



LG'S NEW STRATEGY



LG's has rolled out a new strategy and The buyers of LG smart TVs of the model year 2023 will be able to receive German DTH satellite TV platform HD+ without additional hardware.

LG will integrate the HD+ TV app directly into the TV sets via the HbbTV Operator Application (HbbTV OpApp) for this purpose. A set-top box, CI+ module, smart card, TV key or other hardware will no longer be necessary for HD+ reception, only a satellite dish pointing to Astra (19.2° East). The TV sets with integrated HD+ are scheduled to go on sale in Germany at the end of March 2023.

To get to know HD+, the platform offers a six-month free trial period without registration or further obligations. Viewers who want to continue watching HD+ after the free period can sign up for a subscription at a retailer or in the HD+ web shop.

CANAL+ EXPANSION PLANS



Canal+ Group's Czech and Slovak operator Skylink has launched Canal+ Action in the two countries and at the same time added five SPI International channels to its OTT service Skylink Live TV.

It has also moved the channel Spektrum Home to its Digital package and announced price changes to Skylink Live TV that will come into effect on April 4.

Canal+ Action is new to the Czech Republic and Slovakia and is being made available on satellite and Skylink Live TV from February 28. It will be offered to all Skylink customers throughout March irrespective of the package they subscribe to.

ITV STUDIOCANAL COLLABORATION



ITV is adding to the subscription tier of its ITVX streaming service with an agreement to carry StudioCanal Presents.

Expected to launch on ITVX Premium this Spring, the deal will see over 400 films added to its subscription tier.



StudioCanal presents, which is also available through Amazon Prime Video Channels and the Apple

TV app, draws from an extensive library that includes family favourites Paddington and Paddington 2, A Shaun the Sheep Movie: Farmageddon as well as homegrown and international films such as Legend starring Tom Hardy, Tinker Tailor Soldier Spy starring Gary Oldman, Non Stop starring Liam Neeson, The Imitation Game starring Benedict Cumberbatch and Apocalypse Now starring Marlon Brando.

ZDF – BBC PARTNERSHIP



German public broadcaster ZDF has extended its strategic partnership with BBC Studios, the production and distribution subsidiary of the BBC.

The 2019 agreement already significantly intensified the cooperation between the two broadcasters. In both the fictional and non-fictional areas, material has since been developed and projects realised in close cooperation.

ZDF and BBC Studios plan to partner on further documentaries, including Mammals and Asia. In addition, the agreement now also provides thematic channel ZDFinfo with first access rights to licensed programmes and presales as well as joint co-productions. ■