming Services | idistr : Media Content Distribution | iint : Online Service Providers | imed : Media/Entertainment | itech : Technology | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | i974110204 : Pay-per-view Television | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting

NS gaira : Aviation Accidents | gcrim : Crime/Legal Action | gtvrad : Television/Radio | ncdig : Corporate Digests | gcat : Political/General News | gdis : Disasters/Accidents | gent : Arts/Entertainment | gmmdis : Accidents/Man-made Disasters | gtacc : Transport Accidents | gtrans : Transport | ncat : Content Types

RE eurz : Europe | gfr : Germany | eland : England | jap : Japan | uk : United Kingdom | tokyo : Tokyo | apacz : Asia Pacific | asiaz : Asia | dach : DACH Countries | easiaz : Eastern Asia | eecz : European Union Countries | kanag : Kanto | weurz : Western Europe

PUB Variety Media, LLC

AN Document DLINE00020220406ei460005v

HD Comcast develops city services with Smart Solutions business

WC 170 words

PD 6 April 2022

SN Telecompaper Americas

SC TELAM

LA English

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LP

Comcast announced at the Smart Cities Connect Spring Conference & Expo in Columbus, Ohio, an expanded smart products business for cities, communities, and campuses called Comcast Smart Solutions. Building upon its existing offerings from Comcast Business, Xfinity Communities, and MachineQ, Comcast Smart Solutions will provide **connectivity** and consulting services in areas such as lighting, parking/curb, public works and waste management, storm water monitoring, asset tracking, video/light detection and ranging (LiDAR) analytics, building solutions and LED displays and digital kiosks.

TD

Recently, Comcast Smart Solutions worked with the city of Philadelphia on a smart lighting pilot, installing streetlights with built-in optical and environmental sensors that can count pedestrians, vehicles, bicyclists, and parked vehicles, and measure temperature, relative humidity, and carbon monoxide. The Philadelphia project is one of several pilots and products that the Comcast Smart Solutions team deployed working in partnership with local communities where the company operates. Other projects include Arlington County, Virginia; College Park, Georgia; and Pleasanton and Moraga in California.

CO comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN iled : LED Technologies | icnsl : Business Consultancy | i34531 : Semiconductors | iacc : Accounting/Consulting | ibcs : Business/Consumer Services | iindele : Industrial Electronics | iindstrls : Industrial Goods | ioptoel : Optoelectronic Devices | itech : Technology | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

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PUB Telecompaper BV

AN Document TELAM00020220406ei460005m

SE News
HD **Ryman inks landmark deal with NBCUniversal, Atairos**
BY By Sandy Mazza and Matthew Leimkuehler Nashville Tennessean
WC 783 words
PD 6 April 2022
SN Montgomery Advertiser
SC XMAD
ED 1; Advertiser
PG A7
LA English
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LP

Nashville's music scene is expanding its global reach for country, roots and Americana fans, and the city's iconic entertainment brands are leading the effort.

A new ally in Opry Entertainment Group's ambitions for Circle, home of Opry Live, and other Nashville-centric entertainment brands, has pledged \$300 million to scale up the media network and its **content** providers.

TD

Private-equity firm Atairos Group will take a 30% stake in OEG, a subsidiary of hotel-and-convention-center resort leader Ryman Hospitality Properties.

Opry Entertainment acts as the premier gatekeeper of Nashville's best-known trade – country music.

Together, the companies hope to leverage OEG to be a global powerhouse as "the leading player in country lifestyle live entertainment and media content," according to a joint statement.

The deal includes investment from NBCUniversal that could create future opportunities with other Comcast businesses.

Circle's platform will expand to maneuver in the hyper-competitive streaming landscape where brand giants such as Disney+, HBO Max, Amazon Prime Video – which hosted the ACM Awards last month – and Netflix continuously push to court subscribers with big-budget programming.

"This is a big deal for the company and a big deal for the city of Nashville," Ryman CEO Colin Reed said. "Our philosophy is to put these businesses in markets where the country-lifestyle consumer resides or visits. Ireland is a massive market for country music."

OEG worth \$1.5 billion

Atairos's partnership brings with it another meaningful landmark for the growing enterprise – OEG's first independent market valuation.

The firm signed onto the long-term partnership with Ryman Hospitality Properties after determining its entertainment properties are valued at between \$1.4 billion and \$1.5 billion.

The valuation is based on projected total earnings this year of \$80-88 million, multiplied by up to 18 times, according to company documents.

Assets include the 96-year-old Grand Ole Opry, 130-year-old Ryman Auditorium, WSM 650 AM radio station, media network Circle and Blake Shelton's Ole Red country-bar brand in Nashville, Orlando and Gatlinburg. Coming soon: A location in Las Vegas.

"We are pleased with the valuation," Reed said. "But, more importantly, we are pleased to have culturally compatible strategic partners in Atairos and NBCUniversal who will help us realize our long-term goal of reaching more country music fans than ever before."

Ryman is already investing in the subsidiary with the under-construction Ole Red Las Vegas and a pending \$27 million deal to buy Block 21, Austin's massive music-themed complex, anchored by "Austin City Limits" performance home Moody Theater.

The additions could add a bevy of new content opportunities.

'Durability demonstrated'

Ryman's hotel and resort arm dominates its business model, though its media and entertainment branch is growing. Meanwhile, Ryman's hospitality assets continue to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic's hit to business travel.

RHP is organized as a real-estate investment trust, a structure with low taxes that requires profits be paid to shareholders as dividends.

"If our business continues to recover the way we think it will, we anticipate being a dividend-paying company again in 2023," Reed said. "The hotel business is rapidly recovering. Convention traffic is improving rapidly."

If media and entertainment division OEG also continues to grow, it could be spun into a fully separate vehicle, he added.

There are more than 120 million U.S. consumers predisposed to country-music brands and entertainment experiences, according to Country Music Association's market research. That could expand exponentially with global exposure, officials said.

"If you look at what's happened to the live-entertainment business through the pandemic," RHP CFO Mark Fioravanti said. "Investors are ascribing higher values because of the durability demonstrated for live entertainment."

Sandy Mazza can be reached via email at smazza@tennessean.com, by calling 615-726-5962, or on Twitter @SandyMazza.

The deal by the numbers:

30% Atairos Group stake in Opry Entertainment Group

70% of OEG will remain with Ryman Hospitality Properties

\$1.5 billion valuation of Opry Entertainment Group

\$300 million capital infusion from Atairos Group

\$80-88 million anticipated OEG profit this year

21% increase in country-music listeners outside U.S. since 2015

ART The new front entrance of the Ryman Auditorium is part of a \$14 million improvement project that includes a new state-of-the-art daytime tour attraction, Cafe Lula, enhanced food and beverage services throughout the building, a new box office with interior and exterior windows, additional bathrooms, larger lobbies and an expanded retail area. | Photos by Shelley Mays/The Tennessean

CO okpub : Ryman Hospitality Properties Inc. | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN i81502 : Trusts/Funds/Financial Vehicles | i8150206 : Investment Trusts | i815020602 : Real Estate Investment Trusts | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | icre : Real Estate/Construction | ifinal : Financial Services | ihotreit : Hospitality REITs | iinv : Investing/Securities | imed : Media/Entertainment | ireest : Real Estate

NS gcat : Political/General News | gmusic : Music | gent : Arts/Entertainment

RE ustn : Tennessee | namz : North America | usa : United States | uss : Southern U.S.

PUB Gannett Media Corp.

AN Document XMAD000020220406ei460000a

SE International
HD **Sean Penn speaks to viewers across political spectrum about Russia's invasion of Ukraine**

WC 447 words

PD 6 April 2022

SN Indo-Asian News Service

SC HNIANS

LA English

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LP

Los Angeles, April 6 (IANS) Director-actor Sean Penn recently made an appearance on television channels - both the Right-leaning Fox News and Left-leaning MSNBC within a span of two hours to share his thoughts with **cable** viewers across the political spectrum, reports 'Variety'.

Penn took to television to discuss support for Ukraine amid the country's invasion by Russian military forces. As per 'Variety', he began the evening with an in-person appearance on the N.Y.-based 'Hannity', engaging in a conversation with Fox News conservative commentator Sean Hannity. Hannity began the segment by recounting how the comparatively liberal Penn decided to come onto the program.

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Hannity said, "I made the first phone call to you. Do you remember what you first said to me?" To which Penn responded by saying, "I said 'I don't trust you. But we have to get on with life... We all talk about how divisive things are, how divided things are here. When you step into a country of incredible unity, you realize what we've all been missing. I don't think I've got time to indulge my lack of trust, which becomes a petty thing. These people are fighting for the dreams and aspirations of all of us Americans.'"

He then went on to explain the documentary he was filming in Ukraine before the country was invaded and attacked by Russian forces, and how his relationship with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy evolved as the conflict escalated. He said, "In him, I saw something I'd never seen before. It is clear to me that the Ukrainians will win this. The question is at what cost."

After his conversation with Hannity, Penn appeared on MSNBC's 'The Last Word With Lawrence O'Donnell' in which he extended further praise for President Zelenskyy. As per 'Variety', he told O'Donnell, "(Zelenskyy) is the face of so many Ukrainians. And yet, it's not conceivable that he could've known the day before that he would really be able to rise up. This is leadership that we aspire to."

"This is freedom of thought and true leadership that is just so moving. It's the kind of moving that we need to be able to get [to the United States], which is borderline a kind of populist lap dance of a nation at this point. We've got to get back on track together and realize that Ukraine, with all its diversity, has a unity we've never seen in modern times with the challenge it has", he added.

--IANS

aa/kr

CO nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS gvexe : Executive Branch | gtvrad : Television/Radio | gmovie : Movies | gvio : Military Action | gcat : Political/General News | gcns : National/Public Security | gent : Arts/Entertainment | gpir : Politics/International Relations | gppl : Domestic Politics | grisk : Risk News | gvbod : Government Bodies

RE ukrn : Ukraine | russ : Russia | asiaz : Asia | bric : BRICS Countries | devgcoz : Emerging Market Countries | dvpcoz : Developing Economies | eeurz : Central/Eastern Europe | eurz : Europe | ussrz : CIS Countries

PUB IANS India Pvt. Ltd.

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HD Ryman Hospitality Properties Inc Announces Strategic Investment in Opry Entertainment Group by Atairos and NBCUniversal M&A Call - Final

WC 6,821 words

PD 5 April 2022

SN VIQ FD Disclosure

SC FNDW

LA English

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Presentation

OPERATOR: Welcome to Ryman Hospitality Properties Investor Call. Hosting the call today from Ryman Hospitality Properties are **Mr.** Colin Reed, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer; **Mr.** Mark Fioravanti, President; Ms. Jennifer Hutcheson, Chief Financial Officer; **Mr.** Scott Bailey, President, Opry Entertainment Group; and Todd Siefert, SVP, Corporate Finance and Treasurer.

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This call will be available for digital replay. The number is (800) 938-0996 with no conference ID required. (Operator Instructions)

It is now my pleasure to turn the floor over to Mr. Mark Fioravanti. Sir, you may begin.

MARK FIORAVANTI, PRESIDENT & DIRECTOR, RYMAN HOSPITALITY PROPERTIES, INC.: Good morning. Thank you for joining us today. This call may contain forward-looking statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Any statements we make today that are not statements of historical facts may be deemed to be forward-looking statements. Example of these statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding the pending acquisition of the Block 21 mixed-use project in Austin, Texas; the proposed investment by Atairos Group, Inc. and its affiliates in our Opry Entertainment business and the potential benefits of such transactions.

These forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the statements made today. These risks and uncertainties include, but are not limited to, any event or change in circumstances that could delay the closing of the Block 21 transaction or the Atairos transaction or that could result in the termination of the Block 21 transaction or the Atairos transaction prior to closing or the occurrence of any other event which could adversely impact our business, including the outbreak of a new variant of COVID-19 virus or a downturn in the U.S. economy generally. Other risks and uncertainties that could cause results to differ are described in filings made from time to time by us with the Securities and Exchange Commission and include the risk factors described in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year-ended December 31, 2021 and subsequent filings. Except as required by law, we will not update any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or any other reason.

We may also discuss non-GAAP financial measures today. We reconcile any such non-GAAP measure to the most comparable GAAP measure in the investor presentation we issued in connection with today's call.

I'll now turn the call over to Colin.

COLIN V. REED, CHAIRMAN & CEO, RYMAN HOSPITALITY PROPERTIES, INC.: Thanks, Mark. These safe harbors get longer. Good morning, everyone, and thank you for joining us.

Today is the beginning of the next chapter in the life of Ryman Hospitality and, particularly, Opry Entertainment business. Over the last several years, we've spent a lot of time exploring ways in which we can unlock value in our entertainment business, but at the same time demonstrate to you, our shareholders, that this business that we know as OEG is indeed very valuable.

Notwithstanding the impact of COVID on our company, last year, many entities, including multiple SPAC originators, contacted us to suggest that we partner with them or, in some cases, sell this business outright to them. I can tell you firsthand that this has been an enormously complex set of challenges that we've had to navigate, but I believe we've arrived at a very satisfactory outcome.

Since 2013, being a REIT has clearly served its purpose and allow us to create a lot of value for our shareholders, but a REIT structure is not ideal for our entertainment business. We hold OEG in a taxable REIT subsidiary and the increasing value and profitability that these businesses generate don't contribute to the qualifying assets and income for our REIT compliance tests. This creates some challenges for us as we look to continue to grow this business and unlock its value.

So early in the second quarter of last year, we appointed Morgan Stanley to help us think through the optimal structure and to help evaluate which strategic partner would bring the most muscle to help us turbocharge the growth of our entertainment business.

In the third and fourth quarter of last year, we spent time in discussions with about 10 different organizations who had expressed serious interest in partnering with us. During every discussion we had, we stressed that there were very, very, very important points that we were looking for. Number one, a partner who cares as much about this business as we do, someone who is committed to preserving and protecting the cultural integrity of the magnificent assets under our care. Two, a partner who brings expertise and resources to the table, that will help us position our business with a global audience and form new relationships with customers. Three, a partner who shared our vision for how our company could become a global leader in the country lifestyle and live entertainment space. And four, a partner who was prepared to work with us and accommodate our needs, particularly as it relates to our REIT structure and our desire to control this business for the foreseeable future given our belief around growth and long-term value creation.

As a consequence of all of this, we found a partner that we believe checks every box, and we are excited to announce that Atairos, an investment firm whose capital comes from NBCUniversal, as well as NBCUniversal itself in a direct investment role, will be our partners prospectively.

Now when you step back and observe what Atairos and NBCUniversal brings to the table, it's quite impressive. Patient capital, deep industry expertise, a vast network of resources, capabilities and relationships highly relevant to the Opry family as well as an international expertise. This is very exciting.

The structure of our partnership, whereby Atairos and NBCUniversal will initially acquire 30% of the Opry Entertainment's group equity for a combined sum of \$293 million, \$15 million of which comes directly from NBC, is also the ideal outcome for our shareholders.

The agreed upon valuation of our business at a minimum of \$1.4 billion, inclusive of Block 21 assets to be acquired, is far above the average of what most analysts who write about our stock have ascribed to it, which validates what we have long believed and puts a public mark on these assets. And that value can grow by an additional \$100 million, implying an additional \$30 million of proceeds to Ryman should Opry Entertainment Group achieve certain targets. This valuation range represents a multiple of 19 to 20x on 2019's pro forma adjusted EBITDA of \$74 million, and this assumes Opry and Block 21 have been combined for this year.

Alternatively, it represents a 17 to 18 multiple, at the midpoint of our expectations, for the combined entities in 2022's pro forma adjusted EBITDA of \$84 million.

For comparison, our shares this year to date have traded right about 17x on analyst views of our consolidated 2022 EBITDA. But of course, 2022 is not a full COVID-recovered run rate for our hotel business, so with so many of our expansions and investments still maturing and the impact of Omicron weighing on the first half of this year.

So truly, this transaction represents an attractive valuation for our company compared to where RHP as a whole is currently valued by the market on a normalized earnings basis.

Furthermore, by retaining 70% of the business at this time, our shareholders will participate meaningfully in the value creation that we, Atairos and NBCUniversal envision in the years ahead.

And the capital that we will raise from this investment will allow Ryman to incrementally delever our balance sheet, accelerating our return to pre-pandemic levels.

Separately, the new Opry Entertainment Group entity will take on its own direct indebtedness in the form of a fully underwritten \$300 million Term Loan B and a revolving credit facility with a \$50 million -- with \$50 million of capacity. After fees and expenses, the proceeds of this term loan, along with the Atairos' funds, will be applied to pay down Ryman's \$300 million Term Loan A and the remaining -- and the remainder to outstanding balances on our revolving credit facility, resulting in a net reduction of about half-turn in leverage on the consolidated RHP.

Finally, our artists, employees, sponsors and other community stakeholders, this structure ensures that the will continue to contribute to the stewardship of these iconic venues, with no abrupt changes or disruptions as we bring Atairos into the fold. So it's truly a win-win all around for everyone involved in this transaction.

Now I'm sure you'll have plenty of questions about what we and Atairos may have in our strategic plan for the future. We'll do our best to address these for you today, though it's too early to talk in terms of specific plans and decisions as we're currently focused on closing and integrating Block 21 and then closing this transaction.

Nevertheless, there are some broad strategic categories in which we can give you a taste. These include exploring new distribution channels and methods; developing new forms and sources of content and programming; applying more technology across all facets of the business, both online and in and around the venue experience; and finally, leveraging our combined financial and strategic resources to pursue both organic unit growth and further acquisitions, development or partnerships.

From this point, the real fun and interesting work begins as we pursue these and other opportunities together now with Atairos with a unified vision of establishing the Opry Entertainment Group as a leading player in the country lifestyle and live entertainment content.

Last but not least, I want to thank my partners here at the company, particularly Mark and Scott Lynn, our General Counsel, and the rest of the management team, who have really worked so hard on these negotiations and the structuring of this pretty complicated transaction. They've done a world-class job, very proud of the work they've done.

And so now what we'd like to do, Gretchen, I think, is go directly to questions. I'm sure there are quite a few. So let's open the call up for questions.

Questions and Answers

OPERATOR: (Operator Instructions) And we'll take our first question from Dori Kesten from Wells Fargo.

DORI LYNN KESTEN, SENIOR ANALYST, WELLS FARGO SECURITIES, LLC, RESEARCH DIVISION: And congratulations on the announcement. Can you give us some details around your partners' right to acquire up to 49% of OEG?

COLIN V. REED: Yes. Mark, do you want to take those?

MARK FIORAVANTI: Sure. Dori, they do have an incremental purchase right. And that purchase right in over 3 years, 2023, 2024 and 2025. And it is -- it's based on a formula value subject to a floor, and it's capped. The amount is capped each year in association with our ability to sell down due to our REIT constraints, specifically the 75% gross income test.

DORI LYNN KESTEN: Okay. And I guess I was just wondering, was the delay in the closing of Block 21 in any way related to this? Or is it just a slow process with the servicer as it was last time?

MARK FIORAVANTI: No. It's just been a slow and opaque process with the CMBS servicer, particularly because it's in special servicing coming out COVID. So it has just taken longer than we certainly anticipated. But we are, I would say, rounding third and headed home, we've gotten servicer approval at this point and just finalizing the documentation. So ...

COLIN V. REED: We are hopeful, what, you think at the end of the month, Mark?

MARK FIORAVANTI: Yes. We've extended our agreement with (inaudible) at the end of May.

COLIN V. REED: Yes, but we hope to get it done before then -- yes.

DORI LYNN KESTEN: Yes. So the midpoint of OEG's net debt-to-EBITDA looks like around 5.5x on 2022 estimates. But what do you think the appropriate long-term leverage is for this business?

MARK FIORAVANTI: We're targeting 4.5%.

COLIN V. REED: Yes, it's no different to the way we think about Ryman. The good news is we have a partner that has a lot of capital, and we have a partner that has as higher expectations for growth as we do. And so we will navigate leverage as we deploy more and more capital into this business.

OPERATOR: Our next question comes from Chris Woronka from Deutsche Bank.

CHRIS JON WORONKA, RESEARCH ANALYST, DEUTSCHE BANK AG, RESEARCH DIVISION: Congratulations on getting this across the finish line. First question was kind of on focus of the Opry

Entertainment business now that you've got this done. Because I know historically, right, it's been kind of centered around Nashville and then kind of expanding into the Ole Red locations. So does having a partner like this kind of get you more of a national and broader focus beyond just some of the traditional venues that you've operated?

COLIN V. REED: You -- Chris, Colin. I'll give this a go and then I'll let my, let the team here weigh in on this.

This is a very, very -- the way you've described it, I suppose, is somewhat accurate. But the way we think about it is the customer that we are trying to build the relationship with lives all across this country and also lives in other countries across the world.

Scott Bailey, our President, has talked about -- President of OEG has talked about through the pandemic, we're streaming to upwards of 100 countries every week. The Opry goes out to -- through streaming to approximately 100 countries.

So the thing that excites me about this relationship, hitching our wagon to an organization that has the tentacles that this organization has is that it will, in our opinion, if we do this right, we'll speed up the communication process with these consumers, that they're all across this nation and all across the planet. And that's what we're ultimately focused on.

The work that we've been doing recently with Ole Red, Block 21 in Austin, Texas is essentially putting facilities in markets that we know that this consumer either visits or lives in. Las Vegas will be a hell of a deal for us because there probably is 20 million country lifestyle consumers out of the 45 million that frequent Las Vegas every year. It will give us this ability to touch these consumers.

The thing with this organization with Atairos and their affiliation with NBCUniversal will allow us to penetrate these customers far more so and speed up this relationship building, bringing the artist community into the lives of these consumers wherever they live. That's the thing that excites us about this deal.

And by the way, we believe -- I believe this passionately, that if we do this right and we build these relationships with these customers, it is also going to increase the amount of consumers that frequent the city of Nashville and frequent the city of Austin, Texas. So this is not just a deal that benefits our shareholders, Atairos, NBCUniversal. I think it's going to have a profound impact on the communities in which we do business.

CHRIS JON WORONKA: Yes, Colin, that's really good perspective. And then I guess the second, the follow-up, the other thing this does, right, is kind of it delevers your overall business, but especially the hospitality business. So how do we -- I know we're talking more about this deal today. But how do you frame it in the context of this opening up more doors for you, do things on the hotel side as well.

COLIN V. REED: Yes. I'll -- I don't want to be doing all the talking here, I've got a world-class team sitting around this table. But let me answer this question, and then I'll start opening to our colleagues.

Look, we're not going to get into the detail, but our business is rapidly recovering. Our business is -- we're very excited about our hotel business and the way it is recovering and the way the consumer is reacting to these world-class assets of ours.

We have very strong views about ways we can grow these assets further, make them even more, the lawyers hate me using this word, dominant in the markets in which they do business in. We know SoundWaves has really done a world-class job through COVID and has had enormous positive impact on Opry land through COVID. And so we have aspirations to maybe do more SoundWaves-type facilities.

So we're very excited about our hotel business. All this does is bring more capital in line here.

And the other part of it is downstream, when we identify the next Block 21 that we want to do, the next \$250 million, next \$300 million, it won't be exclusively our capital. We have now a partner with very deep pockets that wants to deploy capital and grow this business.

So I think this deal is going to be not only good for our entertainment business, not only good for the communities, not only good for the artists, but it's going to allow us to probably accelerate the growth of our hotel business as well.

Anyone else want to lay on that one?

MARK FIORAVANTI: Anything else, Chris?

COLIN V. REED: He's gone.

OPERATOR: Our next question come from Rose Smedes from Citi.

SMEDES ROSE, RESEARCH ANALYST, CITIGROUP INC. EXCHANGE RESEARCH: It's Smedes. I was just wondering if you could talk a little bit about some of the metrics you need to achieve to get the additional \$30 million investment?

MARK FIORAVANTI: Yes. It's simply profitability measures in '23 and '24 that are associated with the long-range plan that was used in the valuation work of the deal. So we have an LRP. And if we execute against that LRP in '23 or '24, then it would trigger that additional value.

COLIN V. REED: The practical part of it is that because of the capital that we were in the process of deploying, building an Ole Red at the airport, building here in Nashville, building an Ole Red in Las Vegas, doing all the things that we want to do at Block 21, in our discussions with our partners, it was -- these businesses are going to ramp up. And so we came to an agreement that the value of the business would be greater if the projects that we have identified come to fruition in a way we think they will. That's how this thing is, we structured this way.

SMEDES ROSE: Okay. And then I just wanted to ask, Colin, as OEG now, I mean, opportunities will accelerate investment and you will be spending more time there. So is it fair to say that Mark will be taking on more responsibility in terms of the hotel side of the business? Or how should we just think about how everyone kind of spending the bulk of their time?

COLIN V. REED: Yes, I read your report this morning with the headline, is this the precursor to succession? And I think you've -- when we were together at the -- great conference down in Fort Lauderdale, we touched on this subject, and I think I made the comment that we've been working on succession in this company for the last decade, and that's just the way good Boards operate. And so as I look around this room, these are folks that we have penciled in to carry the torch of this company for the long term.

And so I have, over the last 20 years, spent quite a bit of my time building a relationship with many of the folks that we deal with on the entertainment side, the artists. Yesterday, I spent a good part of my time talking directly to world-class artists directly, not just their management teams, about this.

So I feel like the opportunity for growth in the entertainment business, the net is going to be much wider than the -- what I would call the opportunity for growth in the hotel business. I don't -- you're not going to see us in the hotel business go by 5, 6, 7, 300-room hotels at \$1 million a key in places like Key West, we're not going to go do that. We're going to continue to work on the strategy that we have been very, very clear about in our hotel business for the last decade.

And that's -- our hotel strategy growth I think is far simpler but will be good from a growth perspective, far simpler, than the complex set of issues that we have to navigate on the entertainment side because I think the net on the entertainment side is much wider. How we deal with Circle, how we deal with more Theaters, more Ole Reds, how we build out the whole digital side of this business.

And so I suspect in my 8 to 10 hours a day, I suspect I'll be engage more so in the entertainment side. But we've got a really good team of people that run this business. And I expect and the company expects, the Board expects the strategy to sort of come from the bowels of our entertainment business.

So I know I'm rambling here a bit, but I think the growth opportunities for our company over the next 12 to 24 months are enormous. Mark and I will be spending our time where we identify growth as an opportunity.

MICHAEL JASON BILERMAN, MD, HEAD OF THE US REAL ESTATE & LODGING RESEARCH AND SENIOR REAL ESTATE ANALYST, CITIGROUP INC., RESEARCH DIVISION: Colin, It's Michael Bilerman, here with Smedes. I just had a question. As you talked a little bit about at the outset of settling then on this partnership and finding a partner who would take the care and be committed and have the expertise, the resources, have the globality, but you talked about obviously accommodating your needs as a REIT, both from a control perspective, that you also want to maintain control of this business but dealing with a lot of the income and asset tests.

As you think about the value, and it sounded like there were some partners or buyers that wanted to buy this thing outright, how did those values compare to the 1.4 or 1.5 of an earn-out and contingency as to say a premia today for it?

COLIN V. REED: No, no, look, so I'm going to give you -- I can -- I'll give you a one-liner answer. And that is these values -- the ones that took it seriously, the values were all in the same ZIP code, period, end of the story.

But -- but this wasn't just about the value of the business. It's -- who's got the muscle and the strategic horsepower that can drive this, that can drive this business forward with us. It is also -- I guarantee you, the valuation was sort of my third, fourth on the list of things we wanted to test. Because this business of ours,

it relies, Smedes, relies on the relationship that it has built over 96 years with the members of the -- of the music industry.

And so if somebody came in here and said, "Hey, the number is 1.6 and that organization could potentially blow up that relationship because they don't give a" -- I was going to use a little bit of profanity.

MICHAEL JASON BILERMAN: I know where you were going with it.

COLIN V. REED: They don't give a damn about it. We're not going to do that in this community. We're not going to do that.

So this was a very complicated series of interviews that we did with all of these organizations. And the folks from Atairos and NBCUniversal, I think, convinced us, the management team, and convinced our Board that when you add all these things up, when you look at their capabilities, you look at the value, and you look at just the integrity of these people, this was by far the best dance partner for us.

MICHAEL JASON BILERMAN: Yes, I know it sounds like they bring a lot to the table. And the last question we had was just, you talked a little bit about their right to move up to that 49% level and that there's a floor on valuation and a methodology to calculate that value. Does Ryman have any repurchase rights on the stake that you're selling? And does that have any calculations or floors with that? What are your ability to buy it back effectively? I know you got into a marriage, and I have been talking about divorce, but I was just wondering what's the reciprocal in the event it doesn't turn out the way you wanted it to.

MARK FIORAVANTI: Yes, we don't -- I mean, we don't have a specific buyback right? The way that the deal is structured, currently, we've retained the ability to cause a liquidity event, whether that's an IPO, a spin, a sale, et cetera. And in different circumstances, we would have the ability, if we would determine not to undertake a liquidity event, to buy them out at a return and a prenegotiated return. But we don't have specific rights that in a year, we determined, this isn't working, that we can buy them out at a specific price.

COLIN V. REED: No, but it would have to sit down. That's exactly right. But yes, I -- since I've lived in this country for 34 years, 35 years now, I've been fortunate enough to be involved in many different deals working with Mike Rose's, Chairman of Holiday Corp. And I've got to tell you, this is one of the more complicated deals. But we -- and this deal wasn't done over some dinner. This took hours and hours and hours of discussion.

And I honestly go into this feeling that the folks on the other side, world-class quality people. And my view is just like our relationship with our friends at Gray Television. And I feel like that if we get to a point where there is a difference of opinion, a dispute,, I feel like we'll be able to resolve those issues. And in the event that we feel like the marriage shouldn't go forward, I feel like that we'll be able to deal with this in a way that's acceptable to our shareholders. So that was my answer.

MARK FIORAVANTI: Yes, the only thing I would add is that it was important to us that they have real equity risk and not -- just not be structured as a preferred instrument where they have preferred exits or guaranteed returns.

And keep in mind that we are the majority shareholder, we will control the Board. And while they have, including in terms of major decisions, we continue to control the liquidity events and ultimately manage the business.

OPERATOR: Next question comes from Shaun Kelley from Bank of America.

SHAUN CLISBY KELLEY, MD IN AMERICAS EQUITY RESEARCH & RESEARCH ANALYST, BOFA SECURITIES, RESEARCH DIVISION: Colin, maybe just to stick with the structuring question because we're kind of on that topic. Just to dig a little deeper, is there anything in the process or in your ownership here, be it tax basis or whatnot, that actually precludes or makes it penalizing to do sort of an outright acquisition here when we think about structuring minority investment going up to 49%? Was there -- I would think there's probably a reason that you didn't want to maybe trigger that change of control. What is that? Or what governing factors might have been incorporated into your thought process?

COLIN V. REED: Well, I mean, first and foremost -- first and foremost, the fact that we're a real estate investment trust and this is -- these are nonqualifying assets makes it -- there are some things that we can do and some things we can't do. And one of the things we can't do is we can't go and sell 75% or 100% of this business for the value that we think it's worth today. We can't do that. It blows the REIT up. And that -- the tax consequences of that are things that we don't want to talk about or think about. It is problematic.

And so the way we've structured this with a partner like Atairos, we're comfortable -- we're comfortable at some point if they own 49%, we want to make sure that as long as this business is under our umbrella, that

we're doing -- we're doing all the right things to grow this business in a way that maintains the relationship we have with the music industry.

So we've agreed to allow them to buy up to a maximum of 49%. We've also agreed downstream, Mark, you may want to touch on this, we've agreed in year 4, year 5 that they can call for an IPO of this business. And at some point, we will separate the business. We've talked about this. I don't know for -- I don't know, 3, 5 years now.

So we feel like this structure gives us all the wiggle room we need to do this in a way that allows us to navigate the complexities of this REIT structure.

MARK FIORAVANTI: Yes. To Colin's point, the REIT structure does create some liquidity constraints, both for us as well as our partner. And so as Colin mentioned, in the event of a sale or an IPO, we have provided them with certain return guarantees because of the potential for liquidity impact due to our REIT compliance. If we would do a spin, then they don't have those return guarantees because the liquidity issue of the REIT goes away.

And it's also, as Colin mentioned, they do have, after year 4, the right to request an IPO and then we have the ability to execute against that. Or again, they can put it to us at a -- put their investment back to us at a specified return.

And the only other thing I would mention is that we talked about their ability to purchase options in '23, '24 and '25. If they execute that purchase option, then those minimum return and put rights go away.

COLIN V. REED: Yes, that's right.

SHAUN CLISBY KELLEY: Just a little deeper. And then my other question is just as we think about the financial run rate here, I think you provided some incremental information here. So we think about the \$80 million to \$88 million for 2022. Obviously, super healthy growth over pre-COVID levels. So can you just help us think about what you're seeing on the organic growth piece of the business? And then there are some capital needs, I think, here as you build out Ole Red in particular, but probably some other features in the business. So you can obviously think about capital needs for '22 and '23. So first one was organic growth and the second one will be some of the capital needs going forward.

COLIN V. REED: Do you want to tackle...

MARK FIORAVANTI: Yes. I mean there is -- there has been and there continues to be strong organic growth in the business. We have made considerable investments both pre and during COVID in things like yield management, our ticketing -- new ticketing systems and how we manage tickets in our venues, our food and beverage offerings that help drive per caps. We've also improved our -- if you look at our run rate of events over time, we've increased utilization at our existing assets. You obviously have the continued ramp-up in Orlando, Ole Red opened in Orlando during the pandemic. And so that business, as that market comes back and conventioners come back to that market, we'll see that business ramp.

And then as Colin mentioned, we have -- we've got Las Vegas and BNA under construction. And that really speaks to capital. We do have those 2 projects that are under development.

But the greatest capital need in this business, Shaun, is -- will be Block 21 in that closing, both the equity check and then the improvements that we have planned there for the venue as well as the hotel.

COLIN V. REED: The other part of all of this, of course, is when you look at the amount of hotel rooms that have been built or are under construction in this market over the last couple of years, what is going on right now, you look at that, [W] that just has traded for \$950,000 a key, we -- everyone expects this market here in Nashville just to continue to see more and more visitors. And I think that will happen. And that, of course, will be good for our business as well.

OPERATOR: Our next question comes from Jay Kornreich from SMBC Nikko.

JAY BRADLEY KORNREICH, RESEARCH ANALYST, SMBC NIKKO SECURITIES AMERICA, INC., RESEARCH DIVISION: I guess as you've been continuously investing into this entertainment platform over the years and it's performed quite well, from a timing perspective, what made you interested in selling a stake at this point in the platform's growth instead of continue to grow before looking in for an equity partner?

COLIN V. REED: So there was many reasons, many reasons. Number one, we've just gone through COVID. And whether we like it or not, 2020 probably cost us \$600 million, \$700 million with the shutting of all of our businesses. And our balance sheet went out of whack, like everybody else in the hospitality business. We have a responsibility to deal with that. So that's number one.

Number two, we have been inundated with every -- every investment banker that has been dealing with SPACs coming to us and saying, "Hey, this is a beautiful business to SPAC." We just didn't like the idea we're giving away 10% of the business to somebody that just brings money and no real expertise.

We've also had strategics come at us. And we've witnessed what has gone on in just the investment community's appetite for live music businesses. If you look at the multiple expansion that Live Nation has gone through over the course of the last 12 to 24 months through COVID, that there's been a real appreciation for what these folks do. And that also has sort of shone a light on our business. So we felt that we're doing this at a reasonably good time for many different reasons.

But at the end of the day, you just heard from half a dozen of the sell-side analysts that have asked questions on this call this morning and not one of these folks had evaluation on this business anywhere like this. And so it was the confluence of all of these things that -- and frankly, we've been working on this issue for 12 months. Because like it or not, if this business continues to grow, it could have caused a structural problem. If it continues to grow in the form it was in, it could have caused a structural problem within the REIT at some point in time. We'll have to deal with it at some point.

So we decided that this was a really good time for the reasons I've just articulated. And quite candidly, I'm very pleased with the valuation. I'm very pleased with the partner that we've selected. And I think we can grow the living daylights out of this business and create a lot of value.

JAY BRADLEY KORNREICH: Yes, that makes a lot of sense and a great perspective. And I guess just a follow-up on just that last comment. As you've been expressing commitment to the entertainment business and continuing to grow it, I guess on the flip side is, as Atairos can increase its ownership to 49%, I guess does this transaction really demonstrate maybe more of a shift to the hospitality business and more pure-play strategy? Or do you really intend to keep a historical level of focus on the entertainment business going forward?

COLIN V. REED: We're -- no change on the entertainment business. We are going to continue to apply the focus that we've applied over the last few years as we've grown this baby. And we're going to continue to apply that same degree of focus prospectively.

But I think with a partner now like Atairos/NBCUniversal, the opportunity for growth becomes a little wider and a little more exciting.

MARK FIORAVANTI: Yes. The only thing I would add to that is that a pure-play strategy has always been our strategy. I think we've articulated since we converted to a REIT that ultimately we thought that the opportunity here to maximize value for shareholders was to have 2 separate businesses, 1 being entertainment and 1 being the hospitality REIT. And we're still on that path. This is just the next chapter as we move towards that as an ultimate.

COLIN V. REED: Yes. And we've been very clear. Historically, we've said one of the things -- one of the attributes of this business, well, several, that we need to demonstrate, number one, that it has scale. It is a business that could generate \$100 million of EBITDA. It's got the scale to stand on its own 2 feet.

And it's got a growth curve, it's got a growth curve that is really exciting to the investment community. And we believe doing what we've done, this interim step just accelerates those 2, we believe, important features that we're going to need in order to allow this business to stand on its own 2 feet.

Thanks, buddy. All right. So I think -- do we have...

TODD SIEFERT, SVP CORPORATE FINANCE & TREASURER, RYMAN HOSPITALITY PROPERTIES, INC.: See if anybody has anymore questions.

COLIN V. REED: We'll see if there's any more questions and -- question. Gretchen, if not, we'll terminate the call.

OPERATOR: No more questions at this time.

COLIN V. REED: Excellent. All right. Well, thank you, everyone, and appreciate your time this morning and upward and onward. Thank you very much indeed.

OPERATOR: This does conclude today's program. Thank you for your participation. You may disconnect at this time. Have a great day.

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HD **Atairos, NBCUniversal Join Grand Ole Opry**

BY by Chris Nolter

WC 235 words

PD 5 April 2022

SN The Deal

SC DEALNEW

LA English

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LP

Atairos Group Inc. and Comcast Corp.'s (CMSA) NBCUniversal Inc. are purchasing a 30% stake in the parent of the Grand Ole Opry from Ryman Hospitality Properties Inc. (RHP), the parties said April 4.

The deal values Opry Entertainment Group, which includes assets including the iconic country music venue, at about \$1.42 billion. Atairos, the private equity firm founded by former Comcast CEO Michael J. Angelakis, could make an additional \$30 million **investment** that would push the valuation to about \$1.52 billion.

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Ryman said it received unsolicited interest in Opry in June 2021. "In the third and fourth quarter of last year, we spent time in discussions with about 10 different organizations who had expressed serious interest in partnering with us," chairman and CEO Colin Reed told investors during a Tuesday investor call.

J.P. Morgan Chase Bank NA and Morgan Stanley Senior Funding Inc. are providing financing for the deal.

Morgan Stanley is Ryman's financial adviser. A Bass, Berry & Sims plc led by F. Mitchell Walker, Jr., Lori B. Morgan and Eric J. Knox are Ryman's legal counsel while Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP attorneys David Polster Trevor Allen provide tax advice.

Moelis & Co. LLC bankers Navid Mahmoodzadegan, Augusto Sasso, Alex Rubin, Michael Chan, Matthew Janukowicz and Michael Gamache are Atairos' financial adviser, with William Chudd of Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP providing legal counsel.

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SE News - TV
HD Sean Penn Appears on Fox News and MSNBC on Same Night to Sound Alarm on Ukraine
BY J. Kim Murphy
WC 667 words
PD 5 April 2022
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LA English
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Sean Penn spoke to **cable** viewers across the political spectrum on Tuesday night, appearing on both the right-leaning Fox News and left-leaning MSNBC within the span of two hours to discuss support for Ukraine amid the country's invasion by Russian military forces.

Penn began the evening with an in-person appearance on the N.Y.-based "Hannity," engaging in a conversation with Fox News conservative commentator Sean Hannity. Hannity began the segment by recounting how the comparatively liberal Penn decided to come onto the program.

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"I made the first phone call to you," Hannity began. "Do you remember what you first said to me?"

"I said 'I don't trust you,'" Penn responded. "But we have to get on with life... We all talk about how divisive things are, how divided things are here. When you step into a country of incredible unity, you realize what we've all been missing. I don't think I've got time to indulge my lack of trust, which becomes a petty thing. These people are fighting for the dreams and aspirations of all of us Americans."

Penn went on to explain the documentary he was filming in Ukraine before the invasion began, and how his relationship with Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy evolved as the conflict escalated.

"In him, I saw something I'd never seen before," Penn said. "It is clear to me that the Ukrainians will win this. The question is at what cost."

Penn's conversation with Hannity was followed by an appearance on MSNBC's "The Last Word With Lawrence O'Donnell" in which he extended further praise for President Zelenskyy. It is somewhat rare for an individual outside of the cable news rotation to make appearances on two different networks on the same night, especially two with traditionally opposing partisan sensibilities.

"[Zelenskyy] is the face of so many Ukrainians. And yet, it's not conceivable that he could've known the day before that he would really be able to rise up," Penn told O'Donnell. "This is leadership that we aspire to. This is freedom of thought and true leadership that is just so moving. It's the kind of moving that we need to be able to get [to the United States], which is borderline a kind of populist lap dance of a nation at this point. We've got to get back on track together and realize that Ukraine, with all its diversity, has a unity we've never seen in modern times with the challenge it has."

Sean Penn has started to make more cable news appearances in the time since Russia began its invasion of Ukraine in February. The actor and activist has devoted himself to operations around the geopolitical conflict in recent weeks. In February, Penn was on the ground in Ukraine filming a documentary for Vice Studios. Penn's nonprofit organization CORE is also actively raising funds to assist Ukrainian refugees.

At the end of last month, Penn made an appearance on CNN and vowed to Jim Acosta that he would publicly "smelt" his Oscar statuettes if the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences didn't invite President Zelenskyy to speak during the awards ceremony telecast.

"I pray that's not what's happened," Penn told Acosta. "I pray there have not been arrogant people, who consider themselves representatives of the greater good in my industry, that have [decided against

checking] with leadership in Ukraine. So I'm just going to hope that that's not what's happened. I hope [every attendee] walks out if it is."

While Zelenskyy did not appear during the Oscars broadcast, he did appear in a pre-taped message at the Grammy Awards on Sunday. It remains unclear whether the Oscars team elected against inviting Zelenskyy to speak during the show or if the President instead declined.

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HD Peacock Builds Out Exec Team With CMO, Programming Hires From Netflix and Hulu

BY Mollie Cahillane

WC 405 words

PD 5 April 2022

SN Adweek

SC ADWE

LA English

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NBCUniversal is building out Peacock's executive leadership team with the help from its rival streamers, naming a chief marketing officer and evp of programming, both newly established roles at the **platform**.

Top line

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The company tapped Shannon Willett as Peacock's first chief marketing officer, and Brian Henderson as evp, programming. Both will report to Peacock president Kelly Campbell, who [arrived from Hulu last October](#).

Between the lines

Willett will oversee all global marketing for Peacock, and most recently served as Netflix's vp of global marketing, strategy and operations.

Henderson will lead Peacock's global content strategy and work with content leaders across the company to drive acquisition, usage and retention. He comes over from Hulu, where he held the role of svp, SVOD content, programming and partnerships.

"We are thrilled to welcome Shannon and Brian, two exceptional leaders that will play vital roles in making Peacock a must-have streaming service and round out our executive leadership team," said Campbell in a statement. "Shannon is a fantastic strategic marketer with an incredible portfolio of brand-defining, best-in-class global campaigns, and her expertise will be critical to Peacock's next phase of growth. And as a pioneer in the evolution of streaming content, Brian will be invaluable as we continue to expand our content offering and establish Peacock as the top general entertainment streaming service in the market."

Bottom line

The hires come as NBCUniversal [shifts its focus for Peacock](#), working now to drive subscribers to its paid premium tiers rather than the streamer's free tier.

Peacock's paid Premium tiers cost [either \\$5 a month or \\$10 a month](#) for the ad-free offering, and according to the company, the "vast majority" of subscribers are opting for the ad-supported premium tier.

Peacock last reported 24.5 million monthly active accounts, and Comcast CEO Brian Roberts said that Peacock has over 9 million paid subscribers, with an additional 7 million coming from bundles with the company's Xfinity service and other distributors such as Cox.

<section class="section section--teaser section--teaser_partners section--teaser_partners--horizontal px-0 py-4">

NBCUniversal Ends Hulu Content Sharing Deal, Shows Will Be Exclusive to Peacock

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SE News - TV
HD **Streaming Pressures Push MSNBC to Cut Back on Hard News**
BY Brian Steinberg
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PD 5 April 2022
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One of **cable**'s biggest news outlets has started to fill more of its schedule with something other than traditional news coverage.

MSNBC has defined itself for the past few years by using the bulk of its daytime schedule to air breaking reports from NBC News personnel on the news of the moment, then amping up analysis and progressive opinion-making in the early afternoon and evening. Now, as media companies intensify their efforts to attract audiences via streaming video, the business behind the TV home of Joe Scarborough and Nicolle Wallace is in flux.

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Three different people familiar with the relationship between NBC News and MSNBC — each outlet is supervised by a different top manager — say that some NBC News correspondents have been directed to bring breaking-news coverage first to NBC News Now, the company's ad-supported streaming news service, or other digital NBC News properties before any appearance on MSNBC is considered. An NBC News spokesperson says no division-wide directive relating to such matters has been issued.

Still, as NBC News seeks to break the latest details, MSNBC has been trimming back its news offerings in favor of opinion-led programs. On Monday, "Morning Joe" took over a fourth hour of the daytime schedule, edging out a 9 a.m. news hour that had been anchored by Stephanie Ruhle (who now anchors MSNBC's 11 p.m. wrap-up, "The 11th Hour."). On weekends, an early-morning hour once devoted to news coverage has been taken over by repeats of opinion programs that run on the NBCU streaming hub Peacock, and that slot will soon be the province of a new opinion host, Katie Phang. Symone Sanders, a former aide to the campaigns of President Joe Biden and Senator Bernie Sanders, will hold forth in a weekend hour previously anchored by Yamin Vossoughian.

To be sure, MSNBC still has news programming, and has in recent months worked to ensure viewers identify it more readily. Straight news shows like those delivered by Andrea Mitchell and others are packaged under graphics that read "MSNBC Reports." Ali Velshi has been on the ground in Ukraine for days, delivering affecting reports from that war-torn country. At the same time, the news programs have been in some transition. Brian Williams, who had been assigned to break into scheduled programming to anchor moments of big import, left MSNBC at the end of 2021. Craig Melvin, who also co-anchors NBC News' "Today," last week left an 11 a.m. hour he anchored on MSNBC.

The moves show how quickly the business of streaming is reworking some of the most traditional parts of news operations. MSNBC has in recent years burnished its news bona fides, with a promotional campaign showing newsy on-air moments paired with the slogan, "This Is Who We Are." Prominent NBC News correspondents like Chuck Todd, Katy Tur and Hallie Jackson lead daytime hours of their own. Yet TV's streaming wars are shaking up NBCUniversal's news portfolio, creating a new push behind direct-to-consumer offerings at CNBC and pushing NBC News and MSNBC along decidedly different business trajectories.

Under NBC News President Noah Oppenheim, executives are funneling more resources into NBC News Now. The company poached Tom Llamas from ABC News to serve as the central anchor of the streamer's evening lineup, and added hours led by Hallie Jackson and Joshua Johnson. NBC News has also spent time trying to out-market WarnerMedia's push behind the launch of the subscription-based

service CNN Plus, with NBC pointing out its efforts are free and distributed widely (The new CNN service is not currently available on Roku).

Under President Rashida Jones, success in streaming for MSNBC is being defined differently. NBCUniversal recently unveiled its decision to make some of MSNBC's most popular opinion programs available to subscribers of its Peacock streaming hub a day after they air on cable, along with new specials led by hosts such as Wallace and Rachel Maddow.

The result: NBC News is operating with the mindset that it needs to generate video views for NBC News Now, while MSNBC has been tasked with getting consumers to take out new subscriptions for Peacock.

One of the people familiar with the situation suggests the moves could conjure up memories of another era when NBC News producers were wary of pairing their anchors and correspondents with MSNBC personnel. As MSNBC increases the number of opinion programs, the NBC News correspondents on its air in the daytime face the awkward prospect of being surrounded by vociferous hosts and guests taking a more aggressive tone.

MSNBC has reason to cast about for new revenue. The economics of the network have long been viewed as weaker than those of rivals CNN or Fox News Channel. MSNBC is projected to take in \$891.1 million in advertising revenue and affiliate fees in 2022, according to Kagan, a market-research firm that is part of S&P Global Intelligence. Fox News Channel, meanwhile, is seen luring more than \$2.7 billion next year, while CNN is predicted to capture nearly \$1.8 billion.

Opinion shows typically cost less than their newsy counterparts, which may send anchors and correspondents to points of conflict. "Opinion shows stoke controversy, and therefore viewers and ratings," says Mark Feldstein, chair of the broadcast journalism program at University of Maryland. "With 24 hours a day, there's certainly room for news programming on cable TV— but not the appetite for it among news executives. Why? News coverage is expensive to produce. It requires reporters, producers, videographers, foreign bureaus, and travel. In contrast, opinion is cheap to produce—all it takes is getting a few publicity-hungry gasbags to come into the TV studio and flap their lips about the controversy of the day."

CNN has, under the command of former president Jeff Zucker, given anchors and correspondents more leeway to express their opinion and passion around issues of the day (observers are waiting to see if changes in tone are put into practice in noticeable fashion by Discovery, which is expected to buy parent WarnerMedia next week). And Fox News Channel has assembled a five-hour block in early evening and primetime of opinion programs.

MSNBC has dabbled before with a lineup that is heavier in opinion and analysis. Phil Griffin, the longtime head of MSNBC who retired in early 2020, once dreamed of a streaming counterpart to MSNBC that would take the network into areas such as sports, economics, green lifestyle and issues important to women. In 2014, the network launched "Shift," a streaming hub that enlisted anchors such as Josh Barro, Janet Mock, Tony Dokoupil, Krystal Ball and Beth Fouhy. "We are going to broaden the aperture, but keep the sensibility," Griffin told Variety at the time, when he was also positioning the cable network as a place to reach a younger, activist generation with early-afternoon programming led by Joy Reid and Ronan Farrow. Shift wasn't given long to make its move.

Griffin's plans were reversed when Andy Lack returned to NBCUniversal in 2015 to oversee MSNBC and NBC News. MSNBC's daytime schedule was soon stacked with blocks of traditional news coverage led by Thomas Roberts and Kate Snow, then others. Reid and Farrow were removed from the weekday daytime schedule, as were longtime MSNBC personalities Ed Schultz and Reverend Al Sharpton.

MSNBC's opinion plans face challenges. Rachel Maddow, the linchpin of the network's primetime schedule, is on a hiatus to tackle other projects under a new arrangement with NBCUniversal. While she is expected to return for a block of time, those ventures are seen taking up the bulk of her activity in the not-too-distant future and her absence has affected viewership patterns. Still, the network has launched several new opinion anchors in recent months, including Ayman Mohyeldin, Mehdi Hasan, and Zerlina Maxwell, and hired others such as Alex Wagner. In addition to Symone Sanders, MSNBC is expected to sign another Democratic operative, White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki, to a new deal that could encompass both a weekend opinion program and a streaming effort.

At least one news anchor seems to be thriving amid MSNBC's transition. Chris Jansing, a news veteran who is an MSNBC senior national correspondent also assigned to anchor big breaking news stories, has recently found herself in increased demand. She is getting more air time by filling in at various hours that have been in transition after anchors depart or amid schedule changes.

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HD **BRIEF-Comcast Launches Eros Now Streaming App On X1 And Flex Devices**
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April 5 (Reuters) - Eros STX Global Corp:

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HD Comcast Launches Eros Now Streaming App on X1 and Flex Devices**WC** 754 words**PD** 5 April 2022**ET** 21:17**SN** Business Wire**SC** BWR**LA** English**CY** (c) 2022 Business Wire. All Rights Reserved.**LP**

Comcast customers now have access to thousands of topflight Indian entertainment **content** from Eros Now

MUMBAI, India--(BUSINESS WIRE)--April 05, 2022--

TD

Comcast launches Eros Now app, a leading over-the-top (OTT) South Asian entertainment platform owned by Eros STX Global Corporation (NYSE: ESGC), on its X1 and Flex platforms.

The service replaces the Eros Now SVOD product, offering Xfinity customers the ability to stream high-definition, ad-free titles including Blockbuster Bollywood films, Original comedy and drama series and movies, and Indian cinema classics. Eros Now's robust catalog, with over 12,000 titles, feature a breadth of South Asian language content in Hindi, Kannada, Marathi, Telugu, Tamil and other regional languages.

"We are excited to bring Xfinity subscribers even more great international entertainment through our partnership with Eros Now. We are committed to expanding our offering of thousands of hours of premium South Asian movies, originals and music in high-definition and multiple languages, as well as making it more easily accessible to our customers who can simply say 'Eros Now' into the Xfinity voice remote," said Keesha Boyd, Executive Director, Multicultural Video & Entertainment, Xfinity Consumer Services.

"We are excited to offer the most extensive repository of Indian movies and Original series to Comcast's X1 and Flex platforms subscribers. The US is the largest market for us outside India. With this partnership, Eros Now will further consolidate its position as a preferred platform for the consumption of Indian content," said Ali Hussein, Chief Executive Officer, Eros Now.

Xfinity customers can subscribe to the Eros Now app via their X1 TV Box or Xfinity Flex streaming TV Box, now available for only \$4.99/month, following the steps included [HERE](#).

Some of the highlights available to stream on Eros Now this spring include Bollywood blockbusters, like Bajirao Mastani, Devdas, Golmaal 3, Cocktail, Haathi Mere Saathi, and original series and movies such as Flesh, Metro Park (seasons 1 and 2), Barun Rai and the House on the Cliff, Switchh, Halahal, amongst others. In addition, consumers can also watch the upcoming show - Caves, a supernatural thriller that changes the lives of five best friends who embark on an adventure trip to a haunted cave.

About Eros Now

Eros Now, a division of Eros STX Global Corporation, is the world's leading Indian OTT platform with over 19 million premium paid subscribers, 20.9 million base paid subscribers and 224 million registered users from over 150 countries across the world, as of March 31, 2021. It offers endless entertainment hosting one of the largest movie libraries (over 12,000 digital titles), as well as premium original episodic series, music videos, unmatched in quantity and quality. Eros Now also has a deep library of short-form content, totaling over 4,400 short-form videos including trailers and original short exclusive interviews. To date Eros Now has successfully premiered over 180 films in 13 languages including Hindi, Tamil, Bengali, Marathi, Gujarati, Malayalam, Telugu, Punjabi and more. Eros Now was named as the 'Best OTT Platform of the Year 2019' at British Asian Media Awards. The platform has also won awards for original content and marketing at the SCREENXX 2020.

About IMD

IMD is an NBCUniversal company, part of NBCU International Networks, and a leading distributor of multicultural content representing over 50 linear and on demand networks from Asia, Europe, Latin America and the Middle East. Working with linear and non-linear platforms, IMD brings popular programming from the leading international brands to multicultural consumers around the world.

About Comcast

Comcast Corporation (Nasdaq: CMCSA) is a global media and technology company that connects people to moments that matter. We are principally focused on broadband, aggregation, and streaming with 57 million customer relationships across the United States and Europe. We deliver broadband, wireless, and video through our Xfinity, Comcast Business, and Sky brands; create, distribute, and stream leading entertainment, sports, and news through Universal Filmed Entertainment Group, Universal Studio Group, Sky Studios, the NBC and Telemundo broadcast networks, multiple cable networks, Peacock, NBCUniversal News Group, NBC Sports, Sky News, and Sky Sports; and provide memorable experiences at Universal Parks and Resorts in the United States and Asia. Visit www.comcastcorporation.com for more information.

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HD Ryman Hospitality Properties to sell minority stake in Opry Entertainment Group

BY Meg Wrather

WC 252 words

PD 5 April 2022

SN Nashville Business Journal

SC NSHBSJ

LA English

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LP

Ryman Hospitality Properties announced Monday that it is selling a minority stake of its entertainment group.

Investment firm Atairos and NBCUniversal will acquire a 30% stake in OEG Attractions Holdings LLC, a subsidiary of Ryman, according to a press release.

TD

The initial \$293 million investment will be made up of \$278 million from Atairos and \$15 million from NBCUniversal. The deal values OEG at \$1.4 billion and is expected to close in the second quarter of 2022.

"Back in June 2021, given the unsolicited interest we had received, we embarked on a formal process to identify a strategic partner that shares our vision for growing OEG to a position where it can operate independently of our core hospitality business," Colin Reed, Ryman's chairman and CEO, said in the release. "We view this partnership as a significant opportunity to strengthen these beloved institutions and cement their influence on American music culture."

Opry Entertainment Group (OEG) includes the Grand Ole Opry, Ryman Auditorium, Ole Red, a 50% investment in Circle TV network and more.

Atairos partners Alex Evans and Jackson Phillips will join OEG's board of directors once the deal closes, joining four Ryman directors, according to the release.

Ryman Hospitality Properties Inc. (NYSE: RHP) is one of Nashville's largest public companies with \$524.48 million in 2020 revenue, according to Business Journal research.

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HD Comcast Begins Rollout of New Supersonic WiFi**WC** 681 words**PD** 5 April 2022**ET** 17:00**SN** Business Wire**SC** BWR**LA** English**CY** (c) 2022 Business Wire. All Rights Reserved.**LP**

Enabled by Xfinity's New WiFi 6E Gateway, Supersonic WiFi Delivers Gigabit Speeds to Power the Ever-Increasing Number of **Devices** in Consumers' Homes

PHILADELPHIA--(BUSINESS WIRE) --April 05, 2022--

TD

Today Comcast announced that Supersonic WiFi, enabled by its newest WiFi 6E gateway, is now available to Xfinity Internet Gigabit and Ultrafast customers across the U.S. Supersonic WiFi is capable of delivering speeds faster than 1 Gbps, 3X more capacity, and the speeds of the future -- symmetrical Gigabit speeds -- to support hundreds of connected devices simultaneously.

This press release features multimedia. View the full release here:

<https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20220405005890/en/>

(Photo: Business Wire)

"Our Supersonic WiFi is made to do anything so our customers can do everything they want online, and our latest gateway enables key features like speeds faster than a gig to power a house full of devices -- all at once," said Sophia Ahmad, EVP and CMO, Comcast Cable.

Xfinity Internet customers connected nearly 1 billion devices in their homes in 2021 alone, a 12X increase from just a few years ago, increasing the need for faster speeds and more capacity. Comcast's most powerful device to date, the new gateway is a giant leap forward in both key connectivity areas, with three WiFi bands -- 2.4 GHz, 5 GHz, and a new, 6 GHz band. Together, these WiFi bands reduce interference and increase bandwidth in the home by 3X to support the massive influx of connected devices used by consumers today.

In addition to the fastest gig-speeds over WiFi, Xfinity Internet comes with:

-- Ultimate Security: Help keep loved ones safe and secure online with xFi

Advanced Security, included at no extra cost. Advanced Security helps protect customers' devices from billions of cyberthreats a year, and customers can add xFi Complete to extend that security on the go.

-- Unprecedented Control: Download the xFi app to access a dashboard for all

the devices connected to the home network with built in capabilities to

pause access, set up parental controls or automate screen time rules.

In

2021 alone, more than 1 million Xfinity households used xFi parental controls, with customers pausing/unpausing WiFi access nearly 100 million times.

-- Wall-to-Wall Coverage: The newest Gateway provides a more reliable

connection for all connected devices. And with xFi Complete, get wall-to-wall WiFi coverage throughout the home, with an xFi Pod included if recommended.

-- Unbeatable Entertainment: Get a free Flex 4K streaming TV device to enjoy streaming apps in one place and a voice remote to navigate between them seamlessly. Plus, thousands of hours of free entertainment content available to Internet customers for no additional cost.

-- IoT for Smart Homes of the Future: Zigbee compatible, the new Gateway acts as a central connector for IoT and home automation devices like smart lights, plugs and locks, and more.

Xfinity's Unbeatable Internet also features xFi Complete, which provides customers access to a new Tech Upgrade program that will provide them with an updated gateway after three years and Advanced Security on the Go that protects customers' mobile devices anywhere, anytime.

About Comcast Corporation

Comcast Corporation (Nasdaq: CMCSA) is a global media and technology company that connects people to moments that matter. We are principally focused on broadband, aggregation, and streaming with 57 million customer relationships across the United States and Europe. We deliver broadband, wireless, and video through our Xfinity, Comcast Business, and Sky brands; create, distribute, and stream leading entertainment, sports, and news through Universal Filmed Entertainment Group, Universal Studio Group, Sky Studios, the NBC and Telemundo broadcast networks, multiple cable networks, Peacock, NBCUniversal News Group, NBC Sports, Sky News, and Sky Sports; and provide memorable experiences at Universal Parks and Resorts in the United States and Asia. Visit www.comcastcorporation.com for more information.

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RE usa : United States | namz : North America

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HD Comcast launches Eros Now app on X1 and Flex devices
BY indiantelevision.com Team

CR Distributed by Contify.com

WC 230 words

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SN Indiantelevision.com

SC ATINTV

LA English

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LP

Mumbai: Global media and technology company Comcast has announced the launch of Eros STX Global Corp's **OTT platform** Eros Now on its X1 and Flex platforms.

The service replaces Eros Now SVOD product offering Xfinity customers the ability to stream high-definition, ad-free titles including films and original series. Eros Now's catalogue with over 12000 titles features a range of South Asian language **content** in Hindi, Kannada, Marathi, Telugu, Tamil, and other regional languages.

TD

"We are excited to bring Xfinity subscribers even more great international entertainment through our partnership with Eros Now. We are committed to expanding our offering of thousands of hours of premium South Asian movies, originals and music in high definition and multiple languages, as well as making it more easily accessible to our customers who can simply say 'Eros Now' into the Xfinity voice remote," said Xfinity Consumer Services executive director - multicultural video & entertainment Keesha Boyd.

Eros Now CEO Ali Hussein added, "The US is the largest market for us outside India. With this partnership, Eros Now will further consolidate its position as a preferred platform for the consumption of Indian content."

Xfinity customers can subscribe to the Eros Now app via their X1 TV Box or Xfinity Flex streaming TV Box, available for \$4.99/month.

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IN i3302 : Computers/Consumer Electronics | imssoft : Streaming Services | idistr : Media Content Distribution | iint : Online Service Providers | imed : Media/Entertainment | itech : Technology | i971 : Audiovisual Production | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting

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HD Ryman Hospitality Properties Inc. - Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc. Announces Strategic Investment in Opry Entertainment Group by Atairos and NBCUniversal - Form 8-K

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Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc. Announces Strategic Investment in Opry Entertainment Group by Atairos and NBCUniversal - Form 8-K

TD

Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc. Announces Strategic Investment in Opry Entertainment Group by Atairos and NBCUniversal

NASHVILLE, Tenn. - (April 4, 2022) - Ryman Hospitality Properties (NYSE: RHP) ("RHP"), a leading lodging and hospitality real estate investment trust that specializes in upscale convention center resorts and country music entertainment experiences, and Atairos, an independent strategic investment company focused on supporting growth-oriented businesses, today announced that Atairos, along with their long-term strategic partner NBCUniversal, will acquire a 30% minority ownership stake in RHP's subsidiary OEG Attractions Holdings LLC, which directly or indirectly owns the assets that comprise Opry Entertainment Group ("OEG"). Atairos' investment values OEG at \$1.415 billion, inclusive of OEG's previously announced acquisition of Block 21 (which remains subject to certain closing conditions and is expected to close prior to June 1, 2022). Atairos has agreed to make an additional \$30 million investment in OEG, contingent on certain performance targets being achieved, which would bring OEG's valuation to \$1.515 billion. The initial \$1.415 billion valuation includes a recapitalization of OEG with a new \$300 million Term Loan B and the assumption of a \$137 million CMBS facility for Block 21 upon consummation of that transaction. Atairos' and NBCUniversal's initial 30% equity investment in OEG will be approximately \$293 million, of which Atairos is directly investing approximately \$278 million and NBCUniversal will directly invest up to approximately \$15 million.

Colin Reed, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Ryman Hospitality Properties, said, "Over the last decade we have shared our excitement about the bright future of our entertainment business and the significant value creation opportunities that exist as we extend our reach nationwide and transition OEG to an integrated country lifestyle platform.

Back in June 2021, given the unsolicited interest we had received, we embarked on a formal process to identify a strategic partner that shares our vision for growing OEG to a position where it can operate independently of our core hospitality business while enabling our shareholders to participate in the significant upside for OEG that lies ahead.

Atairos and NBCUniversal have a great appreciation for the legendary assets under our stewardship and we are aligned on protecting and nurturing them for future generations of music lovers to enjoy. We view this partnership as a significant opportunity to strengthen these beloved institutions and cement their influence on American music culture. We remain focused on creating sustainable long-term value for our shareholders as we seek new ways to connect artists and fans through one-of-a-kind experiences."

Michael Angelakis, Chairman and CEO of Atairos, said, "OEG's dynamic collection of entertainment venues, digital content and iconic country music brands provide a strong foundation for continued growth as a fully-integrated country lifestyle platform. We are excited to partner with the RHP and OEG teams to

explore new content distribution strategies and support their ambition of becoming the leading player in country lifestyle live entertainment and media content."

David Pietrycha, Executive Vice President, Strategy and Business Development at NBCUniversal, added, "We are excited to invest in OEG alongside our strategic partner Atairos. We look forward to exploring opportunities to leverage our media, technology and content creation expertise to help OEG accelerate its plans and bring its iconic brands, as well as artists and storied cities, to music lovers worldwide."

Additional Transaction Details

Upon completion of the transaction, RHP will retain a controlling 70% interest in OEG. Colin Reed will serve as Executive Chairman of OEG in addition to his responsibilities as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of RHP. In connection with the investment, Atairos will enter into an LLC agreement with RHP and OEG upon the closing of the investment, pursuant to which, among other things, Atairos Partners Alex Evans and Jackson Phillips will join OEG's Board of Directors, which will be comprised of four RHP Directors and two Atairos Directors.

The transaction, which is subject to customary conditions, is expected to close in Q2 2022. Upon closing, RHP expects to receive gross transaction proceeds of approximately \$593 million, comprised of the Atairos and NBCUniversal investment and borrowings from a new \$300 million Term Loan B facility secured by OEG assets. RHP expects to use these proceeds to pay transaction expenses, fully repay its \$300 million Term Loan A and substantially all the borrowings outstanding under its revolving credit facility, thereby reducing leverage and creating balance sheet flexibility to allow RHP to pursue continued reinvestment in its businesses.

Advisors

Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC is serving as financial advisor, Bass, Berry & Sims PLC is serving as legal advisor, and Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP is serving as tax counsel to RHP. Moelis & Company LLC is serving as financial advisor and Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP is serving as legal advisor to Atairos. The financing commitment for this transaction has been secured from JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc.

A Note to Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc. Shareholders:

For additional information regarding this acquisition, visit <http://ir.rymanhp.com> and click on Presentations and Transcripts, where RHP has posted an investor supplement providing a transaction overview, which introduces Atairos and describes the announced strategic investment. Please note that our website is provided as an inactive textual reference and the information on our website is not incorporated by reference in this release.

Ryman Hospitality Properties will hold a conference call to discuss this transaction Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at 10 a.m. ET. To participate in the conference call, please dial 888-632-3384 and use Conference ID: 6355412. The call will be available for replay through April 12, 2022, and by dialing 800-938-0996, a Conference ID is not required. This call is also being webcast and can be accessed at Ryman Hospitality Properties' Investor Relations website at <http://ir.rymanhp.com>.

About Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc.

Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc. (NYSE: RHP) is a leading lodging and hospitality real estate investment trust that specializes in upscale convention center resorts and country music entertainment experiences. RHP's Opry Entertainment Group includes a growing collection of iconic and emerging country music brands we operate, including the Grand Ole Opry; Ryman Auditorium, WSM 650 AM; Ole Red and a 50% interest in Circle, a country lifestyle media network RHP owns in a joint venture with Gray Television; as well as other Nashville-area attractions managed by Marriott. RHP operates Opry Entertainment Group as part of a taxable REIT subsidiary. RHP's core holdings, Gaylord Opryland Resort & Convention Center, Gaylord Palms Resort & Convention Center, Gaylord Texan Resort & Convention Center, Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center, and Gaylord Rockies Resort & Convention Center are five of the top 10 largest non-gaming convention center hotels in the United States based on total indoor meeting space. These convention center resorts operate under the Gaylord Hotels brand and are managed by Marriott International. RHP also owns two adjacent ancillary hotels and a small number of attractions managed by Marriott International for a combined total of 10,412 rooms and more than 2.8 million square feet of total indoor and outdoor meeting space in top convention and leisure destinations across the country. Visit RymanHP.com for more information.

About Atairos

Atairos is an independent, private company focused on supporting growth-oriented businesses across a wide range of industries. Atairos provides a unique combination of active strategic partnership and patient long-term capital to high-potential companies and their management teams. Atairos was launched in 2016 and has approximately \$6 billion of equity capital. Atairos has offices in New York City, Philadelphia and London. For more information, please visit www.atairos.com

Cautionary Note Regarding Forward-Looking Statements

This press release contains statements as to RHP's beliefs and expectations of the outcome of future events that are forward-looking statements as defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. You can identify these statements by the fact that they do not relate strictly to historical or current facts. Examples of these statements include, but are not limited to, statements regarding the pending acquisition of Block 21, the proposed investment by Atairos and NBCUniversal in OEG, and intended benefits of the proposed investment in OEG. These forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual results to differ materially from the statements made. These include the risks and uncertainties associated with the occurrence of any event, change or other circumstance that could delay the closing of the Block 21 acquisition or the proposed investment in OEG, or result in the termination of the agreement for the Block 21 acquisition or the proposed investment in OEG. Other factors that could cause results to differ are described in the filings made from time to time by RHP with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) and include the risk factors and other risks and uncertainties described in RHP's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2021, and its Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and subsequent filings. RHP does not undertake any obligation to release publicly any revisions to forward-looking statements made by it to reflect events or circumstances occurring after the date hereof or the occurrence of unanticipated events.

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PUB PUBT Inc

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HD US Ryman Hospitality to sell minority stake in entertainment venues ops

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LP

April 5 (SeeNews) - US lodging and hospitality real estate **investment trust** Ryman Hospitality Properties (NYSE:RHP) has agreed to sell a 30% stake in its entertainment venues operations in a deal that values the business at USD 1.415 billion (EUR 1.286bn).

The stake will be acquired by local **investment** firm Atairos, along with its long-term strategic partner -- US telecoms giant Comcast's media conglomerate NBCUniversal, a press release said on Monday.

TD

The transaction concerns an ownership stake in RHP's subsidiary OEG Attractions Holdings LLC, which directly or indirectly owns the assets that comprise Opry Entertainment Group (OEG).

Atairos and NBCUniversal's initial equity investment in OEG will be about USD 293 million, of which Atairos is directly investing about USD 278 million and NBCUniversal will directly invest up to about USD 15 million.

OEG operates a portfolio of entertainment venues, including the world-famous country music brand Grand Ole Opry, the Ryman Auditorium, WSM Radio, the Blake Shelton-inspired Ole Red brand and Circle TV Network.

(USD 1 = EUR 0.909)

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HD Comcast works to assist women-owned businesses

BY Jessica Perry

WC 1,063 words

PD 4 April 2022

SN NJBIZ

SC BNNJ

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Ashley Taylor heard about Comcast RISE from a friend who is also a woman business owner advice she has since paid forward herself, after being chosen as a technology makeover recipient by the initiative. Now, she's applying again in the latest cohort. This window which opened on Jan. 16 and closes on June 17 is different from those that have come before, though: It's the first since the program was expanded to include all women-owned businesses.

Comcast RISE stands for Representation, **Investment**, Strength and Empowerment, and since it launched in November 2020, more than 6,700 small businesses owned by people of color have benefitted from its distributed \$60 million in grants, marketing and technology services. As it happens, nearly 70% of those small businesses have been owned by women of color. That fact prompted Comcast to take a harder look at the challenges women business owners face, and then, ultimately, to open eligibility for RISE to all women-owned businesses.

TD

There are three additional services businesses can apply for, beyond the tech makeover Taylor received: marketing strategy consulting, a media campaign, or a media campaign that also includes production of a commercial for your business. This time around, Taylor is eyeing the media/commercial and marketing packages - "The more eyes on your business, it's always helpful," she said. But the first time around she wasn't as certain.

"At first I didn't know what package I needed, or I wanted, or I could use at all. That was being small-minded for my business," she said. But following her first experience with the program, her viewpoint has shifted. "I'm kind of glad the tech package was the first one because it allowed me to kind of centralize my thoughts and focus for what I would need to move forward," she said. "And sometimes if you get the big ask before you're ready for it, it jacks you up so I'm kind glad it went the way it did."

The way it went

Taylor is one of nearly 150 New Jerseyans to win a package from Comcast RISE. Her business is Creative Motion Arts Center in Voorhees, where she offers professional and artistic training in theater, performing arts and dance, that it is affordable to the community. Her tech makeover included a year of complimentary internet and cybersecurity services, along with three iPads, two laptops and a desktop computer. Though she already had internet service, Taylor said getting a reprieve from paying for it was great. "[I]n a small business, you know every penny is counting, so that break of not paying for internet is amazing," she said, adding that the timing was beneficial, as well, due to the pandemic.

As far as cybersecurity goes, Taylor, like many small business owners, didn't think it was really something she needed to be concerned about before she had a system in place. Now, she's checking weekly and monthly reports to review the activity. "I'm like, this is really interesting," she said. "And that's the other thing about kind of broadening my mind, because at first I was not concerned with internet security, but after I realized all that it did, I said 'actually this is really great.'" Since she's been able to access information on web traffic regarding her business, Taylor also has a newfound appreciation for her website.

"The more business-minded you get you understand, like you need the visits to your website to drive the sales and all of that works together."

The physical equipment she received, though, really packed a punch. Taylor described the impact as huge. She no longer must use her personal devices leaving her phone unattended to play music in a

classroom and gone are her days of paper registration and sign-ups. Now, she can use the iPad (which can be wiped clean). And it felt good to take a green turn by going paperless, she said. The equipment allowed her to expand her offerings with virtual classes.

Beyond the benefits Taylor received, Comcast allows tech makeover recipients to add additional services to their package, which could include adding a calling feature to their voice services like an 800 number or a hunt group or WiFi Pro, the company's product for controlling public versus private WiFi.

If Taylor's experience is any indication, though, devices aren't the only takeaways from Comcast RISE. At first, she said she was a little intimidated by the application, because of the ways it made her think about her enterprise. She said as an entrepreneur embarking with a small business that latter phrase can seem limiting. "Because you think small. You think, 'It's just me. I'm just teaching these classes at the rec center.' [Y]ou don't want to think of it as a big deal, and really, the questions on the application had me to think of myself as a big deal. And I think that was honestly a turning point for me as a business owner," she said. "Because, yes my business is small now, but it's not always going to be small, so I have to think about it as a big business, even though it's currently small."

And she's certainly thinking big: Taylor says she's started two other businesses since becoming a Comcast RISE recipient. "I think it really opened my eyes to my own possibilities and business possibilities," she said. "[I]t definitely opened my eyes to the 'more' that's available and to think different as a business owner." Taylor said being a Comcast RISE recipient has also opened doors for her. And she's spreading the word the same way it was spread to her so that others can have a chance at the experience. "It makes it more attainable when someone like a real person you can say got the prize," she said. "[B]eing able to say like, 'Hey, no I actually won this, they actually sent me what they said they were going to send me; it's legit.'"

"Then they say, 'maybe I should apply, if she got it, then maybe I can do it.' "

Comcast RISE opens applications quarterly, selecting approximately 560 businesses each time on a rolling basis.

CO comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN i3302 : Computers/Consumer Electronics | icomp : Computing | itech : Technology | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS ccat : Corporate/Industrial News

RE usnj : New Jersey | namz : North America | usa : United States | use : Northeast U.S.

IPD Trade Journals

PUB BridgeTower Media

AN Document BNNJ000020220408ei440000k



SE Business -
HD **Grand Ole Opry Owner Sells Stake for \$293M to Comcast-Backed Fund, NBCUniversal**

BY Alex Weprin

WC 482 words

PD 4 April 2022

SN Hollywood Reporter

SC HLYW

LA English

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LP

Nashville's Grand Ole Opry is getting new corporate partners in Philadelphia and New York.

Atairos, an **investment** fund backed by **cable** giant Comcast and led by its former CFO Michael Angelakis, is teaming with Comcast-owned NBCUniversal to acquire a 30 percent stake in Opry Entertainment Group, a subsidiary of the real estate **investment** firm Ryman Hospitality Properties.

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OEG owns the Grand Ole Opry (as well as the Opry's AM radio station), Nashville's Ryman Auditorium, the music venue Ole Red, and the lifestyle network Circle, which OEG owns in partnership with local TV giant Gray Television. OEG also owns the Opry's archive, which includes six decades worth of live recordings, totaling more than 11,500 hours.

Under the terms of the deal, Atairos and NBCUniversal will contribute \$293 million, with the bulk of that (\$278 million) coming from Atairos, and the rest coming from NBCUniversal. OEG will also receive a \$300 million Term Loan B, giving it total proceeds of \$593 million. OEG will be valued at \$1.415 billion in the deal, with Atairos also agreeing to invest another \$30 million at a \$1.5 billion valuation if certain performance goals are met.

Ryman chairman and CEO Colin Reed said in a statement that the company received "unsolicited interest" last year, leading it to hire bankers to look for "a strategic partner that shares our vision for growing OEG to a position where it can operate independently of our core hospitality business."

The company believes it has found that partner in Atairos and NBCU, with the company telling investors in an accompanying Powerpoint deck that the partners will bring "strategic and industry relationships" to the table. Ryman told investors in the deck that it would be "leveraging Atairos and Comcast's resources and connectivity," citing Saturday Night Live, The Voice, and Peacock as potential partners.

"Atairos and NBCUniversal have a great appreciation for the legendary assets under our stewardship and we are aligned on protecting and nurturing them for future generations of music lovers to enjoy," Reed added in a statement. "We view this partnership as a significant opportunity to strengthen these beloved institutions and cement their influence on American music culture."

For the investors, OEG's assets are also a content play, not only providing a platform to develop music-related content, but giving the company's a foothold in country music's world capital.

"OEG's dynamic collection of entertainment venues, digital content and iconic country music brands provide a strong foundation for continued growth as a fully-integrated country lifestyle platform," Angelakis said in a statement announcing the deal. "We are excited to partner with the RHP and OEG teams to explore new content distribution strategies and support their ambition of becoming the leading player in country lifestyle live entertainment and media content."

CO grcom : Gray Television, Inc. | okpub : Ryman Hospitality Properties Inc. | comcst : Comcast Corporation | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC

IN i81502 : Trusts/Funds/Financial Vehicles | i8150206 : Investment Trusts | i815020602 : Real Estate Investment Trusts | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | i974110202 : Commercial Television | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | icre : Real Estate/Construction | ifinal :

Financial Services | ihotreit : Hospitality REITs | iinv : Investing/Securities | imed : Media/Entertainment |
ireest : Real Estate

NS c181 : Acquisitions/Mergers/Shareholdings | cdiv : Divestments | cpartn : Partnerships/Collaborations |
gent : Arts/Entertainment | c18 : Ownership Changes | cactio : Corporate Actions | ccat :
Corporate/Industrial News | gcat : Political/General News | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters |
nfcpin : C&E Industry News Filter

RE usa : United States | namz : North America

PUB Billboard-Hollywood Reporter Media Group

AN Document HLYW000020220405ei4400001

DEADLINE

SE Breaking News -
HD **NBCUniversal And **investment** Partner Pay \$293M For 30% Stake In Grand Ole Opry And Related Country Music Properties**
BY Dade Hayes
WC 497 words
PD 4 April 2022
SN Deadline
SC DLINE
LA English
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LP

NBCUniversal and **investment** partner Atairos have paid \$293 million for a 30% stake in fabled country music brand the Grand Ole Opry and a cluster of related Nashville-based live entertainment and assets.

The Opry's home, Ryman Auditorium, is known for hosting the Country Music Awards. It is a cornerstone of Opry Entertainment Group, the division of Ryman Hospitality Properties receiving the **investment** from NBCU. Along with the Ryman and the Opry itself, a nearly century-old country music showcase, properties include a smaller collection of music venues called Ole Red, radio station WSM-AM and a 50% interest in country lifestyle media network Circle. The network is a joint venture with Gray Television, a major station group owner. The weekly "Grand Ole Opry" stage show streams on Circle.

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Atairos is shouldering almost the entire cost of acquiring the stake, putting in \$278 million, compared with a direct investment of \$15 million by NBCU. The transaction, which is expected to close during the current quarter, values Opry Entertainment at \$1.415 billion. That amount will rise to \$1.515 billion, according to the deal terms, once an additional \$30 million is kicked in by Atairos, contingent on certain performance targets being hit. OEG will also be recapitalized via a \$300 million term loan, on top of the 30% stake sale.

"Over the last decade we have shared our excitement about the bright future of our entertainment business and the significant value creation opportunities that exist as we extend our reach nationwide and transition OEG to an integrated country lifestyle platform," Ryman Hospitality CEO Colin Reed said in the deal announcement.

After receiving unsolicited interest in June 2021, Ryman began a formal strategic process to consider its options. Covid has altered the calculus for many live-event venues, which have finally returned to relatively normal operations after two years marked by significant interruptions and a slowdown in travel and leisure spending.

Atairos and NBCUniversal "have a great appreciation for the legendary assets under our stewardship," Reed added, "and we are aligned on protecting and nurturing them for future generations of music lovers to enjoy. We view this partnership as a significant opportunity to strengthen these beloved institutions and cement their influence on American music culture."

Atairos CEO Michael Angelakis said the Opryland portfolio offers "a strong foundation for continued growth as a fully-integrated country lifestyle platform. We are excited to partner with the RHP and OEG teams to explore new content distribution strategies and support their ambition of becoming the leading player in country lifestyle live entertainment and media content."

David Pietrycha, EVP Strategy and Business Development at NBCU, said the company looks forward to exploring "opportunities to leverage our media, technology and content creation expertise to help OEG accelerate its plans and bring its iconic brands, as well as artists and storied cities, to music lovers worldwide."

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NS gmusic : Music | gcat : Political/General News | gent : Arts/Entertainment

RE usa : United States | namz : North America

PUB Variety Media, LLC

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SE News; Domestic

HD ALL IN for April 4, 2022, MSNBC

BY Chris Hayes

WC 8,025 words

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SC CHAYES

LA English

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[20:00:00]

JOY REID, MSNBC HOST: But the rate of uninsured people in those counties is twice as high as in wealthier areas, a critical issue as federal **funding** for COVID dries up. The program that reimburses providers for testing and treating the uninsured stopped taking claims last month. It will stop accepting new claims for vaccinating the uninsured this week. The more you know.

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And that's "THE REIDOUT." ALL IN WITH CHRIS HAYES starts now.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

CHRIS HAYES, MSNBC HOST (voiceover): Tonight on ALL IN.

JOE BIDEN, PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: This guy is brutal. And what's happening is outrageous.

HAYES: The world sees what a retreating Russian army left behind.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: That's a real crime. And Russia should be punished for this.

HAYES: Tonight, the new U.S. assessment of the latest Russian offensive. What we know about what happened to Bucha and the American right roots on autocrats as another strong man chokes off democracy.

TUCKER CARLSON, HOST, FOX NEWS: Why would we take Ukraine side? Why wouldn't we have Russia side? I don't -- I'm totally confused.

HAYES: Then, the criminal referral for Navarro and Scavino move forward and is a potential Trump criminal referral necessary for Justice?

Plus, today's big vote on Ketanji Brown Jackson for Supreme Court. And meet the new applicant for Leader of the House Republican MAGA caucus.

SARAH PALIN (R-AK), CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATE: No more of this vanilla milquetoast namby-pamby, wussy-pussy stuff that's been going on.

HAYES: When ALL IN starts right now.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HAYES (on camera): Good evening from New York. I'm Chris Hayes. It is only two days since the Ukrainian military was able to retake the Kyiv suburb of Bucha after the Russians retreated. And the name of that town is now already infamous and synonymous with war crimes.

There's no way to tell this story without showing you the visual evidence of what is happening and has happened on the ground and Bucha, so this is a warning, you're going to see some disturbing images in this reporting.

When the Russian troops moved through the town on their way to apparently try to capture Kyiv, but after they're met with stiff resistance, they just stayed in Bucha for weeks unable to get to Kyiv and ultimately retreating. The images of the atrocities they appear to have committed started coming out immediately after Ukrainian troops move back into the area on Saturday.

Ukrainian Defense Ministry released this video showing the bodies of what they say are civilians lying in the street. The Associated Press took these photos of at least nine people in civilian clothes, who appear to have been killed at close range. At least two had their hands tied behind their backs.

The mayor of Bucha told reporters that residents had buried nearly 300 people in mass graves. You can see what appears to be a 45 foot long trench near church and this satellite photo from Maxar Technologies. Remember, the Ukrainian parliament from Bucha recorded this video by the mass graves.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Hello to everybody. My name is Oleksiy Goncharenko, a member of the parliament from Bucha, which is town satellite of Kyiv. And you see behind me the common grave for more than 20 people, local citizens who were killed by Russian troops here. And that is one of the graves, there are more here. And that is local church of Bucha. That is an evidence -- one of many evidences of Bucha massacre. That's a war crime. And Russian should be punished for this. It's done by Russian oil and gas. It's just when you see Russian oil and guess, remember these.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HAYES: Sky News reporter Deborah Haynes has been an absolutely invaluable source for reporting on the ground inside Ukraine. In her latest reporting, she visited Bucha in the wake of Russia's retreat and saw the horrors left behind firsthand.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

DEBORAH HAYNES, REPORTER, SKY NEWS: The broken body of a woman evidence of the terror that swept through this town and others north of the capital before Russian forces suddenly pulled back. The brother of Kyiv's mayor documented what he saw.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: This is not special operation. This is not military objects. This is civilians. That been shot in the head with a tied hands behind their back. This is a genocide of the Ukrainian population.

HAYNES: Ukraine says hundreds of bodies have been found some hastily buried. It's accused Russia of being worse than Islamic State though Moscow has denied responsibility.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HAYES: Now, Russia has denied responsibility for these killings, claiming while the town was controlled by the Russian of military forces, not a single local resident has suffered from any violent action -- that's quite a categorical denial -- and that "the photos and video footage from Bucha are another hoax, a stage production, going as far as requesting the U.N. Security Council convened to discuss what it called a provocation by Ukrainian radicals in Bucha."

The New York Times analyzed satellite photos of Bucha by Maxar Technologies, and they found evidence that at least 11 bodies of civilians seen in those videos, the ones that were recorded by the Ukrainian soldiers as they went in and released, had been on the street in the satellite images since March 11, OK. Russian forces were occupying Bucha until their retreat on March 30th. That means those bodies of dead Ukrainians, town residents of Bucha were in those streets as the Russians controlled it for 19 days.

Earlier today, Ukrainian president Volodymyr Zelenskyy visited Bucha calling what he saw their war crimes, a message echoed by President Joe Biden.

[20:05:38]

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

BIDEN: You may remember, I got criticized for calling Putin a war criminal. Well, the truth of the matter, you saw what happened in Bucha. This warrants him he is a war criminal. But we have to gather the information, we have to continue to provide Ukraine with the weapons they need to continue the fight, and we have to gather all the detail so this could be an actual -- have a war-crime trial.

This guy is brutal. And what's happening to Bucha is outrageous, and everyone has seen it.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Do you agree that it's genocide?

BIDEN: No, I think it is a war crime.

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Sir, are you going to do more sanctions on Russia?

BIDEN: I'm seeking more sanctions, yes, I'll have time to announce that too.

(CROSSTALK)

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: Can you actually hold Putin accountable though? You called him a war criminal.

BIDEN: He should be held accountable.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HAYES: Now, for those who watched Russia's brutal tactics, first in Chechnya and then Syria over a span of several years, it's a reminder of the utter depravity of their tactics in those wars. The nature of Putin's regime on the battlefield was evident in both of those venues. As horrible as these atrocities are, they are not, in that respect, surprising.

Which is why there's just no moral excuse for the odious apologetics we have heard from the American right. And I'm not just talking about oh, we need negotiation, there's a way out of the settlement, all of which I think is perfectly legitimate to argue for. It's the sort of visceral siding with Putin, the admiration of him, including what Donald Trump said about Vladimir Putin just the days before the invasion.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

DONALD TRUMP, FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES: I went in yesterday, and there was a television screen. And I said, this is genius. Putin declares a big portion of the Ukraine -- of Ukraine. Putin declares it as independent. Oh, that's wonderful. So, Putin is now saying it's independent, a large section of Ukraine. I said, how smart is that?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HAYES: So smart, genius. That's the leader of the Republican Party calling Putin a genius as he prepares to commit war crimes. And those bodies on the streets, those ones in the mass graves, that's what that genius looks like in reality. It looks like bodies on the side of the road, hands tied behind their back, and bullets in their head.

And of course, whatever Donald Trump says is going to get blasted out by the loudest mouthpiece on Trump TV.

CARLSON: Why do I care about what's going on in the conflict between Ukraine and Russia? And I'm serious. Like, why do I care?

UNIDENTIFIED MALE: I tell you why.

CARLSON: And why shouldn't I root for Russia. Because I am.

Hold on, why would we take Ukraine side and not Russia sides?

It might be worth asking yourself since it is getting pretty serious. What is this really about? Why do I hate Putin so much? Has Putin ever called me a racist? Has he threatened to get me fired for disagreeing with him? Has he shipped every middle-class job in my town to Russia?

HAYES: Yes. Why would anyone bear any animus whatsoever towards Vladimir Putin? It's a great rhetorical question. As he stacked the bodies of Syrians like cordwood for years. Vladimir Putin showed us what kind of leader he was years ago, what his military was capable of. It is way too late to act surprise now.

Alexander Vindman is a retired United States Army lieutenant colonel who serves as the Director for European affairs of the U.S. National Security Council. Michael Newton is a professor of Vanderbilt University Law School. He served as Senior Advisor at the State Department, ambassador at large for war crimes issues. And they both join me now.

Lieutenant Colonel, let me let me ask you first about your reaction to this. Again, there's a pattern here. There's a history here. It is nonetheless, those images that they came out of Bucha on Saturday, I think you felt this way and everyone horrifying and shocking.

ALEXANDER VINDMAN, FORMER DIRECTOR FOR EUROPEAN AFFAIRS, THE U.S. NATIONAL SECURITY COUNCIL: It is absolutely horrifying. And this is why there was -- it should have been such a greater press to try to see if we could first avoid this war because we knew the level of barbarism that Putin and his regime would apply to Ukraine.

And now, everything we can to help Ukraine end this war. This war is likely to play out over the course of months. What we saw in Bucha and Irpin and other locations, we forgot about Mary Opal and the bombing of the maternity ward earlier on the war, these are things that are going to unfold, and they're going to increase as Russia gets frustrated.

Mariupol still is held out for six weeks, but it's going to get pressed with considerably more combat power. And right now, the president has said the exact right thing. We need to give him Ukraine, everything we need -- they need, rather, to win this war, but that's not happening. Otherwise, we will have many more of these types of catastrophic events.

And eventually, the American public and the rest of the western world is going to get fed up. And that's going to drive a probably an overreaction. So, this is all foreseeable. And we could have -- should take action to avoid this from becoming a protracted war with more of these types of incidents.

[20:10:39]

HAYES: I want to read a little bit, Michael, of some of the New York Times reporting on this. And again, there's -- you know, when you first see these images, I think it's a good idea to sort of take things slowly, a grain of salt, there's this fog of war, and evaluate. But we've now had multiple time for reporters, human rights observers to come in and getting more and more confirmation.

This is the Times reporting. 13 of the bodies are men whose hands have been tied and have been shot at close range in the head. A coroner said he did not know the circumstances of their death, but believed, based on their apparently recent death, they were prisoners killed before the Russian army withdrew. They were civilians, he said, showing cell phone pictures of dead men in civilian clothes with their hands bound behind their backs and one case in the front.

You know, the term war crimes, I think, has a rhetorical meaning and then it has a technical international legal meaning. What do you, as someone who works in this space, what is your reaction to that term in application to what we are seeing and seeing reported in the streets of Bucha?

Well, if one accepts the prevailing narrative which is that Vladimir Putin launched this illegal war of aggression as a way of aggrandizing Russian power and Russian prestige and rebuilding a Russian Empire, etcetera, there's hardly anything more corrosive to that.

MICHAEL NEWTON, PROFESSOR, VANDERBILT UNIVERSITY LAW SCHOOL: You know, as a political term, it's incredibly powerful and has the opportunity to galvanize the entire world as we're beginning to see. But as a legal term, and as a prosecutor myself, I mean, I think it's very important that we develop the body of evidence.

And when the Russians begin to lie as they are you are doing, we present them in evidence. We be transparent and we say, if you want to apologize, apologize, but come negotiate. Look at the evidence with us. We will prove to the entire world beyond a reasonable doubt that these are war crimes, or in some cases crimes against humanity. There's no question of that.

Now, the real question is, which individual's both political or military bear individual criminal responsibility for these kinds of offenses? That's the real challenge lying ahead.

HAYES: Yes, just to follow up on that. We should be clear, I mean, these were -- these were acts that were committed by actual individuals by Russian soldiers under the command of Russian officers, under the command of the general who's commanding the Russian army. I mean, how important is building that body of evidence?

NEWTON: Well, it's vitally important. And I've been working for a long time with courageous Ukrainian human rights defenders on the ground. This is not new. Russians have been violating the law of occupation for a long time in Crimea and other parts of Ukraine. And now, you're just seeing, I liked your word, the brutality of what they really do on the ground.

But that's a far cry from building a cohesive criminal case which is a composite that this is a common heritage of mankind and we have to work together with all countries, with all comers to develop a comprehensive body of evidence that can be used in any court in the world. That's why it's important to remember you, of course, you got the International Criminal Court, but you also have domestic courts all around the world that have jurisdiction, and first and foremost, the courts of Ukraine and have jurisdiction.

We have to have a composite body of evidence that can be used in any court anywhere in the world that wants to prosecute a particular offender and can get personal jurisdiction over them.

HAYES: You know, there's something very sick and so darkly cynical and almost nihilistic to me, Lieutenant Colonel Vindman, about this as propaganda. I mean, obviously, if you're the Russian forces, you know if you're leaving bodies in the streets, you know, if you're retreating with people's hands bound and bullets in the back of their head.

So, to do that is to leave a message, is to -- is to make a statement and then to immediately deny it. I mean, you could not do that or you could do it and say yes, you know, behold our wrath and cower before us. But this combination of leaving it out for it to be found and immediately denying it, which is a sort of common trope here, is pretty enraging.

And on the public opinion front I think is going to increase the pressure across Europe to cut off oil and gas which is personally what you heard from that Ukrainian Member of Parliament.

VINDMAN: I think that's right. But it shows a general kind of callousness for human life. The repression of 20 years, increasing repression of 22 years of Putin rule has bred this kind of mentality to the population. It's a callousness that throws and spends tens of thousands of Russian soldiers for no gain, just to withdraw and reform for another offensive.

[20:15:10]

And it's something -- if certainly, they're callous with their soldiers' lives, they're going to be callous with the civilians lives. So, it's something that's -- it's a rot within the authoritarian world, within the authoritarian regime, within Russia that is indicative of really a broader struggle between good and evil.

And I'm not sure if there was forethought and signaling in terms of leaving the bodies out they left under pressure to a certain extent. I think it was just a general callousness for one thing. But certainly, there were leadership -- there was leadership involved. The mass graves require engineers -- engineer assets or higher level assets, either at a battalion or brigade level. So, they're already at that level. You have kind of a mid to senior-level officers involved.

And these things are occurring kind of not just in one location, but throughout the country. So, certainly, there's an underwriting of this kind of warfare for Russia. It's within their concept of warfare, end the war as quickly as possible using every means possible including brutality, because from their perspective, that is somehow humane. It's a foreign concept to us.

HAYES: Alexander Vindman and Mike Newton, thank you both. I really appreciate it. Still to come, while the right is backing off its praise of Vladimir Putin a bit, they haven't stopped supporting one of his allies. Next, what to make the right-wing factions celebrating the win of the authoritarian leader who essentially rigged the basics of democracy in order to stay in power, after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[20:20:00]

HAYES: Evidence of potential war crimes committed against Ukraine has, I think, put a damper on the faction of American conservatives who have celebrated Russian President Vladimir Putin, though who knows how long that will last, there is however a much larger faction celebrating one of Putin's key allies in Europe, the hard-right Hungarian Prime Minister Viktor Orban.

Orban has just handily won reelection sending him to his fourth consecutive term with his party holding onto a supermajority in Parliament. A victory that surely thrilled the likes of Tucker Carlson who has praised the budding autocrats policies or Arizona Congressman Paul Gosar last seen at a white nationalist conference zooming in who congratulated Orban on Twitter, or Georgia Congressman Margarita Greene who just came out and said it. Orban is leading Hungary the right way and we need this in America.

So, what is Viktor Orban doing in Hungary that these folks think we need an America? Well, he's the architect of what he himself is called an illiberal democracy. He's used the tools of government to reshape Hungary's judicial branch, eliminate nearly all independent media and aggressively gerrymander

parliamentary districts. The result is now functionally one-party state. And when American conservatives say Hungary is a model for U.S., we should take that extremely seriously.

Ruth Ben-Ghiat is a professor of history in New York University. She writes all about this phenomenon in her book *Strongmen: Mussolini to the Present*. Her newsletter, *Lucid*, is on Substack and is about the perils democracy faces.

Ruth, you spent a lot of time studying Orban and I suppose last night's election wasn't surprising in terms of the results. How do you disaggregate in this in the kind of rigged non-competitive democracy that he's created what the people's will is, right? Because the Orban fans are like, look, he got a huge -- he won another huge victory. This is what Hungarians want. This is this -- this is it. This democracy in action.

RUTH BEN-GHIAT, PROFESSOR OF HISTORY, NEW YORK UNIVERSITY: Yes, that's true. Now, there were two things going on here that were kind of say, contingent. One is that for the first time the opposition united against him six parties. But part of that calculation backfired because part of that big opposition was the Jobbik Party, which was a far-right party trying to be more central. And voters of Jobbik defected to Orban's party or even to a really hard right, almost neo-fascist party.

And this is what happens when you have polarization and there's no center. So, they lost votes in that. And then there's the war. Orban was very smart, one could say, in saying we're going to be about Hungarian interests and trying to have this juggling act to see neutral. And that played well because you know, they're on the border and it was very unsettling.

But that said, the system has evolved over 10 years or -- you know, he's been there since 2010, 12 years, so that it's very difficult for the opposition to win. And one reason is media. He has domesticated the media to an extent where it's very hard for the opposition to get equal time. In fact, the European election security agency sent a record number of monitors. And they included there wasn't a level playing field because the media didn't have the same access.

And then there's gerrymandering and other election trickery to make more, you know, districts favorable to his party, things that are familiar with -- to people who follow the GOP. And all of this pays off. And so, the results were similar to 2018 and similar to 2014.

So, he's built the system which gives him not guaranteed success, but makes it difficult for others to prevail.

HAYES: He has been -- it was interesting. Zelenskyy called him out for the stance he take -- he's taken which has been more tepid towards Ukraine than certainly the Polish -- the nation of Poland, which is right there across the border which also has a pretty right-wing government, we should note, which has been much more sort of on Ukraine side opposed to Russian aggression.

Hungary has taken a much more kind of neutral stance, or at least has hedge its bets a bit. And Orban has been a real kind of ally of Putin for years. I mean, there's a real connection there, right?

[20:25:28]

BEN-GHIAT: Oh, totally. After the annexation of Crimea, he refused -- you know, he was very against E.U. sanctions. And right before the war started, he declared that 2021 had been the best year ever for Hungarian-Russian relations. And of course, he was against putting any kind of sanctions on Russian energy, because Hungary is very dependent on that.

But that too, he played to his advantage with voters because he said, we don't want to get involved in this because gas and oil prices will go up and voters like that, apparently.

HAYES: I want to just play some of the -- I mean, there's a lot of praise for him that comes in right. At one point, CPAC was saying they're going to go to Budapest to celebrate. And here's a little bit of the sampling. And just your thoughts on what it means to have the American right explicitly saying, look, this is our model.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

STEVE BANNON, FORMER WHITE HOUSE CHIEF STRATEGIST: People are over Orban. They're all over sometimes Salvini. And I'm a huge admirer of these individuals. I think they've just done a tremendous job.

TRUMP: Viktor Orban has done a tremendous job in so many different ways. highly respected, respected all over Europe. Probably like me, a little bit controversial, but that's OK. That's OK. You've done a good job and you've kept your country safe.

CARLSON: He thinks families are more important than banks. He believes countries need borders for saying these things out loud, Orban has been vilified.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HAYES: The sort of celebration of Orban strikes me as chilling because, you know, he really has kind of figured out ways to use the rules of the game to essentially rig democracy such that it is functionally no longer competitive in Hungary.

BEN-GHIAT: Oh, absolutely. And the GOP lawmakers, you know, falling over themselves to congratulate him. They're like kids looking at a toy store saying, I want that. I want electoral autocracy. And that's, of course, what they're pursuing. And then there's, you know, they're also ideologues too are all over his anti-LGBTQ, you know, policies, his pro-family policies.

And you know, what they never mentioned, you know, Tucker Carlson says, oh, he's defending white Christians and he's, you know, the defender of tradition. But they don't mention that 300 churches have been closed in Hungary because the heads of those churches were not aligned with Orban.

So, Orban, he's prevailing right now because he's the non-Putin. He's not anti-Putin, but he's the non-Putin. He's the palatable autocrat. And so, that is working in this atmosphere with what Putin is doing with crimes and everything. He seems OK.

HAYES: Ruth Ben-Ghiat, thank you so much for your time tonight.

Coming up, what does it mean the January 6 Committee is signaling there may be no criminal referral for Donald Trump. I'll ask a committee member about the end game strategy to the investigation after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

HAYES: We're expecting the full House representatives to vote sometime next week whether to hold two former Trump aides in contempt of Congress. This after the House Rules Committee voted nine to four along party lines today to advance contempt resolutions for Peter Navarro and Dan Scavino over their refusal to cooperate in the investigation into the insurrection.

As for the ringleader of the insurrection after a ruling last week in which a federal judge said the evidence before him showed that Donald Trump likely committed crimes, the question is whether there will be a criminal referral from the January 6 Committee for the ex-president, what legal and political ramifications that would involve.

There are signs that committee name may not be ready to take that step. Committee Member Congresswoman Zoe Lofgren told Politico, "A referral doesn't mean anything, has no legal weight whatsoever. And I'm pretty sure the department justice has read last week's opinions so they don't need to tell -- need us to tell them it exists."

Congresswoman Elaine Luria is Democrat of Virginia who serves on the January 6 Committee and she joins me now. First, let me just start on that and ask if you -- if you agree broadly with your colleagues reading on the situation.

REP. ELAINE LURIA (D-VA): Well, Chris, thanks for having me back. You know, I would say that I don't agree with what, you know, some of my colleagues have said about this. And I think it's a lot more important to do what's right than it is to worry about the political ramifications.

And, you know, this committee, our purposes legislative and oversight. But if in the course of our investigation, we find that criminal activity has occurred, you know, I think it's our responsibility to refer that to the Department of Justice. Even if they already know, even if 10 other charges or sets of circumstances have made that determination, I think it's within the responsibility of our committee if we should find that evidence that we do refer it.

HAYES: Yes, I want to -- I want to read this quote because I think that I've seen some analysis in both directions. And it sounds like what you're saying is, look, if the merits determine that, then you should say it, right? This was quoted in the -- in the piece in Politico. Former criminal referral from Congress in this situation could backfire. The Justice Department's charging decision should not be influenced by political pressure. That's how this might look of referral could make it harder for the Department of prosecute. What do you think about that?

[20:35:10]

LURIA: You know, I think that the purpose of this committee is to lay out the facts. And if in those facts, we find evidence that criminal acts, that crimes occurred, I think we have to include that in our report. And I

think that we have to forward that to the Department of Justice because they're the ones that have to deal with crimes.

HAYES: Two big issues coming up. There's the -- there'll be the vote on Navarro and Scavino on whether the Department of Justice moves ahead on those -- on charges there. But there's also the question of hearings and whether there'll be sort of primetime televised hearings. I wonder if you can give us a sense of what the committee's members or your member -- your thinking is on that.

LURIA: Well, Chris, you know, I think that this is a really important issue. It's fundamental to our democracy and protecting our institutions of government. I think it's important that every American has the opportunity to hear the work of this committee, the facts that we've uncovered, and we would like to lay those out in a way that reaches the most people possible.

So, the hearings will definitely be televised. The exact timing and schedule is something that we're still working on as we continue interviewing witnesses. But you know, our goal is for this information to reach every American.

HAYES: What are the stakes -- I mean, what do you view as -- what would be success for you in this investigation when it's all said and done? How are you defining success as a lawmaker, as a citizen?

LURIA: You know, I want to know the facts. And I think that, you know, the committee is doing a very intensive investigation, following a lot of different paths to reach the truth about what happened on January 6, leading up to January 6. And the purpose of the committee as a committee in Congress is to provide recommendations to prevent something like this from happening in the future.

So, you know, I think that the work of laying out the facts is the first step. But then the legislative work of determining, you know, what recommendations we can make, what type of laws can protect our government, our election in the future is very important as well. So, I think both of those elements are key to the success of this committee.

HAYES: I mean, I'm being only slightly tongue in cheek here. But isn't part of making -- I mean, electing Donald Trump president again would be very dangerous and go a long way towards possibly reproducing the conditions this would happen again. I mean, that -- it seems like there's no getting around that fundamental fact. Whatever structural factors there were or whatever, oversight there was on the day and why we're in police more prepared, like, fundamentally, the most powerful person in the country in the world was intent on subverting American democracy, and this was the result.

LURIA: You know, I agree with that assessment. But you know, that's up to the voters and you know, after we've had the opportunity to lay out all these facts for them to understand, you know, what went into essentially an attempted coup to overthrow the government to steal the election and to disrupt the proceedings that certify the electoral count, and then resulted in violence that led to death and destruction of property. You know, if people can watch that and would then choose to vote for him or someone who shared his values in the future, you know, I think that's very concerning as well.

HAYES: Well, and there's also the question of the Republican Party more broadly, which does seem has, in certain ways, managed to kind of wriggle out from the taint of this, you know, awful, awful thing that the leader of their party did, and would do again in a heartbeat, and is currently plotting.

LURIA: You know, certainly, there are those in the Republican Party who have embraced this, and they continue to double down. They're very clear. Others have had a lot of courage like Liz Cheney, Adam Kinzinger, who served with us on that committee, those who did vote in the second impeachment.

And, you know, I think as an American, I would hope that, you know, there were more people in the Republican Party serving in office today who could look at the facts of what happened and uphold their constitutional duty to implement our laws not to undermine them.

HAYES: Yes. I think there will be a moment to sort of focus a beam of attention during these hearings, if and when they were to happen. We look forward to seeing how that plays out. Congresswoman Elaine Luria, thank you very much.

Still to come, Sarah Palin is back and running for Congress. How the one-time candidate for VP walked so MAGA party could run, in just ahead. Plus, Ketanji Brown Jackson finds Republican support in the Senate. We'll tell you that tally and what it means for her confirmation vote after this.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[20:40:00]

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. SHELDON WHITEHOUSE (D-RI): Last week, Judge Jackson set the gold standard for patience and courtesy from a Supreme Court nominee.

SEN. JON OSSOFF (D-GA): Throughout her career, she has not just favorably impressed, but demonstrated superb and exceptional professionalism and capabilities.

SEN. CORY BOOKER (D-NJ): How qualified you have to be double Harvard? How qualified you have to be clerking at all levels of the federal judiciary? How qualified do you have to be three times confirmed by the Senate in a bipartisan manner?

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HAYES: It was a historic day in the Senate Judiciary Committee as senators considered Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson the first black woman nominated at the Supreme Court. The vote in that committee went along party line, 11 Democrats in support to all 11 Republicans voting against, which then forced Majority Leader Chuck Schumer to hold a floor vote to get the Brown Jackson nomination out of committee.

And guess what, three Republicans actually joined that vote somewhat of a surprising number, Mitt Romney, Susan Collins and Lisa Murkowski, which is a good sign for the final passage vote that should come on a Friday. We expect it to be 53 votes in approval.

And that said, today, South Carolina Senator Lindsey Graham admitted that if Republicans were in control the Senate, listen to this, Ketanji Brown Jackson's nomination would have never even gotten a vote.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

SEN. LINDSEY GRAHAM (R-SC): If we get back the Senate, and we're in charge of this body, and there's judicial openings, we will tell our colleagues on the other side, but if we're in charge she would not have been before this committee. You're going to have somebody more moderate than this.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HAYES: Well, Merrick Garland is pretty moderate and he didn't get it hearing either. What he's saying there just so people realize is the quiet part out loud, right? They won't even hold a hearing for a Democratic president's nominee, a stark moment from a Republican Party that has become accustomed to pulling all manners of stunts to maintain their political power.

In fact, Graham had a front-row seat riding shotgun on the Street Talk Express for it feels now like the moon landing of modern Republicans' stunt politics.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

UNIDENTIFIED FEMALE: What insight into Russian actions for particularly in the last couple of weeks does the proximity of the state give you?

PALIN: They're next door neighbors and you can actually see Russia from land here in Alaska.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HAYES: Yes, Sarah Palin says she wants back into electoral politics, next.

(COMMERCIAL BREAK)

[20:50:00]

HAYES: The longest-serving Republican in the U.S. House of Representatives died a little more than two weeks ago. And now, more than 50 candidates are running to fill the seat of the late Congressman Don Young of Alaska. One of those 50 is a familiar face, former half-term governor and failed vice-presidential candidate Sarah Palin.

Last night, she perhaps unsurprisingly got Donald Trump's complete and total endorsement. And it feels like the Republican Party has come full circle here. Back in 2008, when the John McCain campaign was scrambling to find a running mate, the team landed on Sarah Palin, the little known even by the campaign first-term governor of Alaska was a huge hit first, until she became more known.

We all discovered Palin was a candidate, well, seemingly entirely disinterested in the realities of governing. She lacked basic knowledge about foreign policy or even how Washington functioned. But she made up for

it with right-wing populist rhetoric and a willingness to take an overtly racist tone towards then-candidate Barack Obama.

The Republican base loved it even when Palin had moments like this one with Katie Couric.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

KATIE COURIC, JOURNALIST: When it comes to establishing your worldview, I was curious what newspapers and magazines did you regularly read before you were tapped for this to stay informed and to understand world --

PALIN: I've read most of them, again, with a great appreciation for the press, for the media --

COURIC: But like what specifically, I'm curious that you --

PALIN: All of them, any of them that have been in front of me over all these years.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HAYES: As my next guest notes, the fact that Palin was obviously unfit for office was kind of why the base like her so much. She made the right people angry. She started to draw larger crowds than McCain himself in rallies that looked a lot like the ones Trump would hold eight years later.

After losing in '08, Palin resigned as Alaska's Governor before her term was up, not to run for president in 2012 as many speculated, but to focus full time on posting on social media and a reality show which he used to reach her base outside of traditional news outlets, a tactic that would help Donald Trump win the presidency in 2016.

Now, the Palin model failed as it was, a proud lack of political knowledge mixed with attention-grabbing antics, also set the mold for today's Republican troll caucus, the likes of Marjory Taylor Greene, Madison Cawthorn, Lauren Colbert, and Ted Cruz.

And now 15 years later, after creating the genre, Palin is back trying to make a run to join them. She's already started the audition process.

(BEGIN VIDEO CLIP)

PALIN: We need people who have cojones. We need people, like Donald Trump, who has nothing, nothing to lose. Like me, we got nothing to lose. And no more of this vanilla milk toast, namby-pamby, wussy-pussy stuff that's been going on.

(END VIDEO CLIP)

HAYES: Jeremy Peters is a reporter for The New York Times who traces the link between Sarah Palin in 2008 and Donald Trump in 2016 in his new book *Insurgency: How Republicans Lost Their Party And Got Everything They Ever Wanted*.

And there are a lot of similarities and really a straight line from Palin to Trump. You do wonder though, like, it's one of these can you go home again kind of moments whether the shifting of the politics in the direction of Trump and sort of Matt Gaetz, Lauren Boebert figures means it's easier for her and whether this is sort of a natural fit, or maybe it's hard to pull off?

JEREMY PETERS, NATIONAL POLITICAL REPORTER, THE NEW YORK TIMES: Well, that was kind of the thing I wondered when I was reporting this book is like, was Sarah Palin the canary in the coal mine or was she kind of an anomaly? And it turns out, she's not an anomaly. Sarah Palin is the Republican Party.

And I think that you don't need to go very far back into Republican Party history to understand why she clicks with voters. She has always been somebody who has been seen as one of you, right? When she was in Alaska, she clicked with voters because people saw themselves in her. She was a mom. She had five kids. She was -- she talked like them. She didn't have like, a lot of elitist areas about her.

And really, that's what Republican voters saw in Donald Trump eventually. I think that what happened to her is another story when, you know, as she became the 20 -- 2008 Republican vice presidential nominee. She kind of lost her way a bit. But she is now back on stage. And I think that she's somebody who needs to be taken very seriously as a contender for this congressional seat.

[20:55:41]

HAYES: But there's -- I mean, there's some distinctions there, right? So, like, what's interesting about her is that she is -- you know, she was not -- she wasn't faking it, right, as governor of Alaska. Like, she was from where she was from, she had sort of worked her way through like first running for local office. I mean, Donald Trump was like a multi, multi, multimillionaire like never set foot outside of New York, right?

So, what's interesting is like Sarah Palin and Donald Trump were sort of tapping into the same thing, but it wasn't just like, you can't chalk it up to like lack of pretension, or folksiness. Particularly now, she's sitting there giving that interview in a house who's sitting room is like, larger than the block I live in Brooklyn.

Like -- and I think, you know, you document this here, right, that there's something going on here. Journalists covering Palin's rallies kept documenting the vitriol that was erupting from her crowds. Some of it is so ugly the Secret Service had to look into one incident as a precaution. Reports documented people shouting Obama Bin Ladin, treason, off with his head.

Now we've got, you know, the sort of ritual two-minute hate that happens at the Trump rallies where they all jeer. Like, hating the right people and being hated by the right people seems to be the defining thing she tapped into that has become so definitional for a lot of the Republican Party.

PETERS: That's exactly right, Chris. And that was always her appeal in Alaska as far back as 2004 when she was not quite Governor yet and not a major figure. She clicked with people because somebody called her and her fellow denizens of the Wasilla Valley, valley trash, right?

It was -- it was an early version of the deplorables. And she wore that as a badge of honor, not as something that like, oh, how dare you say this about me? They appropriated it. Then they took this as a badge of honor. And it worked for them just like it did with Trump supporters because they felt as if the mainstream Republican Party was looking down on them and not representing them.

And that's what ultimately Trumpism is, right? Trumpism is not an ideology. There are no fixed set of policies. It is about making people believe that a set of elites look down on them. It's very populist, as you know. And that is what she ultimately tapped into and has been very good ever since then at perpetuating.

HAYES: Yes, I mean, it's interesting. Because she left politics, right? I mean, she did the reverse Donald Trump, right? So, Trump is a reality star -- he's a celebrity first, and he sort of is able to convert that into a political campaign. And I think that allowed him to pull this thing off that is very hard to pull off and very hard to replicate actually.

Palin went the opposite way, right? She was sort of became a celebrity through politics. She then monetize that. She left -- I mean, she didn't even serve her own terms. She left. She made a lot of money in a reality show. She was, you know, sort of became this kind of celebrity figure. Now, she wants to go back into politics.

And I think it's interesting when you compare to Gaetz, Boebert, Cawthorn, Marjory Taylor Greene, right, these are people who are getting elected in super, super safe seats, in you know, deep red seats, where they win a primary and then they romp. A lot -- it's a lot more complicated. It's a statewide election. It's got a very complicated system. It's an interesting test case of how feasible this model is statewide.

PETERS: Well, it's also an incredibly important seat. Like, one of the things that probably most people don't appreciate is that this is a lone congressional seat in the entire state. There are only a handful of states in the country that have one congressional representative. That seat is more powerful than the senator's.

So, more powerful than Lisa Murkowski, more powerful than Dan Sullivan. Like, that's a big deal. So, I think there are going to be a lot of guns out for her there that she's going to have to look out. You know, I don't know what ultimately ends up happening in this race, but she has come to this moment understanding what Trumpism is in a lot of ways better than Donald Trump did. Let's not forget that Trump sought her out in 2007 --

HAYES: And he got an endorsement early.

PETERS: -- because he knew how powerful and how popular she was. And that's where we are right now. It's come full circle, Chris.

HAYES: All right, Jeremy Peters, thank you very much.

That is ALL IN on this Monday night. "THE RACHEL MADDOW SHOW" with Ali Velshi starts right now. Good evening, Ali.

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SE News - Music
HD 'Grand Ole Opry' Owner Sells Minority Stake to Atairos and NBCUniversal for Nearly \$300 Million
BY Cynthia Littleton
WC 1,121 words
PD 4 April 2022
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SC VARTY
LA English
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LP

Ryman Hospitality Properties, the Nashville-based parent company of the Grand Ole Opry, has struck a deal to sell a 30% stake in its entertainment operations to **investment** firm Atairos and NBCUniversal.

The transaction values Ryman Hospitality's Opry Entertainment Group unit at about \$1.4 billion in total. Atairos and NBCUniversal will invest approximately \$293 million in Opry Entertainment Group (OEG), which consists of the weekly "Grand Ole Opry" stage show and media rights, Nashville's famed Ryman Auditorium, the legendary Nashville radio station WSM-AM and a 50% stake in TV channel Circle, the streaming home of "Grand Ole Opry." The pact calls for Atairos to invest another \$30 million in OEG down the road if certain performance targets are met.

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The deal amounts to a sky-high valuation of 17 to 18 times OEG's projected 2022 adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, appreciation and amortization of \$80 million-\$88 million. And that is a sign of the feverish M&A marketplace for sui generis IP assets. From its debut in 1925 on WSM, "Grand Ole Opry's" role in establishing country music as an American art form cannot be overstated. OEG's vault includes 11,000 hours of "Grand Ole Opry" content, among other shows that adhere to what Ryman executives call the "country lifestyle" audience.

Circle launched in 2020 as a joint venture with Atlanta-based Gray Television. The channel has broad national distribution as a digital multicast network and as an ad-supporting streaming channel carried by Peacock, Roku and Samsung TV Plus, among others. It's also carried as a traditional cable channel carried by select MVPDs.

The agreement with Atairos, which is headed by former Comcast chief financial officer Michael Angelakis, and NBCUniversal came about after Ryman Hospitality executives began fielding call after call of prospective buyers for the assets.

Colin Reed, Ryman Hospitality chairman and CEO, said the company was not interested in an outright sale, but knew that there was more to be done in media.

"We knew there were lots of organizations out there that can help bring the expertise to the table that we lack to help us grow," Reed told Variety.

Ryman Hospitality's core business is running large hotels and convention centers. But through its ownership of the Ryman Auditorium, executives realized the company was able to craft unique offerings for artists and fans alike. Ryman Hospitality was also motivated to change the structure of the OEG group because the parent firm operates as a real estate investment trust (or a REIT), which use far different accounting standards for recognizing revenue and earnings than media companies. Now, OEG will have more flexibility to operate as a traditional entertainment venture.

"We are very focused on ways in which we can accelerate the connection between the artist and the consumer," Reed said. "We wanted to find a partner that shared the same vision for this company to be a global leader in country lifestyle and live entertainment."

The OEG assets involved in the deal also encompass Ole Red, Ryman Hospitality's growing line of restaurant and clubs run as a joint venture with country superstar Blake Shelton. At present there are five Ole Red locations, including outposts in Nashville and Orlando, Fla. Also in the deal is Block 21, an

entertainment and retail complex in Austin, Tex., that Ryman Hospitality is in the process of acquiring for about \$260 million.

“OEG’s dynamic collection of entertainment venues, digital content and iconic country music brands provide a strong foundation for continued growth as a fully-integrated country lifestyle platform,” said Atairos chairman-CEO Angelakis. “We are excited to partner with the [Ryman Hospitality] and OEG teams to explore new content distribution strategies and support their ambition of becoming the leading player in country lifestyle live entertainment and media content.”

Ryman Hospitality chief Reed will serve as executive chairman of OEG in addition to remaining chairman and CEO of Ryman Hospitality. Atairos partners Alex Evans and Jackson Phillips will join OEG’s board of directors, which will be comprised of four Ryman Hospitality directors and two Atairos reps. Atairos is a partner with NBCUniversal and receives much of its investment capital from NBCUniversal parent Comcast. Atairos is putting in \$278 million while NBCU will invest up to \$15 million.

“We look forward to exploring opportunities to leverage our media, technology and content creation expertise to help OEG accelerate its plans and bring its iconic brands, as well as artists and storied cities, to music lovers worldwide,” said David Pietrycha, executive VP of strategy and business development for NBCUniversal.

Ryman Hospitality began the process of searching for a strategic partner last year. Executives had a series of rapid-fire meetings with suitors over a three-month period. In time it became clear that Atairos and NBCU were in the pole position in terms of bringing enormous strategic advantages to a company that is tiny in the scheme of Big Media these days. Comcast’s ownership of the Sky satellite platform in the U.K. and Europe could be a huge boon to Circle and other assets. The U.K. in particular is a prime target for OEG’s country lifestyle target demo.

“They see potential for continued growth,” said Mark Fioravanti, president of Ryman Hospitality. “The fact is we’re focused on a segment of the consumer that is dramatically underserved. The brands we have are irreplaceable. They’re synonymous with country music and important part of music history. All those factors combined led to (Atairos and NBCU’s) viewpoint on the tremendous value we have to unlock.”

Reed emphasized that the influx of capital will be used to expand the content and distribution of Circle and it will also allow OEG to hunt for more star-driven partnerships such as the Ole Red venture with Shelton. In all, Ryman Hospitality will receive gross transaction proceeds of \$593 million, including a new \$300 million loan secured by the OEG assets. The proceeds will be used in part to pay off existing debt to ease pressure on the balance sheet of Ryman Hospitality.

“We’re looking at the potential growth of more theaters to put the artist in the center of brands like Ole Red,” Reed said. “We’re looking for new content that we can put on the Circle platform and to build better distribution and affiliation with advertisers.”

For Ryman Hospitality Properties, Morgan Stanley served as financial advisor; Bass, Berry & Sims PLC served as legal advisor and Skadden Arps served as tax counsel. Moelis & Co. was financial advisor to Atairos while Davis Polk & Wardwell was legal advisor.

CO okpub : Ryman Hospitality Properties Inc. | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation

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HD Ryman Hospitality: Atairos, NBCUniversal Making Strategic Investment in Opry Entertainment

BY By Stephen Nakrosis

WC 203 words

PD 5 April 2022

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LA English

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LP

Ryman Hospitality Properties on Monday said Atairos and its long-term strategic partner, NBCUniversal, will acquire a 30% minority ownership stake in RHP's subsidiary OEG Attractions Holdings LLC.

OEG Attractions Holdings directly or indirectly owns the assets that comprise Opry Entertainment Group, Ryman said. The investment values OEG at \$1.415 billion, according to Ryman.

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The initial 30% equity investment will be about \$293 million, Ryman said, adding Atairos will directly invest about \$278 million and NBCUniversal about \$15 million.

Ryman also said Atairos agreed to make an additional \$30 million investment in OEG, contingent on certain performance targets, adding the additional investment would bring OEG's valuation to \$1.515 billion.

Once the deal is completed, Atairos Partners Alex Evans and Jackson Phillips will join OEG's Board of Directors, which will be made up of four RHP Directors and two Atairos Directors, Ryman said.

Opry Entertainment Group's portfolio includes the Grand Ole Opry, The Inn at Opryland and the Gaylord Springs Golf Links.

Write to Stephen Nakrosis at stephen.nakrosis@wsj.com

(END) Dow Jones Newswires

April 04, 2022 19:02 ET (23:02 GMT)

CO okpub : Ryman Hospitality Properties Inc. | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation

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HD BRIEF-Ryman Hospitality Properties Inc Announces Strategic Investment In Opry Entertainment Group By Atairos And Nbcuniversal

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April 4 (Reuters) - Ryman Hospitality Properties Inc :

* RYMAN HOSPITALITY PROPERTIES, INC. ANNOUNCES STRATEGIC INVESTMENT IN OPRY ENTERTAINMENT GROUP BY ATAIIOS AND NBCUNIVERSAL

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* RYMAN HOSPITALITY PROPERTIES - ATAIIOS AGREED TO MAKE ADDITIONAL \$30 MILLION INVESTMENT IN OEG, WHICH WOULD BRING OEG'S VALUATION TO \$1.515 BILLION

* RYMAN HOSPITALITY PROPERTIES INC - ATAIIOS' AND NBCUNIVERSAL'S INITIAL 30% EQUITY INVESTMENT IN OEG WILL BE ABOUT \$293 MILLION

* RYMAN HOSPITALITY PROPERTIES INC - ATAIIOS IS DIRECTLY INVESTING ABOUT \$278 MILLION AND NBCUNIVERSAL WILL DIRECTLY INVEST UP TO ABOUT \$15 MILLION

* RYMAN HOSPITALITY PROPERTIES INC - UPON COMPLETION OF TRANSACTION, RHP WILL RETAIN A CONTROLLING 70% INTEREST IN OEG

* RYMAN HOSPITALITY PROPERTIES - COLIN REED TO SERVE AS EXECUTIVE CHAIRMAN OF OEG IN ADDITION TO HIS RESPONSIBILITIES AS CHAIRMAN AND CEO OF RHP

* RYMAN HOSPITALITY PROPERTIES - IN CONNECTION WITH INVESTMENT, ATAIIOS WILL ENTER INTO AN LLC AGREEMENT WITH RHP AND OEG UPON CLOSING OF INVESTMENT

* RYMAN HOSPITALITY PROPERTIES - PURSUANT TO LLC AGREEMENT ATAIIOS PARTNERS ALEX EVANS AND JACKSON PHILLIPS WILL JOIN OEG'S BOARD

* RYMAN HOSPITALITY PROPERTIES INC - UPON CLOSING, RHP EXPECTS TO RECEIVE GROSS TRANSACTION PROCEEDS OF ABOUT \$593 MILLION Source text for Eikon: Further company coverage:

RF Released: 2022-4-4T23:08:31.000Z

CO okpub : Ryman Hospitality Properties Inc. | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN icre : Real Estate/Construction | ireest : Real Estate | i81502 : Trusts/Funds/Financial Vehicles | i8150206 : Investment Trusts | i815020602 : Real Estate Investment Trusts | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | ifinal : Financial Services | ihotreit : Hospitality REITs | iinv : Investing/Securities | imed : Media/Entertainment

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IPD Business

IPC SERVICE:FSE

PUB Reuters News & Media Inc.

AN Document LBA0000020220404ei4403mbq

HD 18:05 EDT Ryman Hospitality announces investment from Atairos, NBCUniversalRyman...

WC 353 words

PD 4 April 2022

SN Theflyonthewall.com

SC FLYWAL

LA English

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LP

18:05 EDT Ryman Hospitality announces investment from Atairos, NBCUniversalRyman Hospitality Properties and Atairos announced that Atairos, along with their long-term strategic partner NBCUniversal, will acquire a 30% minority ownership stake in RHP's subsidiary OEG Attractions Holdings, which directly or indirectly owns the assets that comprise Opry Entertainment Group. Atairos' investment values OEG at \$1.415B, inclusive of OEG's previously announced acquisition of Block 21. Atairos has agreed to make an additional \$30M investment in OEG, contingent on certain performance targets being achieved, which would bring OEG's valuation to \$1.515B. The initial \$1.415B valuation includes a recapitalization of OEG with a new \$300M Term Loan B and the assumption of a \$137M CMBS facility for Block 21 upon consummation of that transaction.

TD

Atairos' and NBCUniversal's initial 30% equity investment in OEG will be approximately \$293M, of which Atairos is directly investing approximately \$278M and NBCUniversal will directly invest up to approximately \$15M. Upon completion of the transaction, RHP will retain a controlling 70% interest in OEG. Colin Reed will serve as Executive Chairman of OEG in addition to his responsibilities as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of RHP. In connection with the investment, Atairos will enter into an LLC agreement with RHP and OEG upon the closing of the investment, pursuant to which, among other things, Atairos Partners Alex Evans and Jackson Phillips will join OEG's Board of Directors, which will be comprised of four RHP Directors and two Atairos Directors. The transaction, which is subject to customary conditions, is expected to close in Q2 2022. Upon closing, RHP expects to receive gross transaction proceeds of approximately \$593M, comprised of the Atairos and NBCUniversal investment and borrowings from a new \$300M Term Loan B facility secured by OEG assets. RHP expects to use these proceeds to pay transaction expenses, fully repay its \$300M Term Loan A and substantially all the borrowings outstanding under its revolving credit facility, thereby reducing leverage and creating balance sheet flexibility to allow RHP to pursue continued reinvestment in its businesses.

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HD Press Release: Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc. Announces Strategic **Investment** in Opry Entertainment Group by Atairos and NBCUniversal

WC 1,832 words

PD 4 April 2022

ET 23:00

SN Dow Jones Institutional News

SC DJDN

LA English

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Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc. Announces Strategic **Investment** in Opry Entertainment Group by Atairos and NBCUniversal

TD

NASHVILLE, Tenn., April 04, 2022 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- Ryman Hospitality Properties (NYSE: RHP) ("RHP"), a leading lodging and hospitality real estate investment trust that specializes in upscale convention center resorts and country music entertainment experiences, and Atairos, an independent strategic investment company focused on supporting growth-oriented businesses, today announced that Atairos, along with their long-term strategic partner NBCUniversal, will acquire a 30% minority ownership stake in RHP's subsidiary OEG Attractions Holdings LLC, which directly or indirectly owns the assets that comprise Opry Entertainment Group ("OEG"). Atairos' investment values OEG at \$1.415 billion, inclusive of OEG's previously announced acquisition of Block 21 (which remains subject to certain closing conditions and is expected to close prior to June 1, 2022). Atairos has agreed to make an additional \$30 million investment in OEG, contingent on certain performance targets being achieved, which would bring OEG's valuation to \$1.515 billion. The initial \$1.415 billion valuation includes a recapitalization of OEG with a new \$300 million Term Loan B and the assumption of a \$137 million CMBS facility for Block 21 upon consummation of that transaction. Atairos' and NBCUniversal's initial 30% equity investment in OEG will be approximately \$293 million, of which Atairos is directly investing approximately \$278 million and NBCUniversal will directly invest up to approximately \$15 million.

Colin Reed, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Ryman Hospitality Properties, said, "Over the last decade we have shared our excitement about the bright future of our entertainment business and the significant value creation opportunities that exist as we extend our reach nationwide and transition OEG to an integrated country lifestyle platform.

Back in June 2021, given the unsolicited interest we had received, we embarked on a formal process to identify a strategic partner that shares our vision for growing OEG to a position where it can operate independently of our core hospitality business while enabling our shareholders to participate in the significant upside for OEG that lies ahead.

Atairos and NBCUniversal have a great appreciation for the legendary assets under our stewardship and we are aligned on protecting and nurturing them for future generations of music lovers to enjoy. We view this partnership as a significant opportunity to strengthen these beloved institutions and cement their influence on American music culture. We remain focused on creating sustainable long-term value for our shareholders as we seek new ways to connect artists and fans through one-of-a-kind experiences."

Michael Angelakis, Chairman and CEO of Atairos, said, "OEG's dynamic collection of entertainment venues, digital content and iconic country music brands provide a strong foundation for continued growth as a fully-integrated country lifestyle platform. We are excited to partner with the RHP and OEG teams to explore new content distribution strategies and support their ambition of becoming the leading player in country lifestyle live entertainment and media content."

David Pietrycha, Executive Vice President, Strategy and Business Development at NBCUniversal, added, "We are excited to invest in OEG alongside our strategic partner Atairos. We look forward to exploring opportunities to leverage our media, technology and content creation expertise to help OEG accelerate its plans and bring its iconic brands, as well as artists and storied cities, to music lovers worldwide."

Additional Transaction Details

Upon completion of the transaction, RHP will retain a controlling 70% interest in OEG. Colin Reed will serve as Executive Chairman of OEG in addition to his responsibilities as Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of RHP. In connection with the investment, Atairos will enter into an LLC agreement with RHP and OEG upon the closing of the investment, pursuant to which, among other things, Atairos Partners Alex Evans and Jackson Phillips will join OEG's Board of Directors, which will be comprised of four RHP Directors and two Atairos Directors.

The transaction, which is subject to customary conditions, is expected to close in Q2 2022. Upon closing, RHP expects to receive gross transaction proceeds of approximately \$593 million, comprised of the Atairos and NBCUniversal investment and borrowings from a new \$300 million Term Loan B facility secured by OEG assets. RHP expects to use these proceeds to pay transaction expenses, fully repay its \$300 million Term Loan A and substantially all the borrowings outstanding under its revolving credit facility, thereby reducing leverage and creating balance sheet flexibility to allow RHP to pursue continued reinvestment in its businesses.

Advisors

Morgan Stanley & Co. LLC is serving as financial advisor, Bass, Berry & Sims PLC is serving as legal advisor, and Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom LLP is serving as tax counsel to RHP. Moelis & Company LLC is serving as financial advisor and Davis Polk & Wardwell LLP is serving as legal advisor to Atairos. The financing commitment for this transaction has been secured from JPMorgan Chase Bank, N.A. and Morgan Stanley Senior Funding, Inc.

A Note to Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc. Shareholders:

For additional information regarding this acquisition, visit <http://ir.rymanhp.com> and click on Presentations and Transcripts, where RHP has posted an investor supplement providing a transaction overview, which introduces Atairos and describes the announced strategic investment. Please note that our website is provided as an inactive textual reference and the information on our website is not incorporated by reference in this release.

Ryman Hospitality Properties will hold a conference call to discuss this transaction Tuesday, April 5, 2022, at 10 a.m. ET. To participate in the conference call, please dial 888-632-3384 and use Conference ID: 6355412. The call will be available for replay through April 12, 2022, and by dialing 800-938-0996, a Conference ID is not required. This call is also being webcast and can be accessed at Ryman Hospitality Properties' Investor Relations website at <http://ir.rymanhp.com>.

About Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc.

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Investor Relations Contacts: Media Contacts:
4 Apr 2022 18:00 ET Press Release: Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc. -2-

Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc.

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4 Apr 2022 18:02 ET *Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc. Announces Strategic Investment in Opry Entertainment Group by Atairos and NBCUniversal

4 Apr 2022 18:03 ET *Ryman Hospitality: Atairos' Investment Values OEG at \$1.415 B, Inclusive of OEG's Previously Announced Acquisition of Block 21 >RHP

4 Apr 2022 18:03 ET *Ryman Hospitality: Atairos Has Agreed to Make an Additional \$30 M Investment in OEG, Contingent on Certain Performance Targets Being Achieved, Which Would Bring OEG's Valuation to \$1.515 B >RHP

4 Apr 2022 18:03 ET *Ryman Hospitality: Atairos' and NBCUniversal's Initial 30% Equity Investment in OEG Will Be Approximately \$293 M, of Which Atairos Is Directly Investing Approximately \$278 M and NBCUniversal Will Directly Invest Up to Approximately \$15 M >RHP

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RE uspa : Pennsylvania | ustn : Tennessee | usa : United States | namz : North America | use : Northeast U.S. | uss : Southern U.S.

PUB Dow Jones & Company, Inc.

AN Document DJDN000020220404ei44003gf

HD Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc. Announces Strategic Investment in Opry Entertainment Group by Atairos and NBCUniversal

WC 1,683 words

PD 4 April 2022

ET 23:00

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SC PZON

LA English

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Investor Relations Contacts:
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Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc. Announces -2-

Ryman Hospitality Properties, Inc.

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PUB GlobeNewswire, Inc.

AN Document PZON000020220404ei44000d7

HD There is strong demand for our **content** in India: NBCUniversal's Hendrik McDermott

BY Varun Markande

CR Distributed by Contify.com

WC 1,415 words

PD 4 April 2022

SN Indiantelevision.com

SC ATINTV

LA English

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LP

OTT streaming service hayu was launched in 2016 in the United Kingdom, Ireland, and Australia targeting major English-speaking markets to advance the unscripted reality genre. The **content** on the service was provided by NBCUniversal, one of the world's leading unscripted production companies, that adds 2000 hours of unscripted **content** every year primarily through their flagship pay TV brands in the United States - Bravo, E!, and Oxygen.

Today, hayu **platform** boasts 10,000 hours of **content** all focused on reality TV. While the **content** library swells predictably each year, the **platform**'s strategy is focused on bringing that **content** to more English speakers across the globe. It does this in three ways, launching in new English-speaking markets, increasing its distribution reach, and onboarding **platform** partners.

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In 2017, hayu launched in the Nordic region (Norway, Sweden, and Denmark) and then into the rest of Europe. The service was launched in Canada and Benelux in 2018. The expansion continued to Southeast Asia including the Philippines, Hong Kong, Singapore, and finally India in December 2021.

Leading hayu's charge across the globe is NBCUniversal managing director of direct-to-consumer global Hendrik McDermott, who's been at the media and entertainment company for over 16 years. Based in London, McDermott is responsible for the territorial expansion and P&L including subscriber acquisition, retention, customer lifetime value, and revenue growth. The platform hayu has completed six years since its launch and is currently present in 29 countries.

In an exclusive conversation with IndianTelevision.com, McDermott shares his focused strategy for hayu's international expansion and approach to the Indian market.

Edited Excerpts:

On the launch in India three months ago

Our research showed that there's a huge appetite for reality TV in this country. As we look at our addressable base (English-speaking audiences), 33 per cent of that base are huge fans of reality TV in some shape or form. Out of that group of people, three-quarters are very interested in subscribing to a US content service. That's a very high percentage in our addressable base. So, there is a strong demand for the content that we have in this market.

On monetising unscripted content via subscriptions

We view our platform as a premium service. Our research shows that people are happy to pay for content and they don't want advertising on the service. Our platform is an ad-free service and we do not have advertising on our platform in any of our other markets so it's something that we've stayed true to in India. That's the area (subscription) we hope to grow for now.

On distribution strategy and partnering with Prime Video Channels

Partnerships are a hallmark of our strategy and we're very active in partnership discussions. We are partnered with every kind of platform you can imagine including cable platforms, satellite platforms, OTT platforms, and telcos. In every market that we're present, we have at least one platform partner. We

launched with Prime Video Channels here in February but we have a longstanding partnership with Amazon in other markets as well.

The types of integrations that we do differ from market to market. For example, in Canada, which is a cable TV-led market, we partnered with all the cable TV operators and built a bespoke app that sits on their set-top-box. The Nordic markets are much more SVOD-led and so we've done integrations with the other SVOD platforms. We're open to all kinds of different partnership conversations. We are partners with almost every App Store and Smart TV across Apple, Google, Roku, etc.

In India, I can't speak about specific partners but we are in active conversations for further distribution. The deal with Amazon is a structure where the partner platform ingests our content and we're open to that. We're looking to bundle with different smart TV and telco operators as well.

On a localisation strategy for India

We are an English language service. The content itself is very topical and when our new shows come out it is written about in the newspapers. We prioritise the speed at which the content comes to our platform and therefore our shows air in India on the same day as the US within two hours of broadcast transmission.

In India, we're subtitling some of our content knowing that there is a desire to watch content in local languages. About 4000 hours of content has been subtitled to Hindi.

On beating the competition in the unscripted content space

We bring our US-based shows that feature some of the most popular and famous people in the world. These are franchises like "The Real Housewives" and "The Kardashians." These are premium franchises targeting a specific demographic. We're not a general entertainment service so we're not going to try and address the entire market. Our target audience is young, female, and English-savvy.

Obviously, we'll sell our service to anyone but we do tend to skew more females than males with 90 per cent of our user base outside of India being female. We also understand that this is a mobile-led market but we're trying to keep our platform available to as broad a selection of people as possible. So, we're present on all devices.

On growing the platform in India

The performance metric that we've been looking at is our viewing engagement i.e., how much content is being viewed by people on our platform. I think that's important at the launch phase because we're brand new to the market. Our benchmark in terms of average viewing per person per month varies between 16-20 hours of content. That is broadly speaking the performance of our content in other markets. We're pleased to note that in India the average at the moment is 17 hours per person per month which is within our target performance.

On marketing the service in India

Marketing in India is no different from other markets. When we launch our service, we were very active in building brand awareness since the brand is new to the market. This includes pay TV advertising and out-of-home advertising that we've been active in starting from December. Then we'll shift our tactics towards digital because globally we've seen it is much more common to get people to subscribe to services via digital. You will see our presence on social media channels, influencers, podcasts, and everything else. Once we've invested in building our brand, we can shift our tactics to drive subscriptions via digital.

On making the customer onboarding journey as frictionless as possible

Our service is accessible via numerous touchpoints. We have a whole suite of apps, 13 different apps, and have made it seamless for people to connect with the platform in any way they want. The simplest is the web where there is a basic sign-up flow. In this market, we offer two subscription packages i.e., a three-month package and a 12-month package. Adding more payment options is in our product roadmap for the coming months. Payment modes like Paytm will be enabled over the course of the year.

On driving viewership via connected TVs versus mobile devices

Even in markets where we've had integrations with cable TV platforms, the primary viewing of our content genre is happening on the small screens. This includes mobiles and tablets but also to a certain extent laptop computers. While there is some variation from market to market, this is consistent across

the board. In India, we found that about 50 per cent of the viewing is happening on the mobile phone. It also skews towards Android devices over iOS devices. Mobile viewing in this market is broadly speaking higher than we'd see in other markets.

On hayu's upcoming content slate

We recently launched a new franchise called "Below Deck Down Under" that's exclusively on hayu platform. In May, we have a big premiere when the "Real Housewives of Beverly Hills" returns to the platform with season 12. On an annual basis, we add about 2000 hours of content and on any given day four to ten new episodes are coming in from our partners in the US.

CO nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN imsssoft : Streaming Services | idistr : Media Content Distribution | iint : Online Service Providers | imed : Media/Entertainment | itech : Technology | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting

NS c22 : New Products/Services | gtvrad : Television/Radio | ccat : Corporate/Industrial News | cexpro : Products/Services | gcat : Political/General News | gent : Arts/Entertainment | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters | nfcpin : C&E Industry News Filter

RE india : India | usa : United States | asiaz : Asia | bric : BRICS Countries | devgcoz : Emerging Market Countries | dvpcoz : Developing Economies | indsubz : Indian Subcontinent | namz : North America | sasiaz : Southern Asia

PUB Indiantelelevision Dot Com Pvt. Ltd.

AN Document ATINTV0020220404ei4400001

HD PRESS RELEASE: Seattle-Based Nonprofit Enhances Support Services for Women Experiencing Homelessness with Technology from Comcast Business

WC 845 words

PD 4 April 2022

ET 16:05

SN Dow Jones Institutional News

SC DJDN

LA English

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LP

DGAP-News: Comcast Washington Seattle-Based Nonprofit Enhances Support Services for Women Experiencing Homelessness with Technology from Comcast Business 2022-04-04 / 17:05 The issuer is solely responsible for the **content** of this announcement.

TD

Comcast Business today announced that it is providing Seattle-based nonprofit, Dignity for Divas, with its Business VoiceEdge(R) cloud-based voice solution. Its capabilities allow for streamlined communication workflows and better call management, which has helped the nonprofit stay connected to its clients and employees alike, driving forward its mission to provide skills and support to women experiencing homelessness.

Between 2019 and 2020 alone, Washington saw a more than 6% increase in people experiencing homelessness - the third largest increase among all U.S. states. Dignity for Divas founder and director Nikki Gane-Butler started her business after experiencing homelessness herself and recognizing the need in her community for outreach services to women experiencing homelessness.

Gane-Butler started the business in 2012 with a mission to pull people out of the despair in their minds and give them back their dignity. Today, Dignity for Divas serves six cities in Washington state and has expanded its services past street survival kits, offering rehousing support, workshops on topics including financial literacy and meditation, and wellness centers with dedicated practitioners.

With its growing mission, Dignity for Divas up-leveled its operations, moving from Gane-Butler's living room to a 6,000 square foot warehouse space. They also partnered with Comcast Business to install Business VoiceEdge in the new location. The cloud-based voice solution offers a portfolio of hosted voice services supported by one of the largest networks in the country. This tool has allowed Dignity for Divas to set up separate phone lines, including one for its front desk, another for its wellness center, and a mobile line for its Diva transit bus service. Call transferring services and a web portal to manage calls also provide another layer of service management.

'Installing the Comcast Business services has helped give us the legitimacy of a bigger brand. We became the business we knew we could be, and as a result, the community is starting to take more notice of us,' said Gane-Butler. 'Comcast Business has been a true partner in guiding me along this process and has helped me so that I don't feel by myself. Between my budget and accessibility needs, they are truly my best option. I will only work with Comcast Business now and in the future.'

Since installing Business VoiceEdge, Dignity for Divas' productivity has risen. The nonprofit has also seen an uptick in corporate partnerships, which are particularly essential to Dignity for Divas' educational courses.

Longer term, Gane-Butler has a vision to replicate her business model in Washington at a nationwide level, and Business VoiceEdge will help smooth the expansion process. The scalable solution can be easily added to new office locations and turned on quickly, which will allow Dignity for Divas to start providing services right away.

'Businesses like Dignity for Divas are doing hard work every day to make a big impact in our communities, and we recognize their need for reliable, flexible technology solutions that can not only enable, but help elevate, their important missions,' said Rob Brenner, Vice President of Comcast Business for Comcast's Washington Region. 'We are proud to support Dignity for Divas in its mission to bring dignity and positive change to the lives of those who need help most.'

For more information, visit <http://business.comcast.com>.

About Comcast Business

Comcast Business offers a suite of Connectivity, Communications, Networking, Cybersecurity, Wireless, and Managed Solutions to help organizations of different sizes prepare for what's next. Powered by the nation's largest Gig-speed broadband network, and backed by 24/7 customer support, Comcast Business is the nation's largest cable provider to small and mid-size businesses and one of the leading service providers to the Enterprise market. Comcast Business has been consistently recognized by industry analysts and associations as a leader and innovator, and one of the fastest growing providers of Ethernet services. For more information, call 866-429-3085. Follow on Twitter @ComcastBusiness and on other social media networks at <http://business.comcast.com/social>. Contact Details

FINN Partners

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(END) Dow Jones Newswires

April 04, 2022 11:05 ET (15:05 GMT)

CO comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS ghomesl : Homelessness | gsoc : Social Issues | neqac : Equities Asset Class News | npress : Press Releases | gcat : Political/General News | gcom : Society/Community | ghouse : Housing Issues | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters

RE seattl : Seattle | uswa : Washington State | usa : United States | namz : North America | usw : Western U.S.

PUB Dow Jones & Company, Inc.

AN Document DJDN000020220404ei44002hn

HD PRESS RELEASE: Seattle-Based Nonprofit Enhances Support Services for Women Experiencing Homelessness with Technology from Comcast Business

WC 842 words

PD 4 April 2022

ET 16:05

SN Dow Jones Newswires German

SC RTDJGE

LA English

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04-04-22 1505GMT

CO comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS ghomesl : Homelessness | neqac : Equities Asset Class News | npress : Press Releases | gcat : Political/General News | gcom : Society/Community | ghouse : Housing Issues | gsoc : Social Issues | ncat : Content Types | nfact : Factiva Filters

RE seattl : Seattle | uswa : Washington State | usa : United States | namz : North America | usw : Western U.S.

PUB Dow Jones & Company, Inc.

AN Document RTDJGE0020220404ei44000pp

HD	Ohio Cable Telecommunications Association - Member News: Comcast and Apple Bring Apple TV+ to Comcast's Entertainment Platforms
CR	Ohio Cable Telecommunications Association published this content on 04 Apr 2022 and is solely responsible for the information contained herein. Distributed by PUBT, unedited and unaltered, on 04 Apr 2022 14:56:59 UTC.
WC	222 words
PD	4 April 2022
SN	U.S. Political and Economic Organizations News via PUBT
SC	USPEO
LA	English
CY	Copyright 2022. As included in the Information
LP	<p>* Click here to view this document in its original format</p> <p>Member News: Comcast and Apple Bring Apple TV+ to Comcast's Entertainment Platforms</p>
TD	<p>04/04/2022</p> <p>Comcast and Apple announced the launch of Apple TV+ across Comcast's entertainment platforms in the U.S., including Xfinity X1, Xfinity Flex and XClass TV.</p> <p>Apple TV+ began its rollout on Xfinity X1, Xfinity Flex and XClass TV in March and is now available across all eligible devices. Apple TV+ launched on Sky devices (Sky Q and Sky Glass) in the UK and Europe in December.</p> <p>Additionally, Xfinity customers who are not currently Apple TV+ subscribers are eligible for a three-month free trial of Apple TV+ when they sign-up via their Xfinity device by April 25.</p> <p>Read More from Comcast</p> <p>* Original Link</p> <p>Disclaimer</p> <p>Ohio Cable Telecommunications Association published this content on 04 April 2022 and is solely responsible for the information contained therein. Distributed by Public, unedited and unaltered, on 04 April 2022 14:57:22 UTC.</p>
CO	comcast : Comcast Corporation
IN	imssoft : Streaming Services idistr : Media Content Distribution iint : Online Service Providers imed : Media/Entertainment itech : Technology i97411 : Broadcasting i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting
NS	c22 : New Products/Services ccat : Corporate/Industrial News cexpro : Products/Services ncat : Content Types nfact : Factiva Filters nfcpin : C&E Industry News Filter
RE	usa : United States usoh : Ohio namz : North America usc : Midwest U.S.
PUB	PUBT Inc
AN	Document USPEO00020220404ei440015p

HD Ohio Cable Telecommunications Association - Member News: Comcast Expands Affordable Connectivity Program Offers with Faster Internet Essentials Service and Xfinity Mobile

CR Ohio Cable Telecommunications Association published this content on 04 Apr 2022 and is solely responsible for the information contained herein. Distributed by PUBT, unedited and unaltered, on 04 Apr 2022 14:33:08 UTC.

WC 225 words

PD 4 April 2022

SN U.S. Political and Economic Organizations News via PUBT

SC USPEO

LA English

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Member News: Comcast Expands Affordable Connectivity Program Offers with Faster Internet Essentials Service and Xfinity Mobile

TD

04/04/2022

Comcast is participating in the federal government's Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) and the \$30/month benefit can be applied to any tier of Xfinity Internet service.

OCTA Member Comcast introduced two new ways for customers to connect through ACP, and both are available to any customer who qualifies in all the company's service areas. Customers can sign up for Internet Essentials Plus, which includes 100 Mbps download speeds, a cable modem, and WiFi router, and is free after the government's ACP credit is applied. Additionally, Xfinity Internet customers participating in ACP now can add mobile service through Xfinity Mobile.

[Read More from Comcast](#)

* [Original Link](#)

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CO comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

RE usa : United States | usoh : Ohio | namz : North America | usc : Midwest U.S.

PUB PUBT Inc

AN Document USPEO00020220404ei44000ul

HD	Comcast Corporation - Comcast Cable Honored as a 2022 VETS Indexes 5 Star Employer
CR	Comcast Corporation published this content on 04 Apr 2022 and is solely responsible for the information contained herein. Distributed by PUBT, unedited and unaltered, on 04 Apr 2022 14:07:22 UTC.
WC	113 words
PD	4 April 2022
SN	Public Companies News and Documents via PUBT
SC	LCDVP
LA	English
CY	Copyright 2022. As included in the Information
LP	<p>* Click here to view this document in its original format</p> <p>Comcast Cable Honored as a 2022 VETS Indexes 5 Star Employer</p>
TD	<p>The text version of this document is not available. You can access the original document here.</p> <p>* Original Link</p> <p>Disclaimer</p> <p>Comcast Corporation published this content on 04 April 2022 and is solely responsible for the information contained therein. Distributed by Public, unedited and unaltered, on 04 April 2022 14:09:30 UTC.</p>
CO	cocaic : Comcast Cable Communications Incorporated comcst : Comcast Corporation ccasth : Comcast Holdings Corp
IN	i97411 : Broadcasting i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting imed : Media/Entertainment
NS	ccat : Corporate/Industrial News npres : Press Releases ncat : Content Types
RE	usa : United States namz : North America
PUB	PUBT Inc
AN	Document LCDVP00020220404ei4400fwb

HD Dreamworks Animation adapts best-selling children's book series 'The Bad Guys'

WC 335 words

PD 3 April 2022

SN Manila Standard

SC MSTD

LA English

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LP

In the new action-comedy from DreamWorks Animation, The Bad Guys will go good, the blockbuster Scholastic book series by Aaron Blabey, a crackerjack criminal crew of animal outlaws is about to attempt their most challenging con yet—becoming model citizens.

In the film, Awkwafina is the only female member of the gang and doesn't cut the guys any slack. In Aaron Blabey's book series, Tarantula is actually a "Mr." But when adapting the story for the screen, Blabey was supportive of the filmmakers switching the character to be a kick-butt female techie.

TD

Producer Rebecca Huntley has loved the audiences' reception of Ms. Tarantula. "One of the surprising things was how parents responded to the fact that Ms. Tarantula was representing women and girls in S.T.E.M. She's a cool, confident hacker, and to have audiences see her as a role model in that regard was wonderful."

Additionally, Awkwafina admired how deftly the source material and the script balanced joyful imagination and poignant themes.

"The story is pretty existential, and these are characters with sincere dilemmas," Awkwafina says.

"It is symbolic of how we, as humans, see ourselves, how society does and how we embody that—until we realize that we don't have to be defined by certain things. I like the way that The Bad Guys plays with aspects of good and bad. Those are two terms that we see misconstrued all the time. We see people that look bad but aren't, as well as people who look good but aren't."

She was thrilled to join such a brilliant group of fellow voice performers, as well as occasionally work alongside them—a rarity in animation. "This is a stacked cast of brilliant actors, and I'm a huge fan of all my fellow Bad Guys," Awkwafina says.

The Bad Guys is a Universal Pictures International release and will open in local cinemas on April 27.

CO dwaskg : DreamWorks Animation SKG Inc | comcst : Comcast Corporation | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC

IN i971 : Audiovisual Production | i97101 : Cinema Film Production | imed : Media/Entertainment

RE phlms : Philippines | apacz : Asia Pacific | asiaz : Asia | devgcoz : Emerging Market Countries | dvpcoz : Developing Economies | seasiaz : Southeast Asia

PUB Manila Standard

AN Document MSTD000020220405ei430000c

SE News
HD 'You can't get rid of me yet': Psaki REFUSES to confirm reports she is leaving for MSNBC in May, insists there will be no **ethics** violations and she has 'recused' herself from decisions as she is grilled by multiple outlets - including NBC
BY Geoff Earle, Deputy U.S. Political Editor For Dailymail.com
WC 1,041 words
PD 4 April 2022
ET 00:53
SN Mail Online
SC DAMONL
LA English
CY Copyright 2022

LP

- * Psaki missed Biden's trip to Europe last week after testing positive
- * Comms Dir. Kate Bedingfield filled in this week with briefings

TD

- * She returned to the briefing room Friday following reports she would soon leave
- * Deputy Karine Jean-Pierre also tested positive this week
- * Psaki is in 'exclusive' talks with MSNBC, according to multiple reports
- * She provided TV commentary before taking latest White House job
- * Trump press secretary Kayleigh McEnany jumped to Fox after Trump left office
- * Psaki fielded multiple questions on the topic
- * Among her questioners was NBC's Kristen Welker
- * 'How is this ethical to have these conversations with media outlets?' she asked

White House Press Secretary Jen Psaki refused to confirm reports Friday that she is expected to leave the White House next month – and is already in talks with one of the nation's top liberal cable networks for her next gig.

The normally unflappable spokeswoman appeared flustered at times as she sought to bat away questions about the propriety of negotiating with a network even while steering the White House media operation.

'I have done -- have taken the ethics legal requirements, to the highest, very seriously, in any discussions in any considerations of any future employment, just as any White House official would, and I've taken steps beyond that to ensure there's no conflicts,' she said.

NBC's White House correspondent Kristen Welker asked Psaki to explain 'how is this ethical to have these conversations with media outlets' while holding down her job.

'Well, there are a range of stringent ethical and legal requirements that are imposed on everybody in this administration and many administrations past about any conversations you're having with future employers. That is true of any industry you're working in. And I have abided by those, and tried to take steps to go beyond that as well.'

She said anyone in such a position would have conversations with the White House Office of Legal Counsel, although she stopped short of saying that she herself had done so in this case.

Through all the ethical nuance, she declined to say she was leaving, despite the reports.

'You can't get rid of me yet,' she said – implying that there was no done-deal.

Psaki anticipating a grilling during her first time back at the White House podium after a bout of covid-19, Psaki even reached for arguments that might butter up her interlocutors, mentioning that she had tried to answer their questions and even called on people in the back of the room.

'I have nothing to confirm about my length of public service or planned service, or anything about consideration about next plans. I'm very happy to be standing with all of you here today after it felt like a never ending endless time in my basement quarantining away from my family,' she said.

'Believe it or not, I missed you a lot. And my focus every day continues to be speaking on behalf of the President answering your questions, as tough as they may be at many times, as difficult as they may be to answer at many times, and I hope that I meet my own bar of treating everybody with fairness and being equitable,' she said.

'I have always gone over and above the stringent ethical and legal requirements of the Biden administration,' she said.

'I have received rigorous ethics counseling, including or as it relates to any future employment,' she said. 'I've complied with all ethics requirements and gone beyond and taken steps to recuse myself from decisions as appropriate,' she continued.

Psaki has been President Joe Biden's main mouthpiece for more than a year. She stayed off her planned trip to Brussels and Warsaw with the president last week after she revealed she tested positive for COVID-19.

[Axios](#) reported Friday that she is 'in exclusive talks with MSNBC to join the network after she leaves the White House around May.'

That would put her departure beyond the original one year she said she signed on for when she took the high-profile position.

The report includes multiple passages suggesting Psaki was checking ethical boxes during her search – even though she appears poised to go to a top media outlet that commands a seat in the front row of the White House briefing room she presides over.

Her show would be on NBC's streaming platform, Peacock.

Psaki, a former Obama administration official, had an on-air gig at CNN before she joined the Biden White House. She did not have a role in his campaign.

The talks were done 'in close consultation with the White House counsel's office,' according to the report.

A separate report in The Hill also cited the White House lawyers, and mentioned that 'no contracts have been signed yet.'

Psaki has young children and twice tested positive for the coronavirus during her tenure.

[Puck](#) reported in February that she was also being courted by CNN, which launched its own streaming service CNN+ this week.

Communications Director Kate Bedingfield has been briefing reporters this week. Psaki's deputy, Karine Jean-Pierre, also tested positive for COVID-19 after returning from Biden's trip, where she filled in for Psaki and conducted a single in-flight briefing.

Trump press secretary Kayleigh McEnany jumped to Fox after President Donald Trump left office. She revealed her own 'employment agreement' in her termination financial disclosure report.

During her tenure Psaki has tried to brief nearly every business day, and sought to turn down the temperature in the briefing room after Trump's repeated attacks on what he called 'fake news.'

She sometimes delivered sharp answers when tangling with Fox correspondent Peter Doocy.

MSNBC declined to comment when contacted by DailyMail.com.

Symone Sanders, who served as the top spokeswoman for Vice President Kamala Harris, got her own show on MSNBC. It debuts next month.

CO nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS gethic : Ethical Issues | gvexe : Executive Branch | gsars : Novel Coronaviruses | gpol : Domestic Politics | gtvrad : Television/Radio | gcat : Political/General News | gcold : Respiratory Tract Diseases | gcom : Society/Community | gent : Arts/Entertainment | ghea : Health | gmed : Medical Conditions | gpir : Politics/International Relations | gsoc : Social Issues | gspox : Infectious Diseases | gvbod : Government Bodies

RE usa : United States | eurz : Europe | usdc : Washington DC | namz : North America | uss : Southern U.S.

PUB DMG Media Limited

AN Document DAMONL0020220401ei41005xy

HD The Race for New Modern Measurement Currencies

BY Alexandra Bower

WC 556 words

PD 3 April 2022

SN Adweek

SC ADWE

LA English

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LP

As the media and technology landscape rapidly transforms, measurement struggles to keep up. With the evolving consumer cross-**platform** journey, advertisers are forced to rethink a system of tabulating their audiences by tapping into viewing behavioral shifts that favor mobile and streaming services.

Andrea Zapata, executive vice president of Research, Data, and Insights at WarnerMedia, and Kelly Abcarian, executive vice president of Measurement and Impact at NBCUniversal Advertising and Partnerships, stopped by Adweek's Mediaweek to address current trends and best practices for navigating a new measurement **ecosystem**.

TD

A new generation of audience measurement

In January, NBCUniversal announced [iSpot.tv](#) as its first alternate measurement partner. Meanwhile, WarnerMedia chose three companies to partner with for its measurement tests: iSpot.tv, Comscore, and VideoAmp.

"People come and buy against television for reaching lots of people in a simultaneous fashion, and we've checked that box for a really long time," Zapata explained. "But the power of the innovation that these alternative measurement companies are bringing is not just about a programming reaching lots of people, it's about us being able to prove and demonstrate down the funnel we can reach lots of people, we can reach 'in the market for,' and we can reach one-on-one. It's a full-funnel solution across all of our platforms, and to be able to count it appropriately and accurately, is game-changing."

Zapata said her team chose to test and learn with three different partners because they each bring different things to the table.

"We wanted to make sure we could understand how we could do cross-screen measurement in real-time against not just demographics, but against advanced audiences? And, then how do we think about doing that in a way that's not just using big data, but in a way that's smartly thinking about incorporating panel," she explained.

Abcarian said NBCUniversal is taking a similar approach.

"We've been very excited by the opportunities to really engage with our advertisers across Super Bowl, Olympics, and now Q1," she explained. "We're measuring exactly what the advertisers are asking us to do, which is unified, cross-platform measurement in their exact ads, and we're doing so with a lot of speed -- within 48 hours."

Abcarian said these innovative measurements are helping NBCU find insights to unlock for their brands and advertising moments from key moments.

Solving cross-platform measurement

Abcarian said that for years, advertisers have talked about cross-platform and how to find solutions for advertising. She said there's no need to wait any longer, and brands should act now.

"A bright future awaits us," she said. "One that is faster and more accurate than counts all of their ads and that's enabled by better identify, tied to impact, and enables better planning."

As the marketplace moves toward more data-driven methods of advertising optimization, the panelists agree that choice and diversification of measurement models are vital for the future.

"Alternative measurement solutions are meant to better inform media planning and buying and ensure the full impact of an advertiser's investment is captured," Zapata said. "We're addressing the challenge marketers have with measuring audiences, and advertising impact as media consumption has shifted from traditional linear television to connected TV."

CO amronl : Warner Media, LLC | isptvi : iSpot.tv, Inc. | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation | sbcatt : AT&T Inc.

IN i838 : Advertising Services | iadv : Advertising/Marketing/Public Relations | ibcs : Business/Consumer Services | imark : Marketing | i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | i9741109 : Cable Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

IPD NEWS

PUB Adweek, LLC

AN Document ADWE000020220404ei4300002

SE MINT, Industry
 HD Hayu releases new list of shows for April
 BY Lata Jha
 WC 357 words
 PD 3 April 2022
 SN Mint
 SC HNMINT
 LA English
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LP

New Delhi, April 3 -- NBC Universal-owned hayu, the latest over-the-top (OTT) streaming platform to enter India, has released a new list of shows for the month of April. This includes investigative drama Final Moments, Dating No Filter: UK and reality series The Real Housewives of POTOMAC.

The service, which began with 8,000 hours of content, will bring 1,000 hours of fresh content each year, and target the 18-54 age group with a skew towards women, while increasingly offering Hindi subtitles on its shows.

TD

Media experts said the OTT market may be maturing with such specifically- targeted services, but any new platform will be limited in audience appeal without offering local language content.

The platform is currently present in 29 countries, including the UK, Australia and Ireland, and has been looking for expansion opportunities, but prefers to focus on a single genre, that of American television.

Shows such as Keeping Up With the Kardashians, The Real Housewives, Top Chef, Million Dollar Listing and Family Karma are available on the service, with new episodes being added every day and older seasons being streamed as well.

The platform has a 90% skew towards women, especially those belonging to the 18-54 age group or even those slightly younger. A three-month subscription to hayu costs Rs.349 and an annual membership costs Rs.999.

"We have been carrying out market research in India for over a year now as part of which we spoke to a large number of women and realized that there is a significant base that would consider a US reality TV service," Hendrik McDermott, managing director, direct-to-consumer, global at NBC Universal, said in an earlier interview to Mint. The company will focus on content distribution and not production at the moment, McDermott had said, explaining why there are no plans for local Indian originals yet.

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IN i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS gtvrad : Television/Radio | gcat : Political/General News | gent : Arts/Entertainment

RE india : India | asiaz : Asia | bric : BRICS Countries | devgcoz : Emerging Market Countries | dvpcos : Developing Economies | indsubz : Indian Subcontinent | sasiar : Southern Asia

PUB HT Digital Streams Limited

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Sunday Independent

SE News
HD **Russia doesn't need to get stronger: all it needs to do is make us look weaker**
BY Colin Murphy
WC 1,358 words
PD 3 April 2022
SN The Sunday Independent
SC FSII
ED 1; National
PG 22
LA English
CY © 2022 Independent Newspapers Ireland Ltd
LP

Putin is waging a 'grey war' on the West, and Irish **cyber** weaknesses are now in his sights

In the belle époque of January, the country rallied to its favourite sport: cheering on the underdog. A fleet of Irish fishermen was preparing to sail to confront the Russian navy, who were planning live-fire exercises in Irish fishing waters off the south-west coast. "We're not averse to danger in our industry we're no shrinking violets," Patrick Murphy, head of the Irish South & West Fish Producers Organisation, told the US news channel MSNBC.

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The Russian ambassador to Ireland, Yuriy Filatov, invited the fishermen to the embassy, and Russia duly announced they would relocate their naval drills. Filatov told an Oireachtas committee the decision was made "on humanitarian grounds" to avoid "unnecessary hardship" for Ireland's fishing industry. "Irish fishermen stare down Putin's navy and won," proclaimed MSNBC.

It was a heartwarming tale, from a more innocent age. And, as we now know, it was nonsense. For four weeks now, Russia has been failing to honour promises to establish humanitarian corridors to allow civilians to escape from the besieged city of Mariupol in Ukraine; they did not relocate a naval drill out of humanitarian concern for Irish fishermen, honourable though the intervention of those fishermen may have been.

The Irish media and politicians fell hook, line and sinker for the yarn that

Filatov spun. It took the former chief of staff of the Defence Forces, Mark Mellett, to point out what had actually happened. The incident was a classic example of "hybrid tactics", he said.

"What they [the Russians] did was give the impression that it was fishermen who sorted it, not the Government. And that portrays the Government as being weak," he told the Irish Times. "That's what 'hybrid' is all about. Russia doesn't need to get stronger. All it needs to do is make the member states of the European Union look weaker."

This kind of "hybrid" activity exists in what is known as the "Grey Zone", which is interstate conflict below the level of war. Other hybrid elements include coercive diplomacy, propaganda, information operations, cyber attacks, military manoeuvres, and implied nuclear and other threats, as Cian Fitzgerald, a researcher at the Institute of International and European Affairs, explained in an article last week.

The entire naval exercise may have been a hybrid exercise from the start, he suggested, with Russia's intention being to "instrumentalise" Ireland's security deficits and send "a message to the EU and to Nato that Europe's western flank is vulnerable".

"Kremlin homes in on EU's weak link," was the headline in the London Times. Mission achieved.

On Wednesday, the director of Ireland's National Cyber Security Centre,

Richard Browne, told an Oireachtas committee that the threat of a direct cyber attack against the State or state agencies was "low".

This could change quickly, he noted. On Thursday, it appeared to be changing: the director of the UK's Intelligence, Cyber and Security Agency, Jeremy Fleming, said the agency had intelligence that "Russia's cyber actors are looking for targets in the countries that oppose their actions".

Ireland has clearly identified itself as being among those countries; indeed, Ambassador Filatov told Russian state television last month that Ireland was "hostile to Russia and everything Russian".

Stuart Madnick, a professor of internet technology at MIT, wrote recently that Ukraine had likely been used by Russia as "a live testing ground for its next generation of cyber weapons" and that, should cyber warfare break out, the US and EU could be targeted, given their support for Ukraine.

Nuanced debate here about the nature of Irish neutrality is unlikely to be appreciated by a Russia that believes it is at war in all but name with the West as a whole.

How vulnerable are we to cyber attack? The report on the Conti cyber attack on the HSE, commissioned by the HSE from the consultancy PwC, makes for grimly compelling reading.

That attack cost €600m to repair and, as with any severe disruption to acute care, must have cost lives. And, as PwC say, it could easily have been much worse: the attack was relatively straightforward, the attackers did not maximise the damage, and they provided the decryption key without the ransom being paid.

PwC praise the staff of the HSE and hospitals for going "above and beyond" in their response to the attack; in every other respect, though, the report is a litany of failures.

The HSE has a "frail IT estate". Its resources in critical IT functions are "significantly lower than we would expect for an organisation of this size". It did not conduct appropriate contingency planning for a cyber attack. It had just 15 staff in cyber security, who "did not possess the expertise and experience" required.

PwC noted that the HSE's vulnerabilities were not unique to the HSE; it seems likely that many of them would be replicated across state agencies. Accordingly, in the UN's Global Cybersecurity Index for 2020, Ireland ranked 46th, between Tunisia and Nigeria, and ranked 28th in Europe.

Ireland is a global tech hub. As the National Cyber Security Strategy notes, the country is home to more than 30pc of all EU data.

It might seem ironic that the country would be under-resourced in public sector cyber security, but indeed it's entirely consistent with the history of the Irish State: the State's development model has, since its foundation, relied on subcontracting services to the private sector (including in that the churches and charities): education, health and increasingly, in the neoliberal model of recent decades, social and corporate services.

Accordingly, there are more than 6,500 people employed in cyber security in Ireland, and just 30 of them are employed in the National Cyber Security Centre fewer than in many large companies, a cyber expert told me last week. (The NCSC aims to recruit 20 more this year and expand to 70 staff by 2024.)

Pat Larkin, CEO of Ward Solutions, a cyber security business, himself a former Defence Forces officer, has described this model as Ireland subcontracting its protection to "a cyber-militia of own-company resources and cyber provider companies". The annual spend on cyber security by the Department of Communications (parent body of the NCSC) is €7.6m. Larkin believes it should be €50m, benchmarked against our European neighbours. (The UK has committed to spending £2.6bn, equal to €3.1bn, on "cyber and legacy IT" over the next three years.)

Ireland is "nowhere near the levels of protection required for this decade and the rate at which the threats are developing", he told the Oireachtas committee last week.

Counterintuitively, the Defence Forces has no role here: its cyber security mandate is restricted to protecting its own networks. Even for that, its resources are inadequate, as the recent Commission on the Defence Forces found, with severe staffing shortages in the Communication and Information Services Corps.

In an awkwardly worded but damning assessment, the commission noted: "The actual specification of key capabilities for military cyber defence, and related counter hybrid warfare aspects is in fact low to

negligible in extant policy statements despite the regular specification of cyber risks and hybrid threats".

One intriguing solution, which Mark Mellett described to me when I interviewed him in 2019, could be to create a cyber unit in the Army Reserve (along the lines of one in the US) which would recruit reservists from the wealth of private-sector cyber expertise here, rewarding them for their time and commitment with experience and challenges they would not get in the private sector.

From courting fishermen to election interference to cyber, Russia has proven itself to be extraordinarily creative in the Grey Zone.

Ireland will need not merely resources and resolve, but imagination and foresight, if we are not to be exposed again as a weak link in European security.

Hackers look for targets in countries that oppose Russia

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NS gnavy : Navy | gvexe : Executive Branch | gcat : Political/General News | gvio : Military Action | gcns : National/Public Security | gdef : Armed Forces | gpri : Politics/International Relations | gpol : Domestic Politics | grisk : Risk News | gvbod : Government Bodies

RE russ : Russia | ire : Ireland | usa : United States | asiaz : Asia | bric : BRICS Countries | devgcoz : Emerging Market Countries | dvpcoz : Developing Economies | eecz : European Union Countries | eeurz : Central/Eastern Europe | eurz : Europe | namz : North America | ussrz : CIS Countries | weurz : Western Europe

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Los Angeles Times

SE Sunday Calendar; Entertainment Desk
HD **EXTRA CUP OF 'MORNING JOE'; THE LONGEST-RUNNING A.M. TEAM ON NETWORK TELEVISION ADDS ANOTHER HOUR AS MSNBC LOOKS TO A FAN FAVORITE IN A TIME OF TRANSITION**
BY Stephen Battaglio
WC 1,800 words
PD 3 April 2022
SN Los Angeles Times
SC LATM
ED Home Edition
PG E-2
LA English
CY Copyright 2022 The Los Angeles Times
LP

EVER SINCE MSNBC'S "Morning Joe" became a **cable** news breakfast staple nearly 15 year ago, its three hosts Joe Scarborough, Mika Brzezinski and Willie Geist have gotten stopped by viewers who offer thoughts about the three-hour show, which airs live across the country starting at 6 a.m. on the East Coast or 3 a.m. in California.

Geist, 46, always asks the viewers about their hometowns. "They say, 'I live in San Diego' or 'I live in L.A.' and a lot of them watch live, which raises all kinds of questions about their personal lives," he says in a recent Zoom interview along with his on-air partners.

TD

"It was all very concerning to us," Scarborough adds.

But the trio is not about to judge their early-rising (or perhaps sleep-deprived) fans on the West Coast, as the "Morning Joe" adds a fourth hour starting Monday. One of their aims is to capture more West Coast viewers at 6 a.m. as they get on their treadmills or stationary bikes before their commutes.

But the trio is not about to judge their early-rising (or perhaps sleep-deprived) fans on the West Coast, as the "Morning Joe" adds a fourth hour starting Monday. One of their aims is to capture more West Coast viewers at 6 a.m. as they get on their treadmills or stationary bikes before their commutes.

"It's a great chance to introduce ourselves to people who don't get up at 3 o'clock in the morning to watch us," Scarborough says.

Scarborough, 58, says the team will consider the new audience getting its first take on the day when they present the additional hour. "We'll probably get more news content in as far as the number of stories go," he says. "It will be more produced in the respect of going away from our roundtables and opinion."

The expansion will maintain the defining characteristics of "Morning Joe" -- lively, thoughtful discussions about the political topics of the day often with heavyweight Washington guests -- while steering clear of what Brzezinski, 54, calls the "shock opera" style that cable news opinion hosts have adhered to in prime time.

Parent company NBCUniversal's "Today" show -- which now takes up five hours on the NBC broadcast network -- has already proved how expanding a morning TV franchise can pay off, especially at a time when new programs are difficult to launch in the current fractionalized TV landscape.

For MSNBC, the ability to turn to a resilient brand-name program for another hour comes at a time when the network is at a perilous transition point under NBC News Group Chairman Cesar Conde and MSNBC President Rashida Jones, who both pushed for the "Morning Joe" expansion.

MSNBC's evening prime-time anchor Rachel Maddow has been on hiatus to work on a movie project and is expected to be off her daily program for good this summer, leaving the network without its most-watched star and no apparent successor in the wings. Mark Whitaker, a veteran journalist and former executive at CNN and MSNBC, believes an extended "Morning Joe" will help the network hold on to its habitual viewers as management tries to address its larger challenges.

"If you watch 'Morning Joe' you are more likely to keep the channel on MSNBC all day long," Whitaker says. "It doesn't solve their prime-time problem, but at least it gives the people who have been the core MSNBC audience a reason to start their day with the network."

"Morning Joe" doesn't have the largest cable news audience in the morning -- it trails in second place behind Fox News Channel's "Fox & Friends" and recently slipped behind CNN's "New Day" to third place in the 25-to-54 age group favored by advertisers. But Scarborough, Brzezinski and Geist know from texts and phone calls they receive after every show that influential people, especially in Washington, watch regularly. The program shows up on screens at the congressional gym and on government jets. (Former President Donald Trump offered real-time critiques on Twitter when he was in the White House).

Nielsen data shows the "Morning Joe" audience is more upscale than the competition as 30% of the homes watching earn more than \$125,000 a year, compared with 29% for CNN's "New Day" and 27% for "Fox & Friends." "Morning Joe" also has the most Black viewers of any cable program in its time period.

Cable news has changed since "Morning Joe" was launched almost by accident in 2007. It replaced a popular simulcast of Don Imus' radio program after he was ousted for making racist remarks about the Rutgers University women's basketball team. Networks increasingly cater to polarized political tribes, with MSNBC the campground for progressives and Republican anti-Trumpers and Fox News the leading platform for conservatives.

"Morning Joe" largely manages to stay in a neutral zone. Scarborough says he doesn't even know how Geist has voted in presidential elections since they have worked together. (The trio is the longest-running morning show team on national TV, while the program's executive producer Alex Korson (now vice president of morning programming for MSNBC) has been at the helm since 2011 when he replaced Chris Licht, CNN's recently named president.

Scarborough's own political leanings were known to the audience as he came to MSNBC after a career in Congress, where he was elected as part of the Republican Revolution in 1994. After leaving the House of Representatives in 2001, he joined MSNBC in 2003 and served up conservative outrage in prime time for MSNBC for four years before moving to the morning.

Perhaps a result of the more progressive slant of MSNBC in recent years, Scarborough often gets told by longtime fans that he is no longer a conservative. "It's not me, it's you," he says he often tells them and cites Trump as the reason. In 2017 he left the Republican party and registered as an independent.

"I think Donald Trump reshuffled the deck," Scarborough says from his Florida home. "We're still in a time period where you were defined as 'conservative' or 'liberal' by whether you supported Donald Trump or not. And so by Trump standards I'm not a conservative. But if you look at my positions, I'm still very pro-military, I support the 2nd Amendment, I'm still a fiscal hawk. The further we move down this chaotic path we've been going down as a country the past 25 years, the more conservative with a small 'c' I am."

What has changed is the personal connection between Scarborough and Brzezinski, who had different spouses when the show started. They are now a couple, revealing their long-rumored romantic relationship in 2017 and marrying a year later. The union likely didn't come as a surprise to longtime fans. The on-screen dynamic that developed over the years had Scarborough and Brzezinski barreling through topics with passion, playfulness and sometimes tension, buffeted by the bone-dry Geist's wry asides, creating a family breakfast table vibe.

"In terms of a TV performance, I think the chemistry has always been there and has been the same," says Geist, who is also host of "Sunday Today" on NBC. "It's the three of us being our authentic selves."

Brzezinski, a network veteran correspondent and anchor before she joined the program, had long been the counterweight to Scarborough's exuberance and occasional hyperbole. But in recent years, she believes her husband became the steadying force of the two during the Trump era.

"I did kind of lose my footing in those years because I did not know how to handle the constant surprise and dismissiveness that [Trump] could have to our values," Brzezinski says. "And Joe knew how to give us the bigger picture about how this country is resilient, and bring calm to the situation."

When Brzezinski first saw the "Saturday Night Live" parody of her by Kate McKinnon, she told Scarborough, "Oh my God, you have become the sane one and I've become the crazy one."

Scarborough noted how he had to be the voice of reason for conservative relatives when Democrats were in office. "In 2008 when Barack Obama was elected I'd have to say, 'It's OK, there's not going to be Sharia law in Oklahoma next week -- you're good.'"

Scarborough believes Geist now provides the guardrails on the program. "Willie cools down the temperature," he says. "When Mika or I go a little too crazy, Willie's always there smiling going, 'OK, listen, 'nobody likes to see mom and dad fight.'"

If you add three going on four hours of live TV, COVID lockdowns, which had the hosts broadcasting from their homes, and marriage, Brzezinski and Scarborough are testing the boundaries of marital closeness. When asked if they were together all the time, Scarborough says, "All ... the ... time."

"Every second," Brzezinski adds.

"And it's been great," says Scarborough.

"It's been amazing," says Brzezinski. "Like every second."

"Every second," says Scarborough.

In the last month, "Morning Joe" has been a more subdued affair as it deals with fresh news on Russia's invasion of Ukraine. The story cuts close to the bone for Brzezinski, whose late father Zbigniew Brzezinski was a national security advisor during the Carter administration.

Her brother Mark is U.S. ambassador to Poland, now on the tense frontlines of the war amid fears that Russia's attack could spill into neighboring NATO countries. After traveling to Warsaw to help her brother settle in, she pulled out photo albums to recall a family trip where they searched for her father's grandparents' gravesites in Lviv.

Brzezinski and company hope that the grim images of the invasion, and the courage of the Ukrainian people, will return a seriousness to political discussion in a country where masks and vaccine mandates have been equated with tyranny.

"People talk about their freedom being threatened by somebody not giving them a pickle on their hamburger," Scarborough says. "Ukraine has been a clarifying moment ... we remember what freedom is about."

ART PHOTO: CO-HOSTS Mika Brzezinski and Joe Scarborough, top and above with Willie Geist, aim to capture more West Coast viewers with an extra hour of "Morning Joe."; PHOTOGRAPHER: Miller Hawkins; PHOTO: CO-HOSTS Mika Brzezinski and Joe Scarborough, top and above with Willie Geist, aim to capture more West Coast viewers with an extra hour of "Morning Joe."; PHOTOGRAPHER: Anthony Scutro MSNBC

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RE usca : California | namz : North America | usa : United States | usw : Western U.S.

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LP

White House press secretary Jen Psaki is on track to join **cable** news channel MSNBC as a host in May, according to two people familiar with the plans.

Psaki, 43, will have a regular program on the **cable** network and a presence on NBCUniversal's Peacock streaming service, according to one person briefed on the matter who was not authorized to comment and requested anonymity.

TD

A representative for MSNBC declined to comment on Psaki's pending deal with the network, which was first reported by Axios.

Psaki is expected to sign a contract once she officially leaves her government role, said one of the people with knowledge of the talks.

Psaki has become a fixture on cable news through her daily briefings, occasionally creating viral moments when she sparred with Fox News White House correspondent Peter Doocy and others. Her unflinching steadiness at the lectern has made her the most effective communicator for President Joe Biden's administration.

Psaki, who previously served as an on-air contributor to CNN, will create a splash for MSNBC just before it loses the daily services of its biggest prime-time star, Rachel Maddow, who is expected to step back from her program this summer. But Psaki will not be filling Maddow's 9 p.m. Eastern time slot, the people familiar with the plan said.

***<ins>vvv</ins>

Naomi and Wynonna Judd, one of the most successful duos in country music in the 1980s, are reuniting to perform on the CMT Music Awards, their first major awards show performance together in more than two decades.

The mother-and-daughter duo will perform their hit "Love Will Build a Bridge" on the awards show on April 11, airing on CBS and Paramount+, during an outdoor shoot in front of the Country Music Hall of Fame and Museum in NashvilleCountry Music Hall of Fame and Museum in Nashville, Tenn.

It's a fitting backdrop for the five-time Grammy winners, who will be inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame in May.

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The Washington Post

SE Style
HD **Jen Psaki plans to leave White House for MSNBC**
BY By Jeremy Barr
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LP

White House press secretary Jen Psaki plans to leave the Biden administration in coming weeks and is expected to take a new on-air position at the left-leaning **cable** news network MSNBC, according to two people with knowledge of the situation.

While Psaki is in advanced discussions to join the network, the deal has not been signed, and MSNBC declined to comment about the matter Friday.

TD

Psaki is expected to join the network later this spring and will also host a streaming show for the NBCUniversal platform Peacock. Her role will be similar to that of the former chief spokeswoman for Vice President Harris, Symone Sanders, who will be hosting a streaming show and also a traditional television show on the weekends. Sanders's show, "Symone," will air at 4 p.m. Saturdays and Sundays on MSNBC starting in May.

A White House official did not comment on Psaki's plans but said that she continues working on behalf of President Biden and his administration.

Asked during her press briefing on Friday afternoon about the reports of her joining MSNBC, Psaki replied, "You can't get rid of me yet. I have nothing to confirm about my length of public service, or planned service, or anything about consideration about next plans."

When questioned about whether it would be "ethical" for Psaki to serve as White House press secretary while negotiating with a media company about a future job, she said, "I have always gone over and above the stringent ethical and legal requirements of the Biden administration. And I take that very seriously." She said that she has received ethics counseling "as it relates to any future employment" and has recused herself on matters "as appropriate."

Psaki is a cable news veteran, having worked as a paid commentator for CNN before joining the Biden administration.

The website Puck reported in late February that Psaki had met with executives from CNN and MSNBC about potential post-White House jobs. During a Feb. 25 press briefing, Psaki was asked whether she planned to leave the administration for a television job. "I have more than enough on my plate here," she said. "So, you can't get rid of me quite yet." Axios first reported Psaki's plans to join MSNBC.

MSNBC's programming on Peacock is central to a broader network — and industry-wide — pivot to streaming programming as more Americans stop paying for traditional cable subscriptions. The network already has streaming shows on Peacock hosted by political commentators Mehdi Hasan and Zerlina Maxwell. On Tuesday, CNN launched CNN Plus, a subscription streaming service that costs about \$6 per month and represents the network's largest investment in new programming and formats in decades.

It is not clear who will replace Psaki as White House press secretary, but her deputy, Karine Jean-Pierre, would probably be considered a top contender. Before joining the Biden administration, Jean-Pierre worked as a paid commentator on MSNBC.

There's a long tradition of White House press secretaries moving to broadcasting. MSNBC host Nicolle Wallace served as communications director for President George W. Bush, and Fox News employs former White House press secretaries Dana Perino, Ari Fleischer and Kayleigh McEnany.

Tyler Pager contributed to this report.

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SE News
HD 'Show'down with Psaki? **Ethics** concerns over MSNBC 'gig'
BY Steven Nelson and Callie Patteson
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LP

White House press secretary Jen Psaki was pressed Friday about a report that she will soon leave for MSNBC, raising questions about whether it is ethical for her to remain in the Biden administration.

Psaki declined to discuss her future plans, telling reporters, "You can't get rid of me yet," before adding, "I have nothing to confirm about my length of public service or planned service, or anything about consideration about next plans."

TD

Axios reported Friday morning that Psaki is in exclusive talks with the cable network and has been in close consultation with the White House counsel's office about her pending departure.

At the afternoon briefing, reporters - including NBC News' Kristen Welker - pressed her on how she could remain as President Biden's chief spokesperson while negotiating a salary with a media outlet.

"Is it ethical for you to continue conducting this job while negotiating with the media?" CBS News' Ed O'Keefe asked.

"I have always gone over and above the stringent ethical and legal requirements of the Biden administration and I take that very seriously," she said. "And as a standard for every employee of the White House, I have received rigorous ethics counseling, including as it relates to any future employment.

"I've complied with all ethics requirements and gone beyond and taken steps to recuse myself from the decisions as appropriate. And so I hope that all of you working with us sometime would judge me for my record and how I treat all of you both in the briefing room and otherwise," she added.

"How is it ethical to have these conversations with media outlets while you continue to have a job standing behind that?" Welker asked.

"Well, there are a range of stringent ethical and legal requirements that are imposed on everybody in this administration and many administrations past about any conversations you're having with future employers . . . I have abided by those and tried to take steps to go beyond that as well as the policy of this White House to allow staffers to have discussions even directly with institutions of the impact," Psaki said.

The tentative deal would place Psaki as the host of a show on NBCUniversal's streaming platform Peacock. She would also be a part of MSNBC's live programming, Axios reported.

ART GOING, GOING ... White House press secretary Jen Psaki is reportedly in talks to leave her post for MSNBC. [Getty Images]
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IN i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

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The United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) and NBCUniversal Latin America will co-produce short-form **content** to promote women's empowerment and equality, according to a statement distributed Friday.

"The objective of this joint effort, the first of these two entities in the region, is to combine the experience and knowledge of UN Women in advancing women's empowerment in Latin America with the production experience and large audience of NBCUniversal Latin America's channels, whose original productions Ojos de mujer, Escuela imparables and Belleza GG, among others, stand out for promoting diversity, equality, inclusion and female empowerment," the text details.

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The announcement adds that the creative teams of both entities will collaborate in the production of a series of capsules that will address issues affecting women in recent times including gender equality, women's empowerment and diversity.

"These productions will be reaching millions of homes in Latin America throughout 2022, on NBCUniversal Latin America's portfolio of pay TV channels comprised of UniversalTV, Telemundo Internacional, STUDIO Universal, SYFY and E! Entertainment, in addition to being available on E! On-line Latino, one of the most prestigious entertainment news platforms in the area," she reports.

"For UN Women, this agreement is very important because it means that the media is interested in participating in our mission, but also because it will allow us to reach millions of households in the United States and Latin America with messages aimed at raising awareness and generating a conversation about the things that affect women the most, and about their contribution to overcoming the most urgent problems of our time," said María Noel Vaeza, UN Women Regional Director for the Americas and the Caribbean, in the statement.

"At NBCUniversal, we are committed to promoting a culture of inclusion, equity, awareness and respect among our audience in Latin America," says Gus O'Brien, CEO of NBCUniversal International Networks and Direct to Consumer Latin America. "By partnering with UN Women, we will amplify their messages and encourage dialogue on these issues across a variety of platforms," he said.

CO unwomn : United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women | utdnat : United Nations | nbcco : NBCUniversal Media, LLC | comcst : Comcast Corporation

IN i97411 : Broadcasting | i9741102 : Television Broadcasting | imed : Media/Entertainment

NS gwori : Gender Equality | gpri : Politics/International Relations | gdip : International Relations | gcat : Political/General News | gcom : Society/Community | ghum : Human Rights/Civil Liberties

RE lamz : Latin America

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