



DTT Multiplex Operators Ltd (DMOL) consultation on proposed changes to the Logical Channels Number (LCN) list

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1 Background

In 2009 DMOL carried out a consultation regarding LCN classifications. Following the consultation a number of changes were implemented:

- A High Definition classification was introduced
- Adult Chat channels were moved to the Adult Genre
- Non-unique access channels were moved to the Interactive classification

DMOL is now reviewing further potential improvements to the LCN list due to the following reasons:

- Following the previous consultation DMOL committed to reviewing a Shopping Genre at a later date,
- the Adult Genre has now overflowed from the 90s into the 190s,
- both the General Entertainment and News Genres have limited space for expansion, and
- YouView have recently requested DTT LCNs for live IP channels

The current list can be found at www.dmol.co.uk/lcn_post.php

The current DMOL LCN Policy can be found at www.dmol.co.uk

2 Consultation Process

This consultation is published on www.dmol.co.uk and submissions are invited from all interested parties. The consultation runs from Friday 14th January 2011 to Friday 18th March 2011 (10 weeks) and responses should be sent by email to consultation@dmol.co.uk DMOL will review any responses received and publish an initial statement by Friday 15th April 2011. At that point DMOL may decide to implement some or none of the proposals and may at its discretion decide to commission further research and/or a further consultation.

3 Consultation Questions

1. DMOL would like to consult on the proposal that one of the guiding principles for maintaining the LCN map should be that services on the platform should be sequenced in the following order:

- a. TV services
- b. Text and interactive services
- c. Radio services

>> **Consultation Question 1: Do you agree with this principle?**

2. DMOL currently allocates TV channels according to the Classifications set out below. DMOL would like to consult on the following Classification definitions which may be adopted in a future version of the LCN Allocation Policy.
 - a. Adult - channels that are carrying content of a sexual nature aimed at adults
 - b. Children's - channels whose output (as measured by non-repeated output) is more than 80% dedicated to school-age and pre-school children
 - c. High Definition - channels delivered compliant with the D-Book HD specification
 - d. Local - channels broadcast to a geography within, but less than, the whole of one of the countries of the UK



- e. News - channels whose output in hours is more than 80% dedicated to carrying news and current affairs
 - f. General Entertainment - channels offering at least 21 hours of output each week that do not qualify for one of the other Classifications above
- >> **Consultation Question 2: Do you agree with these definitions?**
3. DMOL would like to consult on proposed definitions for “UK”, “National” and “Local” TV services:
- a. “UK” services are those who are broadcast to Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland and England
 - b. “National” services are those who are broadcast to Scotland or Wales or Northern Ireland or England
 - c. “Local” services are those who are broadcast to a geography within but less than the whole of one of the countries of the UK
- >> **Consultation Question 3: Do you agree with these definitions?**
4. DMOL would like to consult on the proposal to introduce a new Restricted Hours mixed genre classification for any services that are on air for less than 21 hours each week.
- >> **Consultation Question 4: Do you agree with this proposal?**
5. DMOL would like to consult on the proposals for positioning Local TV channels within the LCN map. Below are a number of options for consideration:
- a. DMOL moves the current Local TV classification to LCN60
 - b. DMOL moves the current Local TV classification LCN100
 - c. DMOL dissolves the Local TV classification and allocate channels to the next most appropriate classification regardless of geographical target
 - d. DMOL retains the current Local TV classification at LCN200
 - e. Other (please specify)
- >> **Consultation Question 5: Which is your preferred option?**
6. DMOL would like to consult on the proposals for positioning of Text and interactive services within the LCN map:
- a. DMOL retains the current 100-119 range for Text services
 - b. DMOL repositions the existing text services after all broadcast TV services
 - c. DMOL repositions the existing text services after all broadcast and IP TV services
 - d. Other (please specify)
- >> **Consultation Question 6: Which is your preferred option?**
7. DMOL would like to consult on the proposal that where there are five or more channels that share an editorial genre within General Entertainment that normally DMOL will consult on the creation a new Classification.
- >> **Consultation Question 7: Do you agree with this proposal?**
8. DMOL would like to consult on the proposal that a new teleshopping classification is created at LCN 60. The classification is proposed to be defined as channels that are licensed as teleshopping services that do not contain adult content.
- >> **Consultation Question 8: Do you agree with this proposal?**
9. DMOL would like to consult on the proposal to create a new classification within the range LCN 400-499 for live TV channels delivered via IP. IP Classification definition to be: channels delivered via internet protocol rather than via DVB broadcast (not including on demand or virtual channels)
- >> **Consultation Question 9: Do you agree with this proposal?**



10. The Adult channels, including the Bookends required by OFCOM, are currently placed at LCN92-99 with an overflow section recently created at LCN 189-199. DMOL would like to consult on alternatives:
- a. to extend the current range from 92-99 to 92-110.
 - b. to form a new and continuous block for Adult channels after News, but starting at LCN100
 - c. to form a new and continuous block for Adult channels to join up with the existing overflow at 189.
 - d. to form a new and continuous block for Adult channels at the end of broadcast TV channel list
 - e. to form a new and continuous block for all Adult channels (including any delivered via IPTV), at the end of the all TV channels list
 - f. Other (please specify)
- >> ***Consultation Question 10: Which is your preferred option?***

11. DMOL would like to consult on the proposal to move the HD classification from the LCN 50 range to the LCN 100 range.

>> ***Consultation Question 11: Do you agree with this proposal?***