



## **MERGER ANNOUNCEMENT      20 APRIL 2011**

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### **Competition Authority Clears the Acquisition of Travel Channel International Limited**

The Competition Authority has today cleared the proposed acquisition of sole control of Travel Channel International Limited by Southbank Media Limited. The transaction was notified under the Competition Act 2002 on 22 March 2012.

The Authority has formed the view that the proposed transaction does not raise any competition concerns in the State. The companies have been informed of the decision that the proposed transaction will not lead to a substantial lessening of competition in any markets for goods or services in the State.

As with all media mergers, the parties may only proceed with this merger if the Minister for Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation does not direct the Authority to carry out a full investigation (Phase 2) within 10 days of the date of the Authority's decision. The Authority will publish a public version of the reasons for its determination on its website ([www.tca.ie](http://www.tca.ie)) no later than 19 June 2012 after allowing the parties the opportunity to request that confidential information is removed from the published version.

#### **Notes**

Southbank Media Limited is a wholly owned subsidiary of Scripps Networks Interactive Inc. Scripps is a leading developer of lifestyle-oriented content for different media platforms including television, digital, mobile and publishing. Its media portfolio includes lifestyle brands such as Home and Garden Television, Food Network, Travel Channel, DIY Network, Cooking Channel, and country music network Great American Country. In August 2011, Scripps acquired a 50% stake in UKTV which broadcasts television channels, websites and on-demand services. UKTV's portfolio of channels includes: G.O.L.D, Dave, Watch, Alibi, Home, Good Food, Really, Eden, Blighty and Yesterday. In the State, Scripps' Food Network UK channel and its UKTV channels are available mainly to pay-tv subscribers through Sky and UPC.

Travel Channel International Limited operates the Travel Channel, an international travel broadcaster, transmitting 24 hours a day in 21 languages across Europe, the Middle East, Africa and the Asia Pacific region. In the State, the Travel Channel is available to Sky subscribers and via free to air digital satellite and one cable platform (Magnet Networks Ltd, whose platform covers the Dublin region).

#### **For further information contact:**

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