



## DISNEY + LAUNCH IN CZECH



Disney+ is planning a launch in Slovakia and the Czech Republic in the second half of next year.

Disney is preparing to withdraw its content from the competing service HBO Go by the end of March 2021.

Zive says that several operators, with the most forthcoming being Slovak Telekom, have confirmed that they are in talks about bringing Disney+ to Slovakia.

Disney+ was launched in the US, Canada and the Netherlands in November last year and also made its debut in the same month in Australia and New Zealand.

## NEW MPEG-5 STD



MPEG-5 Part 2 LCEVC (Low Complexity Enhancement Video Coding) has been promoted to MPEG/ISO final draft international standard.

MPEG-5 Part 2 LCEVC enhances the compression performance of any base video codec (e.g., AVC, HEVC, AV1, EVC or VVC) and offers improved picture quality at up to 40% lower bitrates for both live and VOD delivery. It also provides a 2-4x improvement in encoding computational efficiency. LCEVC enables greener and more cost-effective video delivery workflows

whilst maintaining compatibility with the device ecosystem of the enhanced codec. It empowers services to improve quality-of-experience for viewers without having to duplicate workflows or wait for device replacement cycles.

V-Nova, which co-chaired the standard's development, contributed to the foundation technology on which it is built.

## GERMANY SEES RISE IN UHD

UHD TV sets to tune of 4.7 million television sets were sold in



Germany in the first three quarters of 2020, according to data from GfK Retail & Technology released by Deutsche TV-Plattform. The figure includes 3.3



million U H D television sets. T h i s compares to 4.5 million sets sold in the same period in 2019, when the proportion of UHD's units sold was 62%, representing 2.8 million UHD displays. HDR is now very much a

standard with 97% of UHD displays sold between Q1 and Q3 supporting at least one method for high dynamic range (HDR) and can display content with a significantly greater contrast range and more natural colours in finer gradations.

## ASIASAT APPOINTS TONY CHUNG AS VP - DATA SERVICES



TONY CHUNG

Asia Satellite Telecommunications Company Limited (AsiaSat), Asia's premier satellite solutions provider, announced the appointment of Tony Chung as

Vice President, Data Services. In this new role, Tony will be responsible for overseeing the company's data services operations and infrastructure.

Tony brings over 17 years of experience in the satellite communications service industry, with demonstrated success in managing and leading technical teams to deploy networks and to increase operational efficiency.

Prior to joining AsiaSat, Tony served as Senior Vice President, Asia Pacific Operations of Speedcast International Limited where he was tasked with running the company's operations, including field engineering and service delivery for customers in the region. He had contributed to a series of successful acquisitions by Speedcast. Tony obtained his B.A. and M.Phil. degrees in Computer Science from The Hong Kong Polytechnic University. ■