

## Radio World' Predictions for 1993

1. Digital Audio Broadcasting: The new year should bring continued technological breakthroughs that provide for in-band, and hopefully on-channel, digital broadcasting for both AM and FM radio. On the regulatory front, the Commission has an outstanding proceeding implementing the 1992 World Administrative Radio Conference that provides for digital audio broadcasting via satellite. This proceeding likely to be resolved in 1993.

2. New Technologies: Perhaps the Commission's greatest accomplishment under Chairman Sikes has been the effort to develop a spectrum reserve for new telecommunication technologies. Specifically, the Commission is progressing in establishing the regulatory and technical scheme for personal communication services (PCS). Progress will continue in the PCS proceeding, as well as associated proceedings, providing for incumbents in the 1.8-2.2 GHz bands to migrate to higher bands. I have been pleased with industry efforts to address the important technical aspects of PCS and I am confident that industry leadership in the technical arena will continue in the new year.

Regarding another band, there has been significant interest in the 28 GHz band as evidenced by the volume of waiver requests to provide video, voice and data services. The Commission at our

December meeting adopted a Notice of Proposed Rule Making seeking to redesignate the 28 GHz band from fixed point-to-point to a point-to-multipoint local multipoint distribution service. This service will be capable of providing a variety of services.

3. Group Ownership Limits: I believe that in 1993 the radio industry will begin to take advantage of the relaxed ownership limits. Preliminary reports suggest that, as we expected when we made the change, stations may improve their profitability by engaging in duopolies or other arrangements. This is very important at a time when most stations are losing money.

4. Economy: I expect and hope that the new year will see improved economic performance by all advertiser supported media. Given this, and some of the regulatory changes we have made, I think the prospects for the industry are good.

5. Radio-related Legislation: No comment, this is an area of Congressional discretion.