



## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **Do I need to throw away my existing TV when Digital starts?**

No. You do not need to get rid of your existing analog TV. A Set-Top Box will allow you to continue using your existing analog TV set to watch digital broadcasts.

### **Do I need to Change my Aerial**

No, you do not need to change your aerial, especially when you are currently receiving a clear analogue picture. You will be able to receive digital TV with your standard aerial. You can have problems if you have been receiving a poor analogue signal, unfortunately for digital, there would be no poor picture on the screen, but just blackout. Installers would need to be engaged to assist if there is a problem of no signal reception.

### **What is a Set-top Box?**

It is a device that connects between an aerial and TV which converts a digital signal from the aerial so that it can be viewed on TV.

### **What is DVB-T?**

DVB-T – Digital Video Broadcasting Terrestrial; this is a standard for broadcasting Digital TV through an aerial.

### **What is DVB-S?**

DVB-S – Digital Video Broadcasting Satellite; This is a standard for broadcasting Digital TV through satellite.

### **What will happen to DSTV? Is it also going to switchover?**

The DSTV signal is already digital therefore the DSTV users will continue receiving their television signals. DSTV is an acronym for digital satellite television

### **What about the TV channels currently received using Phillibao or other free-to-air decoders)? Will they be affected by the digital switchover?**

Most of the channels received through those decoders such as the SABC channels are just spill over signals i.e. that is the transmission was not meant to cover Botswana, there is a likelihood

that the broadcasters of those programs may encrypt once they are digital and the users in Botswana may not be able to receive those channels.

**What if I don't like to change?**

The analogue broadcast would cease, but if you receive television through satellite you would continue to receive your basic television services, but you will lose out on the additional channels and data services.

**Does Digital Switchover affect my radio?**

No, introduction of Digital TV is not going to affect the FM analogue broadcast. However there are plans to implement Terrestrial Digital Audio Broadcasting (T-DAB), which will be a complementary service to FM.

**Is digital TV and High Definition Television the same thing?**

No, HDTV is a super sharp high quality TV. It displays pictures in a 16:9 aspect ratio (widescreen). This can be compared to a Standard Definition TV (SDTV) which has an aspect ratio of 4:3 and has a picture quality approximately equivalent to the current TV system. Both HDTV and SDTV can be broadcast through digital.

**How about my DVD player, VCR and Camcorder, would I be able to use them in Digital TV era?**

Yes, you do not need to change your existing TV set, therefore you will still be able to use these products. However you will not be able to record TV programmes on one channel while watching another channel.

**How much will it cost me?**

You do not need to change your TV set or your aerial; you will only need to purchase a set-top box.

**Would there be any monthly subscriptions?**

The free-to-air broadcasting stations such as BTV and GBC TV will continue to be received free of charge. However the stations may decide that additional new channels be received through a monthly subscription.