

SOUTHERN CROSS AUSTEREO TO OUTSOURCE TELEVISION PLOUT SERVICES

Southern Cross Media Group Limited (ASX: SXL) (**Southern Cross Austereo** or **SCA**) today announced it will transfer its Canberra broadcast playout operation in 2020 to NPC Media, a joint venture between the Nine and Seven Networks. NPC will provide SCA with playout services for an initial period of seven years.

The decision comes after SCA sold its Canberra site in 2016 with a four-year lease-back, and at the end of the capital expenditure lifecycle for SCA's current broadcast playout equipment.

The new playout solution allows SCA to collaborate with peers Nine and Seven to create an industry leading back-office solution, in a facility that will be developed to include full technical back-up.

SCA has program supply agreements with the Nine, Seven and Ten Networks and broadcasts 105 television signals into regional Australia, covering all states and territories other than Western Australia. This extensive television footprint will mean that SCA will be NPC's largest customer.

"With almost identical playout requirements, it makes sense for our businesses to pool resources", said SCA Chief Operating Officer, John Kelly

"Given SCA already broadcasts Nine and Seven programs and uses their brands, the move is a logical step to consolidate back office functions. It will not only enable us to reduce operational costs, but also to streamline processes, promote collaboration and increase productivity".

SCA will lease a new office facility in Canberra to house the employees unaffected by the change. With playout operations transitioning to NPC, some current roles will become redundant.

"We are working closely with affected employees to maintain operations during the transition and to support them in identifying new opportunities as the transition is completed", said John Kelly.

SCA aims to complete the relocation of its Canberra broadcast operation by 30 June 2020.

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