

Reg Coutts quits ACMA board to re-enter private sector

Part-time ACMA board member Professor Reg Coutts has tendered his resignation—some 17 months before his term was scheduled to end.

Coutts, who has 30 years of experience in the telecommunications sector, told CommsDay that he tendered his notice “in correspondence to the Governor General in order to be able to contribute directly to the important transition issues of the national and global telecommunications sector further leveraging his professional skills, experience and new insights as a former regulator.” He joined the ACMA board in 2010.

Coutts said “it has been a privilege for over three years to contribute to the important but often under appreciated work of the Australian Communications and Media Authority to our social fabric. During my brief time, the ACMA has engaged with many of the broad issues relevant to the converged industry. In particular, I have contributed to the regulatory process to release of necessary new ‘digital dividend’ spectrum enabled by the transition to digital TV to a complex array of digital services, some of which will need ongoing regulatory safeguards but in a revised way.”

Coutts plans to return to private practice. He mentioned the forthcoming ITU World Radiocommunications Conference in Geneva in 2015, stating “a broad range of stakeholders will be grappling with some of these issues in the ‘global war of words’ and I think I can make a significant contribution”.

EXCLUSIVE

