

# Carrier fined for failing to lodge eligible revenue return

On 18 January 2006 Chariot Limited was fined \$10,000 in the Adelaide Magistrates Court for committing an offence under the *Telecommunications (Consumer Protection and Service Standards) Act 1999*. Chariot failed to lodge an eligible revenue return as required by the Act.

‘The universal service obligation is an important way of ensuring that everyone in Australia has reasonable access to standard telephone services,’ said Chris Chapman, ACMA Chairman. ‘This court decision highlights that ACMA is comfortable with taking action in appropriate circumstances against carriers that fail to meet their regulatory responsibilities.’

All licensed carriers are required to submit an eligible revenue return for each financial year. Eligible revenue returns are used to help determine how much each carrier contributes to the cost of the universal service obligation (USO). The USO ensures that all Australians regardless of where they live have reasonable access to basic telephone services and payphones. The USO is provided by Telstra but funded by all carriers. If a carrier fails to lodge an eligible revenue return, ACMA may make an estimate of the carrier’s eligible revenue.

Under section 23C of the Act it is an offence not to submit an eligible revenue return form within 90 days of the end of the financial year.

## CHILDREN’S AND PRESCHOOL PROGRAMS

### PROGRAMS GRANTED CLASSIFICATION, DECEMBER 2005—FEBRUARY 2006

PROGRAM TITLE	SERIES	EPISODE NUMBERS	PROGRAM STYLE	PROGRAM TYPE	COUNTRY OF ORIGIN	NEW/RENEWAL	CLASS	DECISION DATE	APPLICANT
<i>Blue Water High</i>	2	1-26	Live action	Drama – series	Australia	New	PRC	14/12/05	Southern Star Entertainment Pty Ltd
<i>Dive Olly Dive</i>	1	1-26	Animation	Drama – series	Australia	New	PRC	13/01/06	Yoram Gross EM TV Pty Ltd
<i>Erky Perky</i>	1	1-13	Animation	Drama – series	Australia	New	CD	22/12/05	Erky Perky Pty Ltd
<i>Gumnutz</i>	1	1-26	Animation	Drama – series	Australia	New	PRC	27/01/06	John Cook
<i>H2O – Just Add Water</i>	1	14-26	Live action	Drama – series	Australia	New	CD	15/12/05	Jonathan M Shiff Productions Pty Ltd
<i>It’s Academic</i>	2	1-65	Live action	Light entertainment – competition / game show	Australia	New	C	22/12/05	Seven Network (Operations) Limited
<i>It’s Academic</i>	3	1-65	Live action	Light entertainment – competition / game show	Australia	New	C	6/01/06	Seven Network (Operations) Limited
<i>The Little Drummer Boy</i>	N/A	1	Animation	Drama – telemovie	Australia	Renewal	CD	14/12/05	Burbank Animation Studios Pty Limited
<i>Mighty Good Kids</i>	1	1-90	Live action	Light entertainment – magazine	Australia	New	C	8/11/05	Mighty Good Productions Pty Ltd
<i>Mortified</i>	1	14-19	Live action	Drama – series	Australia	New	CD	8/11/05	Australian Children’s Television Foundation
<i>Parallax: Stormworld</i>	2	1-26	Live action	Drama – series	Australia	New	PRC	24/11/05	Great Western Entertainment Pty Ltd
<i>Penrose Street</i>	1	1-13	Live Action	Drama – series	Australia	New	PRC	11/11/05	Endemol Southern Star
<i>Raggs</i>	1	1-65	Live action / animation / puppetry	Light entertainment – variety	Australia	New	P	15/12/05	Southern Star Entertainment Pty Ltd
<i>The Real Macaw</i>	N/A	N/A	Live action	Drama – telemovie	Australia	Renewal	C	21/11/05	Nine Network Australia Pty Ltd
<i>Seaside Hotel</i>	2	201-226	animation	Drama – series	Australia	New	CD	14/12/05	Yoram Gross EM TV Pty Ltd
<i>Silent Night—The Story of the First Christmas</i>	N/A	N/A	Animation	Drama – telemovie	Australia	Renewal	CD	21/12/05	Burbank Animation Studios Pty Limited
<i>Streetsmartz</i>	3	27-39	Live action	Drama – series	Australia	New	PRC	27/01/06	Great Western Entertainment Pty Ltd
<i>Sumo Mouse</i>	1	1-52	Animation	Drama – series	Australia	New	PRC	23/11/05	Moody Street Kids Pty Ltd
<i>Totally Wild</i>	15	1-180	Live action	Light entertainment – magazine	Australia	New	C	16/01/06	Network Ten Pty Ltd

C – children’s program, P – preschool, CD – C drama, PRC – provisional C, Class – classification