

# CMA Appoints Phil Sayer as New Chairman

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- >Former Reuters communications boss takes on top CMA role.
- >Focus is on making the organisation more inclusive for all communications professionals from throughout enterprise and the value chain.
- >Working closely with OFCOM to support the needs of the business user is a priority.

CMA today announced that it has appointed Phil Sayer as its new chairman from January 1st for a two year period. Replacing outgoing chairman Carolyn Kimber, Phil is set to ensure the organisation continues to be more inclusive to the entire communications community, representing business professionals from throughout the channel. At the same time he is intent on forging stronger relations with organisations such as OFCOM to represent the views and needs of the business user.

Sayer is now an independent telecoms consultant since he took early retirement from Reuters last year where he was the global head of telecoms for seven years. His work at Reuters saw him managing a telecoms budget of \$500m covering 100 countries.

As a member of CMA board since 2003 he represented the large corporate users. As part of this role he also liaised with the International Telecommunications Users Group (INTUG) on behalf of the CMA.

Speaking about his appointment, Phil said: "I am delighted to take on the chair at CMA. Carolyn was a very dynamic chairman and will be a hard act to follow.

"Last year was a good one for the CMA, with one or sometimes two events held each week. A key aim is to continue to look at the best way to use our resources to support members, and relevant events and activities form part of that support."

He continued: "Whilst we are firmly in the communications business, we want to get more professionals involved in the industry's main ICT membership organisation from new areas, such as IT, Information, Finance and Business Management where the communications role often now resides. We are also setting out to support consultants who have previously seen their jobs outsourced and to work with the new outsource organisations where many of the professionals now work.

"We also have to remember that the skills range of our existing and prospective members is far wider now, as responsibilities largely don't stop at the PBX. Their jobs now take in network management, security and IT integration. No longer are we just in the world of voice but in a converged world of data and applications"

One of Phil's key priorities as CMA chairman is to ensure that the UK Government continues to closely

monitor the broadband access market, where he feels the UK is still lagging behind.

Phil added: "The government may be impressed with over 4m broadband users with 512kbps access, but this has come around three years too late – other countries are leaving us behind. In countries like Japan and South Korea, users can enjoy 5 to 10mbps access for less than \$20 a month, so we have a long way to go."

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About Communications Management Association (CMA)

CMA is the premier association of communications professionals working within business user organisations. Its members are responsible for a combined direct annual spend on information and communications technologies of £11 billion.

More information can be found at <http://www.thecma.com>

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