Jonathan Holmes to chair industry session on how to avoid Media Watch

Former host of the ABC’s “Media Watch”, Jonathan Holmes, is due to chair a session at the National Radio Conference in Brisbane on Friday 11 October, on how to avoid being featured on the program he presented from 2008 until July this year.

Mr Holmes will chair the session entitled “Avoiding Media Watch”, which will feature a panel of high-profile broadcast media lawyers; Michelle Davies (Fairfax), Sarah Tinsley (DMG) and Stuart Thomas (Network Ten, formerly Macquarie Radio Network). Having been one of Australia’s foremost media commentators, he will guide a discussion into how the radio industry can steer clear of pitfalls that affect broadcast media. The senior legal experts will answer questions posed by Mr Holmes, and offer views to delegates on how to steer clear of becoming the centre of a media storm or minimizing the impact.

Commercial Radio Australia chief executive officer, Joan Warner, said: “Sessions like this one are an excellent forum for discussion and debate amongst our members and we look forward to what Jonathan Holmes and the panel will bring to the conference.”

A new session at this year’s conference will be hosted by mUmbrella and Encore Editor-in-chief, Tim Burrowes. “mUmbrella Question Time”, is a quick fire question and answer session that will see radio advertising stakeholders quizzed on the big issues facing commercial radio.

Facing the questions will be ARN CEO Ciaran Davis, the head of outdoor, cinema and radio at media agency OMD, Jo Dick, media and agencies manager at McDonald’s, Helen Lecopoulos and creative director at ad agency Sapien Nitro, Ralph Barnett.

Also featuring at the National Radio Conference, Medaweek’s James Manning returns to interview a panel of radio CEOs. In a session called “Lifting the Lid on Regional Radio”. Kevin Blyton (Capital Radio Network), Guy Dobson (Southern Cross Austereo), Rowland Paterson (ACE Radio) and Glenn Wheatley (Mix FM & Sea FM on the Sunshine Coast) will be questioned on the challenges faced in regional markets, as well as what excites them about their smaller stations, plus their thoughts on digital radio and regional ratings.

Previously announced conference speakers include: online video sensation Natalie Tran, Today Network Drive host Jules Lund, Naked Communications’ Adam Ferrier, the man behind Hamish & Andy, Sam Cavanagh, 2014 radio ratings provider, GfK, plus leading US radio sales industry trainer, Pat Bryson.

The National Radio Conference will be staged this year in Brisbane, the day before the 25th annual Australian Commercial Radio Awards.

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