



Media Release: Monday, 5 August 2019

Foxtel and BBC Studios reach new long-term content agreement

Foxtel and BBC Studios today announced they have reached an agreement on a long-term extension of their partnership securing premium British drama, entertainment, documentaries, natural history, children's programming and news for Foxtel's broadcast and on demand platforms.

The deal includes the launch of a new channel, BBC Earth, which will tell the definitive stories about the world around us. This premium documentary channel will feature inspiring and passionate experts in their field, including existing landmark natural history series featuring Sir David Attenborough. This channel will replace BBC Knowledge later this year.

As part of the agreement, BBC Studios will provide thousands of additional hours of on demand content a year, available to viewers through the New Foxtel Experience user interface.

Foxtel CEO Patrick Delany said: "We know how much Foxtel customers love the BBC's fabulous shows and we are incredibly pleased to put in place a new agreement providing a long-term extension to our 24-year relationship.

"For Foxtel, the new agreement is another step in ensuring we are future fit. Our integration of Netflix into the New Foxtel Experience dramatically increased on demand content available through Foxtel.

"This agreement provides a five-fold increase in BBC programming available on demand. It helps ensure we continue to deliver on our promise to provide customers with the best TV and on demand content, all in one place."

Jon Penn, Managing Director for BBC Studios said: "We're delighted to be continuing our successful partnership with Foxtel, bringing Australian viewers the BBC channels and programs they love, and giving them the opportunity to consume them in the way they want to.

"As an added bonus, viewers will be getting a new channel dedicated to the BBC's premium documentaries, offering some of the greatest natural history series ever produced."

Jamie Chambers, Regional Director ANZ, BBC World News & BBC.com said: "In a world where media diversity and access to a range of viewpoints is more important than ever, as the leaders in global breaking news we are pleased the partnership continues to offer Foxtel's audiences access to BBC World News' independent, impartial and trusted journalism."

The content agreement will see the following channels on Foxtel:

- **BBC First.** The go-to channel for premium British drama including on demand access to boxsets of the BBC's top franchises. BBC First on Foxtel includes Australian premiere rights to *Call the Midwife*, *Death in Paradise* and *Silent Witness*, plus new dramas including *World on Fire* starring Helen Hunt and Stephen Poliakoff's *Summer of Rockets*, starring Keeley Hawes.
- **BBC UKTV.** Watched by 1.4 million Foxtel households each month, UKTV is the home of British continuing dramas including Australian premiere episodes of *EastEnders*, *Coronation Street* and *Emmerdale*, plus chat-shows, celebrity specials, quiz and variety shows and classic British comedy.
- **BBC Earth.** The new BBC channel connecting viewers with the world, through documentaries from the world's most inspiring and passionate experts. This includes the best of Sir David Attenborough from BBC Studio's acclaimed Natural History production unit, alongside science programming, adventure series and human stories from experts including Louis Theroux, Michael Mosley, Kate Humble and Professor Brian Cox.
- **BBC CBeebies.** The BBC's best-loved British children's programming including *Hey Duggee*, *Thomas & Friends* and *Sarah & Duck*.
- **BBC World News.** Under the agreement with BBC World News, Foxtel will continue to deliver the BBC's impartial, in-depth analysis of international news including sport, weather, business, current affairs and documentaries.

The Foxtel-BBC agreement also provides first-run territory premiere rights for BBC lifestyle programming for viewing on Foxtel network channels and on demand offerings.

BBC Studios will continue its partnership with Foxtel's advertising sales arm, Multi Channel Network (MCN), for the broadcaster's advertising sales representation in Australia. The partnership sees MCN represent BBC Studios television and on demand properties for BBC First, BBC UKTV and the new BBC Earth channel.

For media enquiries:

David Sims, Foxtel
Tel: 0409-928 209
Email: David.Sims@foxtel.com.au

Laura Dumbrell, BBC Studios
Tel: 0412-456604
Email: Laura.Dumbrell@bbc.com