

Alternative Broadband Platforms

Can They Compete with Fiber Optics? Where?

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Opinions contained herein are solely those of the author.

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The "Connected" Hierarchy

- Fiber is the Mercedes of the "modes"
 - Highest capacity
 - Reasonably immune to interference
 - Most costly to implement
- COAX is only a whisker less capable
- DSL (and BPL) trail in speed/capacity

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What About Wireless?

- Terrestrial Wireless is a suitable alternative when:
 - Cost is an issue
 - Speed of implementation is important
 - Neither fiber, cable, or copper are available
 - Capacity/distance needs are not outrageous
 - Portability/re-configurability is desirable
 - IX is non-existent/moderate; therefore tolerable
 - Full video services (e.g. cable or satellite like broadcast offerings) are not required

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Hybridization?

- Combination strategies could include wireless infrastructure as a market penetration tool
 - Wireless extension of existing fiber/copper/COAX investment
 - Wireless as a fill-in to complement DSL, cable, or fiber
 - Fiber installation as demand grows and business case permits
 - Iterate

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The Wireless Milieu

- Nomadcity and/or Mobility are strengths
- Speeds and Capacities are growing at a reasonable(?) pace
- Implementation Costs are favorable (assuming spectrum acquisition cost is negligible)
- Reach and Building Penetration can be both problematic and unpredictable

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Recent FCC Actions

- AWS/3G
- Secondary Markets
- 70/80/90
- UNII Expansion
- 3650
- Cognitive Radio
- TV Bands (Proposed)

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Is "One Wire" the Only Answer?

- Mesh Networks (Plus)
 - Begins with low cost data
 - Mesh + Voice?
 - Mesh + Voice + Satellite?
 - Disruptive Influence?

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Is "One Wire" the Answer?

- Mesh Networks (Plus)
 - Mesh + Voice?
 - Mesh + Voice + Satellite?
 - Disruptive Influence?
- Or, is the real answer "One Bill"?*

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Creative Combos (Mix and Match)

Voice

- LEC
- CLEC
- Cellular Co
- VOIP Co
-
-

Data

- ISP
- WISP
- DLEC
- BLEC
- BPL Co
-
-

Video

- Cable Co
- DBS
- LMDS
- MVDS
-
-

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Wireless Futures

(Since we already have the "Dick Tracy" watch)

- 4G AWS
 - 1 Gbps fixed
 - 100 Mbps mobile
 - Before 2015?
- Implantology?
- Mental Telepathy?

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Questions and Comments

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