



Regulating communications:
approaching convergence
in the Information Age



dti

Department of Trade and Industry



Regulating communications: approaching convergence in the Information Age

**Presented to Parliament by the President of the Board of Trade
and the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport
by Command of Her Majesty – July 1998**

CM4022

£0.00

Consultation

Written comments should be sent jointly to:

Julie Davis
Communications and Information Industries Directorate
Department of Trade and Industry
Room 204
151 Buckingham Palace Road
London
SW1W 9SS
Fax: 0171 215 1721

and

Harry Reeves
Broadcasting Policy Division
Department for Culture, Media and Sport
Room 413
2-4 Cockspur Street
London
SW1Y 5DH
Fax: 0171 211 6460

Telephone enquiries:
DTI: 0171 215 1480
DCMS: 0171 215 6461

This Green Paper has also been published on the Internet. Details of how to access this paper electronically can be found at: <http://www.dti.gov.uk/converg/>

Electronic mail responses to the Green Paper should be sent to:
convergence@ciid.dti.gov.uk and rag35@dial.pipex.com

All responses should be received by 30 November 1998.

Should you wish any part (or all) of your comments to be treated in confidence, you should make this clear in any papers or electronic mail you send. In the absence of such an instruction, submissions made to the Government will be assumed to be open, and may be published by Ministers, or placed in the Libraries of the Houses of Parliament.

Contents

Executive summary	2
Chapter 1: Convergence in the Information Age	7
Chapter 2: Public policy objectives	13
Chapter 3: Regulatory implications of changing technologies and markets	19
Chapter 4: Achieving objectives in a market of multiple outlets	25
Chapter 5: Future regulatory structures	36
Chapter 6: Questions	41
Annex A: Convergence in markets and services	43
Annex B: Current regulation	53
Annex C: The Internet Watch Foundation	65