

CHUM CEO Switzer Resigns



Switzer

CHUM president/CEO Jay Switzer announced in an internal memo that he intends to step down after almost 24 years with the Canadian media giant. This comes as

CHUM is preparing to be acquired by CTVglobemedia. CTVgm president/CEO Ivan Fecan is expected to take the lead post of the combined company.

"Although I write this with some sadness in my heart, knowing that we are closing a wonderful chapter in the history of this great company . . . I am also happy and satisfied to know that CHUM's people and stations begin an exciting new chapter," Switzer wrote. —Keith Berman

NAB: Fair Elections Bill Unfair

Broadcasters want to quash proposed legislation that would lower the unit cost of broadcast advertising to political candidates, extend the discount to political committees and create a fund for use by federal candidates for advertising that would be paid for by a 2% tax paid by broadcasters on gross ad revenue.

NAB president/CEO David Rehr says the Fair Elections Now Act (S.1285) "would entitle both political candidates and political parties to pay rates that are significantly more favorable than those afforded commercial clients" and favor "specific political speech and certain political speakers [contradicting] settled First Amendment principles." —Jeffrey Yorke

Salem Reconfigures Top Management

After several decades of running Christian-themed Salem Communications, Edward Atsinger III sheds the president's title at the Camarillo, Calif.-based media company, but retains his CEO position, effective July 1. The three-year deal will pay him \$750,000 the first year and \$850,000 for each of the next two years. Eric Halvorson, a member of the Salem board of directors and chairman of the board's audit committee, adds the title of president/COO. He'll earn \$500,000 the first year with \$25,000 annual increases the next two years.

Halvorson served as Salem's general counsel from 1995 to 2000 and has been on the Salem board since 1988; he remains a board member. Atsinger says of Halvorson, "I expect him to hit the ground running and work closely with me in executing our business strategies."

Salem's COO duties shift from VP Joe D. Davis, who moves to the newly created position of radio division president, responsible for the day-to-day operation of Salem's nearly 100 radio stations in 23 of the top 25 markets. He'll receive \$415,000 the first year, \$430,000 the second and \$450,000 beginning July 1, 2009.

Atsinger says, "This well-deserved promotion is a recognition of Joe's contribution to Salem in a number of areas since he joined the company in 1989, and it reflects my confidence in Joe's ability to provide successful executive leadership to our radio group." —Jeffrey Yorke

Management Changes, Investment Boost At BMP

Jeffrey T. Hinson is named president/CEO of Border Media Partners, effective July 1. Additionally, BMP founder Tom Castro is appointed vice chairman of the board of directors. Hinson most recently served as executive VP/CFO of Univision Communications.

Meanwhile, Vestar Capital, Goldman Sachs and Darby Overseas Investments invested \$111 million in equity capital in the privately owned Hispanic radio company and committed additional capital to support future growth. Vestar Capital managing director Ken O'Keefe and Goldman Sachs managing director Kevin Jordan will serve as co-chairmen of BMP's board.

BMP also closed on KTSA-AM and KXJK-FM/San Antonio, which it purchased from CBS Radio. —Jackie Madrigal

MOVERS AND SHAKERS

President Bush has announced his plan to renominate Republican FCC commissioner Deborah Taylor Tate to a second five-year term . . . Ralph Nieves joins Greater Media's



Tate

WPEN (Sports Radio 950)/Philadelphia as sales manager from Comcast Spotlight, where he was director of local ad sales for the Philadelphia East area . . . Bill Martin is promoted to senior VP of interactive services for Westwood One from the director of sales position at WWI-owned traffic information provider SmartRoute Systems . . . Clear Channel/Connecticut online content director Rob Rowe is named executive producer of online services for the company's New York cluster.

Business Briefing

By Jeffrey Yorke

Clear Channel Says Aloha To 194 Stations

Clear Channel has established Aloha Station Trust as part of its preparations to go private and has 194 stations in the new entity, which is headed by sole member Jeanette Tully.

Among the stations, 72 are already under contract for sale to other radio operators such as Blue Point, Cumulus, Great Eastern Radio, Good Radio and Point Broadcasting's Rincon.

LPFM Bill Introduced In House

Reps. Mike Doyle, D-Pa., and Lee Terry, R-Neb., on June 21 introduced the Local Community Radio Act, which would do away with the Radio Broadcasting Preservation Act of 2000's requirement for third-adjacent-channel protection for full-power FMs, potentially making room for more low-power FMs to go on the air.

"While NAB does not oppose LPFM in areas where low-power stations would not cause interference, we will actively oppose today's proposed legislation," NAB spokesman Kristopher Jones said. "The 232 million weekly listeners of local radio should not be inundated with the inevitable interference that would result from shoehorning more stations onto an already overcrowded radio dial."

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