

Red Bee to play out BBC HD TV trial

THE BBC has appointed multi-media company Red Bee Media – formerly BBC Broadcast – to play out the corporation's high definition (HD) technical trial, which launches this summer.

Red Bee will install a dedicated HD playout system in the trial, which will be transmitted from Broadcast Centre in west London.

The trial HD service will be broadcast for nine to 12 months on digital satellite and cable, and will be restricted to a closed group of around 400 viewers.

Programming will feature simulcasts of major events, which are likely to include the World Cup in Germany in June, and productions such as the forthcoming HD natural history series *Galapagos*.

Systems integration company Television Systems Ltd (TSL) has integrated Red Bee's new playout solution, which features Omneon HD servers and Probel HD mixers on its kit list.

The BBC initially announced plans for all its channels to be made and broadcast in HD by 2010 (*Broadcast*, 9.11.05).

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