VAST review submission

Whilst the contract expires in 2020, I strongly suggest it be renewed and in fact expanded in its content delivery.

**Transmission Technology**

There are many methods that services such as this could be transmitted beyond the current method – mostly some sort of video compression via an internet type service. It is clear that Satellite transmission such as currently provided is the most effective from a coverage and cost to the consumer perspective.

Terrestrial is clearly not an option as VAST was born due to the reduced coverage of this transmission method. Video compression for delivery is also a difficult option via the internet. There is a diverse mix of internet based services in VAST reception areas. From mobile 3G or 4G, to fixed wireless, xDSL via copper based services to Skymuster satellite. That diversity in service also means a diversity in internet packages where many services (I will say most) would not allow the speed of data and quantity of data for a reliable internet based service to deliver VAST content.

Satellite delivery is not limited to geographical availability or other such service limitations, it is available to all so is the obvious choice.

**VAST Content**

I suggest the expansion of the content delivery to mimic the city terrestrial based services and include great geographical diversity that suits the local population. Receiving channel 9 News services when in country Victoria is not only annoying there is in fact no technical reason for this as those local services exist on the Optus C1 Satellite.

I also suggest the updating of services on a regular basis so we receive the same digital services on Satellite as terrestrial based services enjoy. There are quite a few “new” digital services that “city folk” get I know “country folk” would enjoy and deserve.

On a personal note, I wish I could receive the AFL Footy show at normal time rather that Sydney time which is at midnight and am forced to watch the NRL Footy show which is of little interest and of little cultural value to me as a Victorian.