

# Digital TV

*Did you know...*

- In early 2009, broadcast television will complete a transition from analog to digital technology?
- Digital television, or DTV, will provide an interference-free signal and make new services possible?
- If you own a traditional analog TV set, it may no longer work unless you take action?

**On February 17, 2009**, full-power analog television broadcasts will cease and many TV sets will no longer be able to receive over-the-air signals. That date will mark the completion of a transition to digital TV, or DTV, mandated by Congress.

DTV is advanced technology that allows broadcasters to provide higher quality pictures and sound, as well as advanced services such as transmission of multiple video streams or other data over a single channel. DTV also makes more efficient use of the airwaves, and the Federal Communications Commission will make the airwaves that are freed up by this transition available for advanced communications services for commercial and public safety use.

The transition to DTV is underway now, and it is not too early to start preparing.

## **How can I learn more?**

To learn more about DTV:

[www.dtv.gov](http://www.dtv.gov)  
888.835.5322

To learn more about the special  
converter box program:

[www.ntia.doc.gov/dtvcoupon](http://www.ntia.doc.gov/dtvcoupon)  
888.388.2009



[www.thinkpolar.com](http://www.thinkpolar.com)  
800.284.7222

# **A television revolution is underway - you may have to take action to continue watching your favorite shows**

## **How do I know if I'm ready for the DTV transition?**

If you subscribe to Polar Cablevision TV services, there is nothing for you to do except enjoy your favorite programming after the switch to digital TV (DTV). Polar will take care of the transition for you!

## **Will I still be able to use my analog television set?**

If you rely on an outside antenna or indoor "rabbit ears" to receive broadcasting signals through your analog television, you can use a digital-to-analog converter. If your analog television is connected to a set-top box provided by Polar, then you will need a separate converter.

## **How do I tell if I have an analog or digital television set?**

Since March 1, 2007, all new TV sets have been required to include a digital receiver. In addition, since May 25, 2007, retailers have been required by law to prominently label any analog-only TV remaining in stock.

If you have an older TV, you should check the labeling on the TV set or the manual that came with the TV to determine if it has a digital tuner. If you still are unable to determine what type of tuner you have, you should ask your electronics retailer or the manufacturer for information about your specific TV model.

## **What if I have a "Digital Ready" or "HDTV Ready" TV?**

These labels do not mean you have a digital receiver. You will likely need a separate set-top box with a tuner in order to view DTV programs.

## **How can I obtain a digital-to-analog converter?**

If you require digital-to-analog converters for your analog TV's, you may purchase them from your electronics retailer.

In order to assist you with the transition to DTV, Congress has established a program administered by the National Telecommunications and Information Administration to help with the purchase of converter boxes. Between January 1, 2008 and March 31, 2009, each US household is eligible to obtain up to two coupons worth \$40.00 each to be used towards the purchase of certain converters at participating retailers. You should not request your coupons until you are ready to buy your converters, since the coupons expire 90 days after they are issued.