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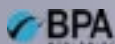
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# Fiber-Connected And Future-Proof

## Laying the Foundation for Growth



Check out the blogs on our website  
by Carl Kandutsch and James Hettrick. [bbpmag.com](http://bbpmag.com)

Many voices endorse Fiber-to-the-Home in this issue, including two vastly different telecommunications outfits. One is powerhouse Verizon, which will pass six million homes with fiber by year's end – double its year-end 2005 level. Verizon is bringing its FiOS fiber network to nearly 800 communities in 16 states, as CEO Ivan Seidenberg points out on page 16. In striking contrast in terms of size is Columbus Telephone, featured on page 62. An inspiring example of farsighted decision-making, CTC has one of the smallest footprints of any telco in the country.

My point: Simply that FTTH is the infrastructure of choice, across all market segments. The dramatic trend is confirmed in our FTTH growth update, page 14.

That is great news for us. Our driving motivation is to deliver useful information about the next-generation networks to meet the needs of consumers in the decades to come. As far into the future as any knowledgeable person can see, that means FTTH. The Fiber-to-the-Home Council summed up the value and promise of FTTH in a recent filing before the Federal Communications Commission. As the document puts it:

Networks providing next-generation broadband “will lay the foundation for entirely new businesses and industries.” The filing states the facts that lie at the core of our editorial mission – facts that while familiar to some merit continual reiteration until they are an integral part of our public policy and our society’s economic and technological reasoning:

“FTTH networks provide the most advanced next-generation network capability because: (1) the inherent, virtually unlimited capacity of optical fiber makes

the network relatively ‘future-proof’; (2) they uniquely enable two-way interactive broadband communications, which is limited in other media by asymmetric characteristics; (3) all-optical networks are the most secure access network alternative; and (4) the operational costs of all-optical networks are most favorable.”

One part of our mission is highlighting the cornucopia of benefits these networks will deliver over time. A first step in that direction is the groundbreaking report by economist Robert E. Litan on page 24 – “Broadband for Seniors and Disabled.” Litan projects nearly \$1 trillion in savings just by accelerating fiber by 10 years.

The economic benefits of fiber networks are just one facet of the information on FTTH that readers will find in our pages. Our aim is to cover the field of FTTH with passion, enthusiasm, ever-growing expertise, originality, commitment, public spiritedness – and a measure of humility. To underscore that, we have changed the line on our cover to read, Building The Fiber-Connected Community – replacing the Ultra-Connected Community. As we have focused on fiber, our growth in new subscribers in 18 months has soared by 330 percent. We’re on the right track.

To those who protest that FTTH is too circumscribed, I would reply that of course we will write about wireless – in its proper perspective as a supplement to fiber. But to concentrate on everything is to concentrate on nothing. There is an expanding universe of FTTH information that must be covered, and we intend to do that job as well as it can be done.

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