

**BBC Worldwide Press Office**

BBC Worldwide Australia

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**BBC WORLDWIDE AUSTRALASIA AGREES NEW BROADCAST DEAL FOR  
TOP GEAR UK WITH THE NINE NETWORK AND BBC KNOWLEDGE****Tuesday 18 September 2012**

BBC Worldwide Australasia has unveiled a new partnership with the Nine Network which will see the world's biggest motoring entertainment show premiere on Foxtel's BBC Knowledge before being transmitted on Nine and on GO!

Under this new arrangement, BBC Knowledge will be the first Australian channel to screen the new series of Top Gear, bringing the program to subscription TV viewers in a consistent slot and only days after the UK transmission.

Nine Network viewers can enjoy the new shows shortly after their BBC Knowledge premieres. Once it has transmitted on the Nine Network, Top Gear will be available for catch up on Nine MSN and [topgear.com/au](http://topgear.com/au), on DVD from Roadshow Entertainment and for download to own.

Jeremy Clarkson, James May, Richard Hammond and The Stig will have their BBC Knowledge premiere with Series 19 in the new year and some exciting one-off specials.

The deal was negotiated by BBC Worldwide Director of Sales Julie Dowding.

Says Julie: 'This is a significant deal for BBC Worldwide Australasia and for Australian Top Gear fans. We are fast-tracking Top Gear to Australia by closing the transmission window, offering premium value to viewers on our wholly owned channel BBC Knowledge, and ensuring that all Australians get the opportunity to view Top Gear by continuing our successful relationship with the Nine Network.'

Says Michael Healy, Nine's Director of Television: 'We're delighted to be continuing our successful relationship with Top Gear, bringing one of the world's biggest shows to all Australians on Nine.'

Says Deirdre Brennan, GM/Director of Channels for BBC Worldwide: 'Top Gear is a premium brand that appeals to a broad audience, from families to motoring fans, with its infectious mix of credibility and character. It's very exciting to be able to bring it to Australian Foxtel customers first on BBC Knowledge.'

Top Gear is an International Emmy-award winning show that is viewed in 244 territories around the world. It was recently named the world's most widely watched factual TV program by the Guinness World Records. Top Gear has built its presence in Australia with Top Gear Australia magazine, [topgear.com/au](http://topgear.com/au), the Top Gear Live show and through DVDs and merchandise.

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### **About BBC Worldwide Australasia**

Australia is a priority territory for BBC Worldwide, focusing on growth across all five of its core businesses. In 2011/12, BBC Worldwide Australasia increased revenue by 9% on the previous year, generating AUS\$140m. Based in Macquarie Park, Sydney, BBC Worldwide Australasia wholly owns five channels; UKTV, BBC Knowledge and CBeebies in Australia; UKTV NZ and BBC Knowledge NZ in New Zealand; and is responsible for the sales, promotion and distribution of World News which transmits in both countries. It distributes great British content from the BBC and other producers to all free-to-air and most subscription channels in Australia and New Zealand. BBC Worldwide Australasia has a joint venture company with ACP, Park Publishing, which publishes BBC-branded magazines in the territory, including Top Gear. It works with partners to bring BBC Worldwide DVDs, digital apps, innovative products and live events to the local market, as well as offering advertising opportunities for the BBC's world renowned [bbc.com](http://bbc.com) news site and [lonelyplanet.com](http://lonelyplanet.com). BBC Worldwide Australasia has recently launched the global BBC iPlayer in Australia.

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