

## Latest Fiber-to-the-Home Deployments

By Masha Zager, BBP Telecom Editor

### Verizon Communications

(www.verizon.com) continues to move ahead with its massive fiber-to-the-premises project, deploying FiOS high-speed Internet service in Gresham, Oregon, and Wilmington, Massachusetts.

Verizon reported that, on average, it is winning 12 percent of Internet customers within nine months of entering a new market with FiOS. A total of 375,000 customers now subscribe to FiOS Internet service.

Verizon also continues to deploy its FiOS TV service, which often lags behind phone and Internet service due to cable franchising requirements. The company announced that its video franchises now cover 3 million households in nine states. In the last month, franchises were awarded in two localities in New York State and nine in Pennsylvania, and Verizon expanded FiOS TV availability to 34,000 households in Florida and 57,000 households in Texas. Verizon also introduced a multi-room DVR for its FiOS TV customers. The new Home Media DVR enables up to three simultaneous viewings of recorded programs without elaborate home networking.

Verizon wasn't the only RBOC with fiber-to-the-home news this month. Qwest (www.qwest.com) will be building a FTTH network in Windgate Ranch, a new master-planned community of single-family homes being developed by Toll Brothers Homes in Scottsdale, Arizona. Homeowners will be offered Internet access up to 10

Mbps, voice, and digital TV service with high-definition programming and DVRs, along with Qwest wireless service.

Municipal fiber is alive and well in **Philippi, West Virginia**, where the city has installed a new fiber-to-the-premises network, using equipment from **Motorola** (www.motorola.com) and **Preformed Line Products** (www.preformed.com). The network, which was installed by **Cable Constructors, Inc.** (www.cableconstructors.com), connects local government agencies, businesses, schools and homes and will provide high-speed Internet access, broadcast services, and video on demand to residents of the city and outlying areas. The deployment will also provide broadband access to county agencies such as law enforcement and 911 emergency services, and give citizens digital access to televised city council meetings and other town events.

**UTOPIA**, an open-access broadband network operated by a consortium of 14 Utah cities, has received \$66 million in funding from the US Department of Agriculture's Rural Development Telecommunications Program. The funding will help the consortium finish building out its FTTP network, which is currently being installed in several cities.

A pioneering municipal utility, **Cedar Falls Utilities**, has contracted with the developers of the 720-acre **Pinnacle Prairie** master-planned development in Cedar Falls, Iowa, to build a fiber-to-the-premises

network and deliver Internet and video services to homes and businesses there. Pinnacle Prairie will pay an upfront fee for CFU's capital costs, which will be repaid as customers sign on for services.

The **Lafayette Utilities System**, also a municipal utility, suffered another legal setback in its bid to deploy FTTH in Lafayette, Louisiana. But even before being built, LUS's fiber network is having a positive effect on the local economy. **NuComm International**, a Canadian outsourcer, has chosen Lafayette, Louisiana as the site of its largest customer contact center. The new site, scheduled to open for business this month, is poised to create up to 1,000 new contact center jobs for area residents, with a total economic impact of \$115 million. NuComm CEO Réal Bergevin was quoted as saying that local technological developments, including the FTTH project, made Lafayette a good place for NuComm to do business.

Several other municipalities are now looking at citywide fiber plans. The City Council in **Berkeley, California**, has directed the city IT director to consider FTTH in the next draft of the municipal network plan, which had previously encompassed only wireless broadband. **San Francisco** also held a community meeting last month to receive public input on a fiber-to-the-premises feasibility study. Two new projects were announced in Scandinavia, which has one of the highest broadband connection rates in the world.

In Finland, **TeliaSonera Finland** ([www.teliasonera.com](http://www.teliasonera.com)) launched broadband services with speeds up to 100 Mbps in the greater Helsinki area and in Tampere. In addition to Internet access, TeliaSonera is providing video on demand and a music service. In Sweden, service provider **Thalamus Networks** ([www.thalamus.se](http://www.thalamus.se)) said its subsidiary, **Fiberdata Integration**, has received a contract to deliver and install a GPON network for Swedish regional cable company **Koping Kabel-TV**. Koping will deliver triple-play services over the network.

Dutch property manager **Stadswonen** ([www.stadswonen.nl/en](http://www.stadswonen.nl/en)) has launched an open FTTH network in Rotterdam for about 5,500 homes, mainly serving the student housing and first-time buyer

markets. The initiative is managed by Telecom Italia subsidiary **BBNed** ([www.bbned.nl/content/english.shtml](http://www.bbned.nl/content/english.shtml)).

The first FTTH project in New Zealand was announced by developer **Peter Yealands**, who is installing a 1 Gbps FTTH network in the new **Pelorus Sound** development near Havelock and offering residents telephone, Internet access, television and security services. The system is being built by **ThePacific.net** ([www.thepacific.net](http://www.thepacific.net)), the company that provides broadband services and videoconferencing facilities to most of the schools in the region.

**Xittel Telecommunications** has become the first broadband ISP to deploy high-speed Internet

services to five rural communities in Quebec, Canada. The Quebec government had funded of this broadband initiative, known as “Broadband Villages,” as an important deployment of fiber in these rural communities. Successive investments by Xittel with newer technologies from Motorola far exceed, both in speed and reliability, existing WiFi services. In addition, these newer technologies will give Xittel the flexibility to offer VoIP services too complex to deploy with WiFi. “We started from scratch and within weeks we had over a hundred subscribers,” said Robert Proulx of Xittel. “Equally encouraging is the fact that these communities, for the most part, number no more than several hundred households to begin with. Yet the economics for our business case make perfect sense!”

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## Iamba Raises Financing for GPON Solution

From BBP Wires

**CUPERTINO, CA** – Iamba ([www.iamba.com](http://www.iamba.com)), a developer of components and system solutions for the fiber-to-the-premises market,

raised \$8 million in its second financing round from both existing and new investors. The company currently sells system-on-chips

for FTTP systems and licenses its designs for other components. It is attempting to bring out a complete GPON end-to-end solution.

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## Novera Optics Announces 20 Gbps PON

From BBP Wires

**SANTA CLARA, CA** – Novera Optics ([www.noveraoptics.com](http://www.noveraoptics.com)) debuted its TurboLIGHT16 as the first passive optical network (PON) system to deliver 20 Gbps of symmetrical bandwidth over a single feeder fiber. The TurboLIGHT, which is a dense wavelength division multiplexing (DWDM) fiber-to-the-x

(FTTx) optical access transport platform, eliminates the need for expensive wavelength-specific optical network terminals at the customer premises and eliminates problems of bandwidth sharing, bandwidth upgrades, and mixed-service delivery over a PON. The new platform carries 16 data streams of 1.25 Gbps each, using

32 independent wavelengths. It supports multiple protocols and multiple data rates, from 125 Mbps to 1.25 Gbps, on the same platform. This allows the fiber to carry a wide range of different, dedicated services. Novera Optics calls the platform “the perfect fit for backhaul applications in the access network.”

## Handheld FTTx Tester from Lightwaves2020

From BBP Wires

MILPITAS, CA – Lightwaves2020 (www.lightwaves2020.com) announced its J<sup>2</sup>waves 2011 multi-

functional meter, designed for uses that include network installation, network monitoring and FTTx testing. The

power meter is suitable for both single mode and multimode applications, and is hardy enough for use in the field.

## Fujitsu Integrates Terawave GPON Technology

From BBP Wires

BIRMINGHAM, UK – Fujitsu Telecommunications Europe (www.ftel.co.uk) announced that it is integrating GPON technology from Terawave (www.terawave.com) into Fujitsu's GeoStream Access Gateway MSAN platform and network management solutions for the European market.

The partnership includes Terawave's optical line terminals (central office equipment) and optical network terminals (customer premises equipment) for homes, multi-dwelling units and businesses. Future products are also covered by the agreement. The integration of Terawave's technology

into Fujitsu's Network Management System will enable Fujitsu to offer fully managed solutions. Fujitsu's global broadband access portfolio also includes the FLASHWAVE 6100 GPON platform in North America and GEAPON platform for the Asian market.

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