



## New National Commercial Radio Stations

Digital One invites expressions of interest from companies ready to contract and launch digital radio stations in 2009. The process provides an opportunity for successful, established brands or innovative new stations to broadcast across Britain. Capacity is available for mainstream stations as well as more specialist channels appealing to a diversity of tastes and interests.

Digital One operates the national commercial multiplex with a network of over 100 transmitters providing coverage to 90% of the population of Great Britain. Current customers include Absolute Radio, Classic FM, Planet Rock and talkSPORT.

Digital One and its shareholders contributed to the Digital Radio Working Group which reported to the Secretary of State last month. The report highlighted the fact that DAB digital radio is the most effective and viable digital platform for radio. The broader radio industry has endorsed proposals to offer enhanced choice, variety and innovation. As part of this initiative, Digital One is preparing to offer new contracts in 2009. Companies with proposals based on Plays/Books/Comedy content would be welcome and other speech or music formats with consumer appeal are also welcome.

Digital One is reviewing its charges for capacity. Whilst it is anticipated that prices will initially be set below Digital One's 2008 rate card, in order to provide an incentive for approved applicants to invest in high quality services, companies providing new services will be expected to agree to meet the costs of a transmitter roll-out plan in future years (as recommended by the DRWG and to the extent that this is required by Ofcom).

**Interested companies should contact Digital One's Acting Chief Executive, Glyn Jones, directly by email in the first instance: [glyn.jones@digitalone.co.uk](mailto:glyn.jones@digitalone.co.uk). All emails will be acknowledged. Companies which have already expressed an interest have already been contacted by Digital One. Expressions of interest will be regarded as confidential.**

*Details of the full timetable and process will be provided to companies which register an interest as soon as they are available.*