

# DAB+ - radio's digital future

Patrick Hannon, President, WorldDAB

General Assembly, Brussels, 5 November 2019

# It's been a busy year



## France is launching national DAB+



• Eight cities / regions already on air

National network launching 2020



#### Switzerland confirms FM switch-off





#### **EU** is supporting digital radio



#### **European Electronic Communications Code (Dec 18)**

- From end 2020, all new car radios in EU must be able to receive digital terrestrial radio
- Member States free to introduce own legislation for consumer radios



#### **Strong progress in major markets**



UK: 57% of listening is digital



Italy:
All receivers must have
DAB+ from 2020



Australia: Three new cities in 2019



Germany:

First country to put EECC into national law



### **Significant launches in Europe**



Belgium:

Flemish and French

– major launch



Austria:

National DAB+ (May 2019)

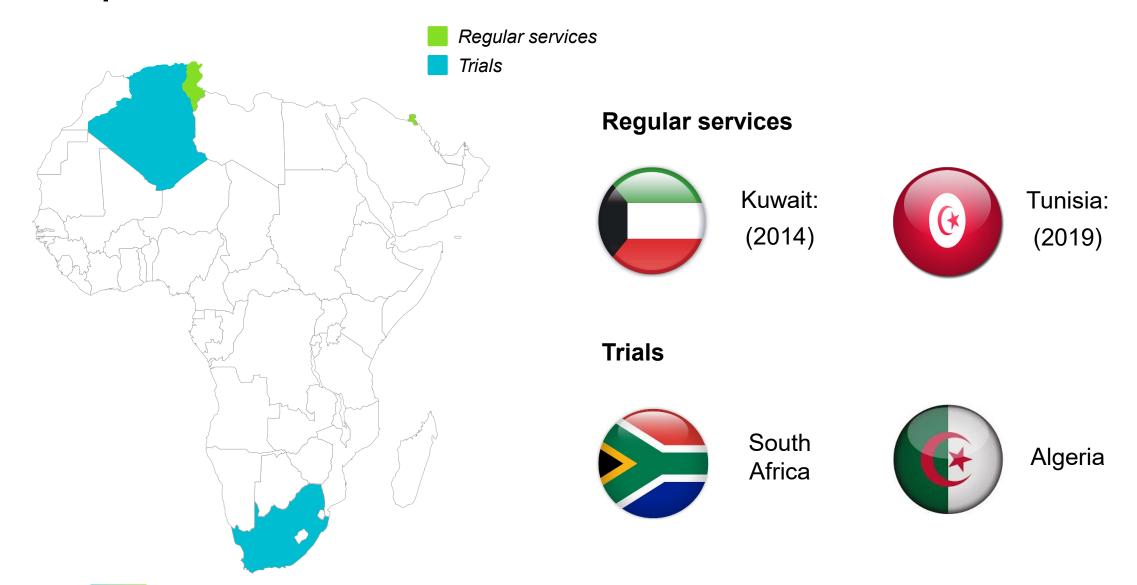


Sweden:

Commercial DAB+ (summer 2019)



### First steps in Africa and Middle East



# What is driving these changes?



## FM spectrum is full



- No capacity to expand
- Impossible to innovate



#### Online players are entering radio's space











Podcasts

Personalised news

**Broadcasters must compete online** 



### Limit dependency on tech giants



"Radio France must not let Google, Apple, Facebook and Amazon own the direct relationship with listeners"

Sibyle Veil, President, Radio France



#### **Essential to optimise the broadcast experience**



Increase capacity

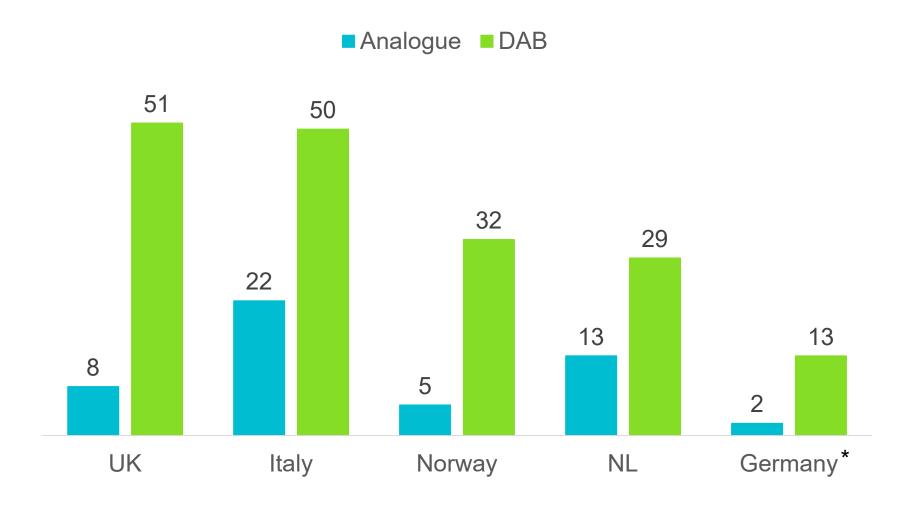
• Free-to-air

No 3<sup>rd</sup> party gatekeeper



### Six times as many services

#### **National radio services**

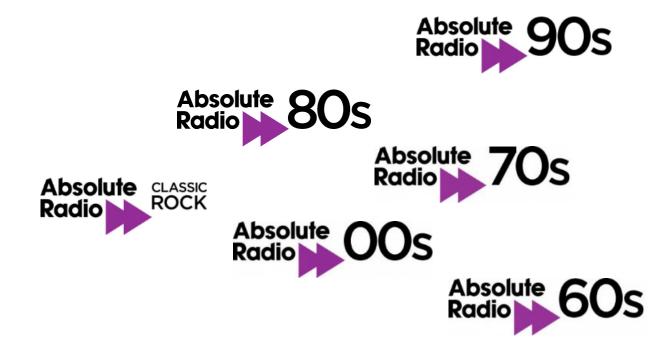




<sup>\*</sup> Will double with launch of second national multiplex – date to be confirmed Source: WorldDAB

#### **Brand extensions**



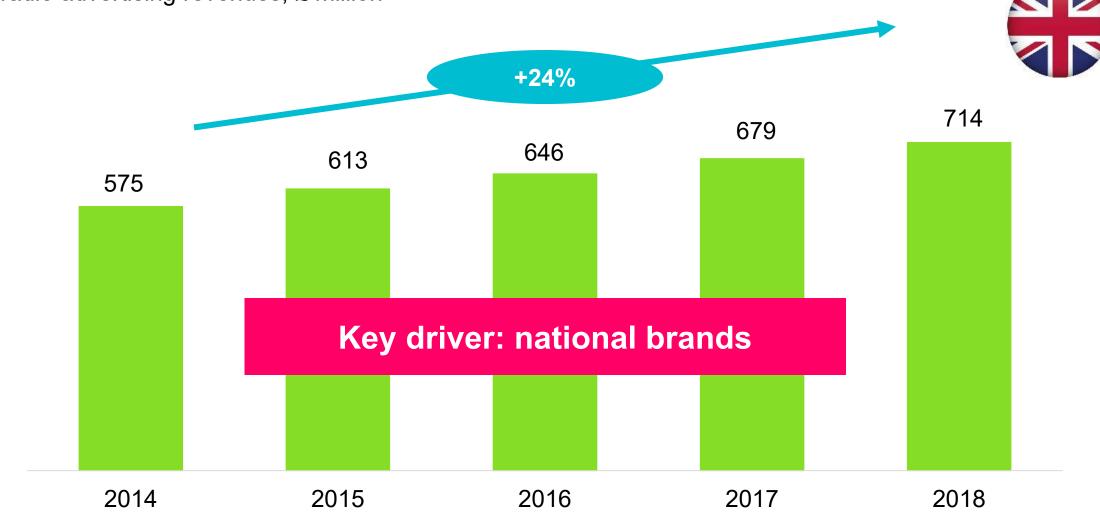


Audience has tripled in seven years



### Revenue growth

UK radio advertising revenues, £ million





Source: Radiocentre

# What next?



## Our goals

Existing markets

New markets

Cars and consumer receivers



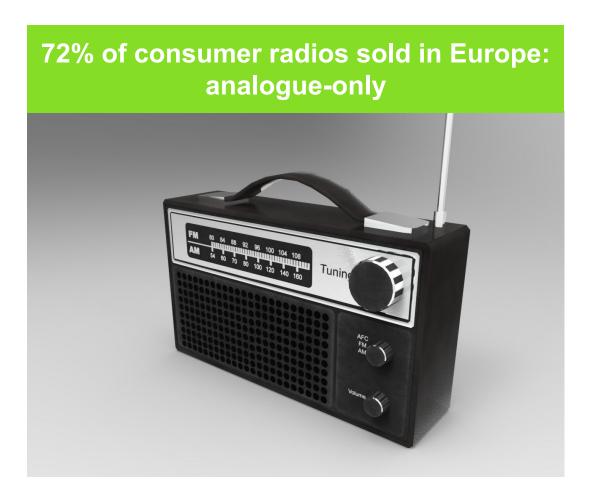
#### Cars: European Electronic Communications Code must be implemented



- Deadline is 21 December 2020
  - France and Italy already have laws
  - Germany first to transpose EECC into national legislation
- Other member states must follow



#### Consumer radios: too many are analogue-only



- Consumers denied access to full range of free-to-air services
- Negative environmental impact
- Adoption of DAB+ slowed unnecessarily



#### Receiver regulation can transform the market



Bring benefits of DAB to mass audiences

Promote and preserve European content

Lower prices through economies of scale



#### EU members: free to introduce laws for consumer radios



- EECC allows members to have national laws on consumer receivers
- France and Italy already have laws
- Germany is adopting legislation



#### **Summary**

1 DAB established as core future platform for radio in Europe

2 EECC: helps drive DAB+ in car and at home

3 Make sure our governments take this opportunity



# Thank you

