Glossary

This glossary has been prepared to assist parties to the CC's Movies on Pay TV market investigation. We ask parties to use this terminology when providing evidence to the CC to ensure consistency.

AEC Adverse effect on competition.

Audiovisual content Content such as films, drama, soap operas, news, documentaries,

reality shows, children's programmes, lifestyle programmes, sports

events, quiz shows.

Bandwidth A term used to describe the capacity of an Internet connection

defined as the maximum bit rate downstream.

Broadband An Internet service or connection generally defined as being

'always on' and providing a bandwidth greater than narrowband.

Provides high-speed Internet access.

CA Conditional Access. A technology enabling a broadcaster to restrict

access to **content** that it has made available in a digital platform only to those customers that have been authorized to access it.

Cable TV The distribution of TV and other services through a closed fibre-

optic/hybrid fibre-coaxial network to individual premises.

Catch-up content Content made available on VOD around the time of its broadcast

on a linear TV channel.

CC Competition Commission.

Channel A linear stream of programming/content, bundled, scheduled, dis-

tributed and branded as a single proposition.

Churn The loss of customers subscribing to a particular **Pay TV** package

or retailer.

Content See Audiovisual content.

Digital switchover The process of switching over the current analogue TV

broadcasting system to digital, as well as ensuring that people have adapted or upgraded their TVs and recording equipment to

receive digital TV.

Digital TV Converts sounds and pictures from the broadcaster into computer-

ized 'bits' of information to be sent through an aerial, satellite, telephone line or cable; the digital signal is then turned back into

pictures and sound by a decoder.

DRM Digital Rights Management. Allows publishers to control access to,

and facilitate payment for, their content.

DSat Digital satellite, referring to the distribution of digital **content** via

satellite.

DTH Direct to home. Another term for satellite distribution technology.

DTO Download to own. **Content** available to consumers on an on-

demand basis such that the viewer is entitled to download and retain a permanent electronic copy. Licence terms often include 'usage rights' that allow consumers to make a limited number of copies and/or copy on to additional computers and portable

devices.

DTR Download to rent. A service offering viewings of a specific pro-

gramme or film on an on-demand basis in return for a one-off fee, such that the viewer is entitled to download and retain a copy of the programme for a defined temporary period of time. Licence terms often include 'usage rights' that allow consumers to view the **content** a certain number of times or unlimited times within a defined

period of time.

DTT Digital terrestrial television. A digital distribution technology using

terrestrial transmitters.

DVB Digital Video Broadcasting. A set of internationally accepted open

standards for digital broadcasting, including standards for

distribution by satellite, cable and terrestrial.

DVD Digital versatile (or video) disc. A high capacity CD-size disc for

carrying audio-visual content. Can be used in DVD players and

computers.

DVR Digital Video Recorder (also known as a **PVR** and Digital Television

Recorder). A **digital TV set-top box** including a hard disc drive which allows the user to record, pause and rewind live TV.

EPG Electronic Programme Guide. A programme schedule, typically

broadcast alongside **digital TV** or radio services, to provide information on the **content** and scheduling of current and future

programmes.

EST Electronic sell through.

Freesat An FTA DSat service.

Freeview The brand name for **FTA DTT** services launched in October 2002;

promoted and marketed by DTV Services Limited consortium.

FTA Free-to-air linear broadcast TV. Unencrypted **channels** and trans-

missions which may be received via any suitable receiver, free of subscription charge or other payment from the consumer; funded primarily by advertising and sponsorship and, in the case of the

BBC, by the licence fee.

HDTV High-definition TV. A broadcasting system providing significantly

higher picture quality (sharper with more detail) than standarddefinition TV, and enabling surround sound to be broadcast directly

to consumers.

Holdback A trading arrangement that precludes certain uses of content for a

period of time, often after the period of the licensed activity has

expired.

Hybrid set-top box A single set-top box that will access both **DTT** and the **Internet**,

providing both linear TV and VOD services.

iDTV Integrated Digital Television. A TV set which has a built-in digital

tuner (typically for reception of **DTT**), removing the need for an

external **set-top box**.

Internet A global network, using a common set of standards (eg the

Internet Protocol).

Internet Protocol The packet data protocol used for routing and carriage of

messages across the Internet and similar networks.

IP Intellectual property.

IPTV Internet Protocol Television. The term used for TV and/or video

signals that are delivered to subscribers or viewers using **Internet Protocol**, the technology that is also used to access the **Internet**. Typically used in the context of **linear TV** and **VOD content**.

Linear TV Scheduled broadcast TV programmes.

MOW 'Movie of the week', a made-for-TV movie.

Multi-channel In the UK, this refers to the provision or receipt of TV services other

than from the main five **channels** (BBC1, BBC2, ITV1, Channel 4/S4C and Five) plus local analogue services. 'Multi-channel homes' comprise all those with **DTT**, **satellite TV**, **cable TV** or

broadband TV.

Multiplex A device that sends multiple signals or streams of information on a

carrier at the same time in the form of a single, complex signal. The

separate signals are then recovered at the receiving end.

NVOD Near video on demand, where multiple viewing times are fixed by

providers.

Ofcom The Office of Communications.

Ofcom's First Pay TV

2007.

Consultation 20

Ofcom's Second Pay TV Consultation

Ofcom's second consultation document on Pay TV, published on

The first **Ofcom Pay TV** consultation published on 18 December

30 September 2008.

Ofcom's Third Pay TV Consultation

Ofcom's third consultation document on Pay TV, published on

26 June 2009.

Ofcom's reference consultation

Ofcom's consultation on making a reference to the CC, published

on 31 March 2010.

Ofcom's reference

decision

Ofcom's decision to make a reference to the **CC**, published on

4 August 2010.

Pay TV

TV which viewers pay to receive whether **PPV** or by subscription.

Platform

The system for delivering **audiovisual content** to viewers' reception equipment (ie analogue terrestrial, **DSat**, **cable**, **DTT**,

mobile TV and broadband TV).

PPV

Pay per view. A service offering single viewings of a specific film or programme, provided to consumers for a one-off fee. The **content** is also referred to as transactional-funded **content**.

Pull VOD

Allows the user to select **content** from the service provider's

library.

Push VOD

Allows material to be stored on a **PVR** at certain times, from which a viewer can select **VOD content**. **Content** is 'pushed' in anticipation of viewer demand and stored on a specially partitioned part of the **PVR** so that the consumer can enjoy **VOD content** without delay (ie not having to wait for download).

PVR

Personal video recorder. A **set-top box** including a hard disc drive which allows the user to record, store and access **content** from a **digital TV** service. This may include **content** 'pushed' by the service provider (**push VOD**). PVR functionality may also allow users to pause and rewind live TV and to record from multiple **channel**s, including while watching a different **channel**.

Satellite TV

The transmission of TV **channel**s from a satellite direct to

premises served by a satellite dish.

SDTV

Standard Definition TV, in contrast to **HDTV**.

Service bundling

A marketing term describing the packaging together of different communications services (eg telephony, **Internet** and TV).

Set-top box

A tuner/decoder connected to a TV for display. There are different set-top boxes for each platform, eg **DTT**, **DSat**, **cable TV** or **broadband TV**.

SSNIP

Small but significant non-transitory increase in price: a conceptual approach used to help define the relevant market or markets. Used in the hypothetical monopolist test.

SVOD

Subscription video on demand. A **VOD** service paid for by **subscription**.

Subscription

Payment in advance, typically monthly, for a given service.

Terrestrial broadcasting

Sound and picture transmissions (both analogue and digital) using ground-based transmitters and masts, and received via an aerial.

Time shift

The broadcasting of a TV service on more than one **channel** with a specified delay (typically an hour), to provide more than one opportunity for viewers to watch the service. Alternatively, the recording of programmes by viewers (using **PVR**s, recordable

DVDs or VCRs) to watch at another time.

VOD

Video on demand. A service or technology that enables viewers to watch programmes or films from a range of **content** whenever they choose, not restricted by a linear schedule.