

Alma Communications of Alma, Missouri (www.almanet.net), **Rockwell Cooperative Telephone Association** of Rockwell, Iowa (www.rockwellcoop.com), **Highland Telephone Cooperative** of Monterey, Virginia (www.htcnet.org), **Great Plains Communications** of Blair, Nebraska (www.gpcom.com) and several other independent telcos are in various stages of implementing Telstrat's Intelleflex 2.4 GPON fiber-to-the-home system, which was released at the end of 2006. Highland's engineering manager, Jake Diden, comments, "We're already planning to offer higher data speeds and HDTV services. We don't know right now what we'll encounter as far as future demands, but we think this move to 2.4 GPON positions us to be ready for just about any need our customers might have."

For its most recent fiber-to-the-home project in Rice, Minnesota, **Benton Cooperative Telephone Company** (www.bctelco.net) has chosen Minneapolis-based DF Countryman to supply Alloptic's Micronode line of fiber transceivers. Benton chose Alloptic's GePON solution based on lower implementation costs and faster rollout of services. The company will deliver voice, video and data services over the new network.

Horizon Chillicothe Telephone Company (www.horizontel.com), which has provided telephone service to southern Ohio since 1895, is looking forward to launching IPTV and GPON. The company recently selected ADTRAN's Total Access 5000 Multi-Service Access and Aggregation Platform for deployment in its network because of the equipment's support for both legacy services and new services in a platform that scales to support bandwidth-intensive applications.

Local Internet Service Company (LISCO, www.lisco.com), a CLEC serving the Fairfield, Iowa area, has begun purchasing Occam Networks' BLC 6000 fiber products to overbuild Fairfield with fiber to the home. LISCO purchased Occam's 6312 Optical Line Termination blades and 6314s 10GigE Optical Packet Transport and Optical Line Termination blades to build an Active Ethernet network. When the buildout is complete, LISCO will be able to offer the triple play of voice, data and video to approximately 4,000 residential subscribers.

Lance Yedersberger, president of LISCO, says, "We believe Active Ethernet is the optimal technology in terms of stability and flexibility to offer new, advanced broadband services to our subscribers. *Our goal is to empower our community to compete in the global marketplace. We understand that in countries like Japan and Korea, broadband speeds of 100 Mbps are standard. LISCO intends to make this speed the basic service offering in Fairfield. We would like those companies developing the next generation of Internet applications to think of Fairfield as a place to test their advanced products.*"

Long Lines (www.longlines.com), an independent operating company serving more than 100 communities in Iowa, Nebraska and South Dakota, is deploying a fiber-to-the-premises network as a competitive overbuild in South Sioux City, Nebraska, using equipment supplied by Wave7 Optics and EMBARQ Logistics. EMBARQ Logistics is managing the project, which features Wave7 Optics' Trident7 Optical Access Platform configured for GePON. (The Trident7 can deliver both GePON and GPON technologies simultaneously from one chassis.) The complete solution includes RF video headend equipment and set-top boxes from Scientific Atlanta, a voice switching solution from Nortel and an IP digital terminal from General Bandwidth. The company's services, which debuted in May, include voice, data and RF video, including Wave7 Optics' RF return.

NTELOS (www.ntelos.com), a Virginia ILEC, is deploying the new GPON features on the Tellabs 1150 multiservice access platform to deliver four times more bandwidth to its customers. The additional bandwidth will enable NTELOS to deliver high-definition video services and faster data services.

Optical Entertainment Network (www.fision.net), which provides triple-play services over FTTH in the Houston area, has entered into an agreement to purchase a portion of Eagle Broadband's fiber network in Harris County and Fort Bend County, Texas. OEN says the purchase will allow OEN to expand its FISION service within these communities and widen its footprint to other nearby neighborhoods.

PAXIO (www.paxio.com), a CLEC in California, announced that it has joined the Corning Connected Community Program. PAXIO, which deploys first-mile fiber networks to residential communities and commercial centers, is the program's newest "aggregator" member and will extend its membership benefits to the home developers with which it works. Corning Cable Systems will provide PAXIO with its FTTH products and services, and will help educate potential PAXIO customers on the benefits of FTTH and the Corning Connected Community Program.

Surewest Communications (www.surewest.com), a California telco that was one of the earliest companies to deploy FTTH and IPTV, has chosen Widevine to protect its IPTV services. Widevine's solution secures content delivered to set-top boxes, PCs, PVRs and mobile devices. Surewest has over 20,000 FTTH subscribers and reported in its most recent quarterly earnings report that it was continuing to add homes to the fiber network and that penetration rates were continuing to increase.

Vendor Spotlight:

ADTRAN	www.adtran.com
Alloptic	www.alloptic.com
Corning Cable Systems	www.corningcablesystems.com
DF Countryman	www.dfcco.com
EMBARQ Logistics	www.embarqlogistics.com
General Bandwidth	www.genband.com
Nortel	www.nortel.com
Occam Networks	www.occamnetworks.com
Scientific Atlanta	www.scientificatlanta.com
Tellabs	www.tellabs.com
Telstrat	www.telstrat.com
Wave7 Optics	www.wave7optics.com
Widevine	www.widevine.com

CORRECTION: In the March issue of the Independent Telco News Roundup, the item on Optical Entertainment Network's launch of its FISION product should have stated that the network is based on PacketFront's Active Ethernet equipment.