

# LightPointe's Optical Wireless System Connects New School University's Buildings

By BBP Staff

**New York** – Manhattan-based New School University has installed 13 high-speed LightPointe optical wireless links to connect eight academic and administrative buildings. They provide up to 1 Gbps, replacing a six-year-old 10 Mbps radio frequency (RF) network that had been overwhelmed. Richard Burger, network project manager for New School University, said 100 Mbps RF was too expensive, and laying fiber-optic cable between buildings

was out of the question because trenching Manhattan's Fifth Avenue was impossible. The only fiber-based alternative from a local service provider came with high costs and a long-term lease commitment of \$10,500 a month to connect five of the university's buildings.

Burger first tested a 100-Mbps optical wireless link from LightPointe. "It was a 'no brainer' to sell the concept and even easier to install a series of

LightPointe optical wireless products," Burger said.

The university eventually installed an additional 100 Mbps link and five 1 Gbps links while keeping the old 10 Mbps RF units for redundancy. Those, too, were ultimately replaced with secondary optical wireless paths

Burger said, "We've achieved an outstanding nine-month return on investment." For project details, see [www.lightpointe.com](http://www.lightpointe.com). ♦

## Getting Crowded: Some Major FSO Vendors

BridgeWave Communications, [www.bridgewave.com](http://www.bridgewave.com)  
 CableFree Solutions, [www.cablefreesolutions.com](http://www.cablefreesolutions.com)  
 Canon, [www.canobeam.com](http://www.canobeam.com)  
 CBL, [www.cbl.de/englisch/index.php](http://www.cbl.de/englisch/index.php)  
 Corning Cable Systems, [www.corningcablesystems.com](http://www.corningcablesystems.com)  
 Crinis Networks, [www.crinisnetworks.com](http://www.crinisnetworks.com)  
 Dominion Lasercom, [www.dominionlaser.com](http://www.dominionlaser.com)  
 DragonWave, [www.dragonwaveinc.com](http://www.dragonwaveinc.com)  
 FSONA Optical Wireless, [www.fsona.com](http://www.fsona.com) (see also [www.free-space-optics.org](http://www.free-space-optics.org))  
 IRLan, [www.irlan.co.il](http://www.irlan.co.il)  
 LaserBit, [www.laserbit.net](http://www.laserbit.net)  
 LightPointe, [www.lightpointe.com](http://www.lightpointe.com)  
 MRV Communications, [www.mrv.com](http://www.mrv.com)  
 Omnilux, [www.omnilux.net](http://www.omnilux.net)  
 Plaintree Systems, [www.plaintree.com](http://www.plaintree.com)  
 Terabeam, [www.terabeam.com](http://www.terabeam.com)

## Other Recent FSO Uses

The International Speedway Corporation uses Canobeam units at temporary motor sports venues to provide journalists with Internet access and NASCAR drivers with weather data.

Omnispring LLC, a major broadband and Internet services provider in Florida, installed Canobeam FSO to deliver high-speed commercial bandwidth that stayed "on air" last fall through three hurricanes.

# FCC's Broadcast Flag for HDTV Overturned

From BBP Wires

**Washington, DC** – The United States Circuit Court of Appeals overturned the FCC's "HDTV broadcast flag" regulations on May 5. The "flag" is designed to keep viewers from re-transmitting HDTV programming over the Internet, but it would also make it difficult or impossible for users to transmit digital programming within their own homes. That's a use specifically allowed under the Millennium Digital Copyright Act.

Under the rules, manufacturers of digital HDTV television equipment would have had to include software that "senses" the flag by July 1. Many manufacturers, including RCA, already do. Sharp and Philips plan to by July 1, and have not changed their plans.

Programming owners, especially major Hollywood studios and syndicators, worry that the market for syndicated content would disappear due to widespread

copying and illicit distribution unless a flag rule is imposed. They vow to ask Congress to order the flag, and to appeal the latest decision to the US Supreme Court.

Under the FCC rule, the flag only comes into play when HDTV is digitally recorded. If the recording is done in lower-definition analog and then re-digited, the flag would not be included in the program file. ♦

## Vonage Contracts with Verizon, Intrado To Form Nomadic VoIP E9-1-1 Service

From BBP Wires

**Edison, NJ** – Vonage Holdings Corp, the leading VoIP provider, has announced an agreement with Verizon and Intrado to access elements of the wireless and wireline Enhanced 9-1-1 network to offer its customers E9-1-1 service. Under the agreement, Vonage will be able to deliver both caller's location and callback number to emergency services personnel for 911 calls placed throughout Verizon's territory. Verizon is the first ILEC to work closely with any nomadic VoIP service.


Jeffrey A. Citron, Vonage's CEO, said "Unlike other ILECs, Verizon has not recommended Vonage use a CLEC for call delivery, as they recognize the significant limitations of this solution,


as it does not accommodate for mobile customers or VoIP users on non-local phone numbers. It is important that all Vonage customers can use this solution, those with native phone numbers and those who chose phone numbers from other areas."

Over the next six months as the system is phased in, when Vonage customers dial 9-1-1, the call is routed to Vonage's 9-1-1 server using the standard SIP protocol. The Vonage server then queries Vonage's technology partner, Intrado, for routing instructions. The call is then directed to the media gateway connection to the Verizon network, over a dedicated physical circuit connected directly to Verizon's selective router serving the Public Safety

Answering Point ("PSAP"). At the same time, Intrado places the customer's address and telephone number into the Automatic Location Information (ALI) database. The supplementary special key unique to the call is included in signaling, and allows the PSAP 9-1-1 operator to pull the customer's address and phone number from the ALI database.

Verizon has agreed to perform all necessary modifications and translations to the network elements in each PSAP service area that bundle the ALI and selective routing infrastructure. The proposed solution is compliant with the National Emergency Number Association's proposed NENA I2 technical standard. ♦

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<b>Performance</b>	Ethernet	Sub-Ethernet, asymmetrical	Ethernet
<b>Active CPE</b>	None	Yes	None

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## PON Equipment Sales Hit \$525M in 2004; Revenue Should Triple by 2008

From BBP Wires

**San Jose, Calif.** -- Worldwide OLT and ONT PON equipment revenue hit \$525 million in 2004, and is projected to grow to \$2.2 billion in 2008, with port shipments reaching over 8 million, according to Infonetics Research's biannual market share and forecast report, *PON Equipment*.

"Asia is the major action point for PON, accounting for 93 percent of worldwide PON subscribers, which topped 1.4 million in 2004, and are expected to grow to almost 22 million worldwide in 2008 as the broadband boom continues," said Michael Howard, principal analyst of Infonetics Research. "North America accounts

for just 6 percent of total PON subscribers now, but will grow to 23 percent by 2008. Asia took in 76 percent of worldwide PON revenue in 2004, followed by North America with 20 percent. We project that in 2008, Asia Pacific will make up 39 percent of worldwide PON revenue, North America 43 percent."

The battle between BPON and EPON continues, with BPON currently making up 84 percent of all PON subscribers in Asia in 2004. However, EPON is being rolled out so fast in market-leading Japan that it will overtake Japan's BPON subscriber base in 2005. NTT East and NTT West together have over a million

subscribers, more than two-thirds of the world's PON subscribers. These providers are now switching to Gigabit Ethernet PON (GEAPON, a form of EPON) almost exclusively.

BPON is the PON technology gorilla in North America, making up 81 percent of North American PON revenue in 2004, and will continue its reign through 2006 when its successor, GPON, becomes more available. GPON is a flexible option for providers because it is designed to handle Ethernet, IP, and ATM traffic, and can stream video over IP or a separate analog wavelength. GPON offers roughly twice the capacity of EPON.

EPON is firmly entrenched in much of Asia, but GPON is gaining momentum in North America, Europe, and several Asian countries, with China a good possibility, where analog video is an issue. By 2008, North America will account for 43 percent of worldwide PON revenue (where GPON dominates), and Asia will account for 39 percent of worldwide revenue (where EPON dominates).

Infonetics Research ([www.infonetics.com](http://www.infonetics.com)) is an international market research and consulting firm covering the data networking and telecommunications industries.

The PON Equipment report tracks BPON, EPON, and GPON equipment used in FTTH and FTTB applications, including both OLTs and ONTs, and includes market share for worldwide and regional total PON, and worldwide BPON and EPON. Forecasts and market share are updated biannually and cover all regions (worldwide, North America, EMEA, Asia Pacific, CALA). For the table of contents and prospectus, see [www.info.infonetics.com](http://www.info.infonetics.com). ♦

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3. CAM-101 One Cable Solution Security Camera
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5. Launch Amplifier for Cascade System: DP-33, DSS-44

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## DF Countryman and Multilet Ink Pact

From BBP Wires

**Minneapolis** – Multilet has added DF Countryman to its list of stocking distributors for the company's solution for Internet access within MDUs using existing coax infrastructure.

The move underlines Multilet's interest in the US market. "Multilet is very well suited to small and medium sized properties," says Rick

Countryman, President of DF Countryman.

DF Countryman is an "old line" firm, in business since 1959. More information can be found on its Web site at [www.dfcco.com](http://www.dfcco.com).

Multilet is a wholly owned subsidiary of Macab AB, a firm well known for a wide range of products for MDU, CATV and SMATV ap-

plications. The Multilet equipment is a system for the distribution of broadband services within and between residential buildings.

It uses the buildings' existing wiring infrastructure and overlays a new network with Ethernet. More information can be found on its North American Web site, at [www.multilet.us](http://www.multilet.us). ♦

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