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Contact: **Martin Jacklin**  
DVB Project Office  
Ancienne Route 17A  
1218 Grand Saconnex  
Geneva, Switzerland

Tel: +41 22 717 2719  
Fax: +41 22 717 2727

## **DVB shows Conditional Access common sense**

LAS VEGAS, April 6 1997. For digital pay-television to remain viable as the number of available pay-TV services increase, consumer set top boxes need to remain affordable and easy to use for the average viewer. The costs of buying a different box for each subscribed channel will be prohibitive to most consumers. It is becoming vital for competing conditional access systems to easily co-exist in the same box.

The Digital Video Broadcasting Project (DVB) will be demonstrating one of DVB's solutions for enabling a single STB, or more technically, integrated receiver-decoder or IRD, to decode multiple conditional access encrypted signals.

In addition to solutions such as SimulCrypt, the DVB project has developed the **DVB Common Interface for Scrambling Systems** specification which allows a single receiver fitted with the DVB-CI to use a number of different conditional access systems, an arrangement known as **MultiCrypt**.

The DVB Common Interface operates at the MPEG-2 transport stream level, and may also be useful for other applications, such as enabling different decoders or data broadcasting applications to be used on a particular receiver.

One of these conditional access assisting solutions, known as **SimulCrypt**, will be demonstrated at the DVB booth. In a remarkable display of how multiple CA systems can work together. DVB will show IRDs from **News Digital Systems (NDS)** and **Canal+**, which will decode the same video stream using two different CA systems.

Both alternatives have been developed through the close collaboration of DVB members. Such a remarkable achievement shows the spirit of commitment and economic common sense which is the hallmark of the DVB project. See the **SimulCrypt demonstration** at 11 am and 3 pm every day in the Lobby of the LVCC, Special Technology Exhibition Area.

### **Background**

The Digital Video Broadcasting Project (DVB) is a consortium of over 200 broadcasters, manufacturers, network operators and regulatory bodies in more than 30 countries worldwide, committed to designing a global standard for the delivery of digital television. Numerous broadcast services using DVB standards are now operational, in Europe, North and South America, Africa, Asia, and Australasia.