Broadband Wireless Access Technologies and Applications

Dr. Patrick Perini

Qwest

Emerging Technologies

International Symposium on Advanced Radio Technologies



- The Wired Network
- Wireless Access Technologies
- Wireless Trials
- ILEC perspectives
- Broadband Wireless Applications
- Summary



The Wired Network





Hi-Cap Services - Terrestrial

- Markets Large to Medium size businesses
- Products OC3 and DS3 Data Services
- Spectrum 20-40GHz worldwide or Wireless Optics
- Major Players Winstar, Teligent, Nextlink , ART

Air Fiber, TerraBeam

Current Technologies - Point to Point/Multipoint

Strengths: Low installation costs, re-usable

Weaknesses: LOS, Roof costs, Links too short

Future Technologies - Mesh Networks (MP2MP)



Hi-Cap Services - Satellite

- Markets Large to Medium Businesses/Residential
- Products Fractional DS3/DS1 Data Services/TV
- Players Astrolink, Spaceway, SkyBridge, Teledesic, Hughes & Gilat, DBS: Echostar, DirectTV
- Current Technologies LEO, GEO, VSAT, DBS
 - Strengths:Large coverage area, Rural coverage,
Wide downstream bandwidth,
Broadcast services
 - Weaknesses: High Latency in GEOs, Satellite complexity in LEOs, Sat lifetime 7-15 years, CPE costs, Installation

Fixed High Speed Access - Terrestrial

- Markets Small Business, SOHO, Residential
- Products T1 Data, Fast Internet Access, Telephony, TV
- Players Sprint, American Telecasting, CAI Wireless, AT&T, MCI Worldcom, United Online,...
- Current Technologies MMDS, Unlicen. (2.4, 5.8 GHz)
 - Strengths: Longer Links, Flexible Architecture, Low Entry Costs - Unlicensed Bands, Fast Deployment for High Speed Internet Access
 - Weaknesses: LOS typically required, External Antenna Installation on home, Frequency Re-Use, Interference Management, Backhaul \$ ride the light

Fixed Ultra High Speed Access - Terrestrial

- Markets Small Business, SOHO, Residential
- Products Ultra High Speed Data, Telephony, TV
- Players Qwest, Korea Telecom, BT, France Telecom
- Current Technologies VDSL (22 Mbps down, 3Mbps up)
 Strengths: Uses existing Copper, Supports voice/data/video
 Weaknesses: 4000 ft. reach, Requires OC3/12 backhaul



Home RF Networking

- Markets Small Business, SOHO, Residential
- Products Wireless LAN, Home Gateways, Portables
- Players Aironet, WiLAN, Proxim, NEC
- Current Technologies 2.4GHz/802.11, 64GHz/IEEE1394
 - **Strengths:** Avoids Rewiring homes, Multiple clients, Portability, Access sharing, Flexible reconfiguration of home LAN
 - Weaknesses: High Costs, Lack of security, Not all voice/data/video services supported
- Future Technologies Home Gateway/Distribution



Wireless Access Trials

LMDS Trials - Vladan Jevremovic

Boulder Technical Trial (Nov. 16-20, 1998)

31GHz / B-block, 1.85 mile link

Spectralink SP1000, Point to Point, 10MHz / 8T1

Examine: Fade Margin, Cross Polarization Isolation, T1 Loopback BER, XDSL Interoperability, Voice, Data

Front Range Customer Trial (10/99 - 3/00)

31GHz / B-block, 6 mile link, Spectralink SP1000

Held Order - No Fiber, Needed Voice & Data Services

99.98% reliability / 1.75 hours of outage per year

No customer complaint logged during trial



Wireless Access Trials

Optical Trials - Thomas Schwengler

• Lucent Visit (Oct, 1999)

Multibeam (4Tx & 1Rx), 1550nm, 2.5Gbps Low BER (10⁻¹² observed) , 100% BER in Fog

Long Range Lightpoint Trial (1/00 - present)

Long Range Link - 1.85 miles, Walnut CO - Adv. Tech.

Multibeam (2Tx & 4Rx), 850nm, OC-3/OC-12, Comm Available

• Short Range Lightpoint Trial (7/00 - present)

Link < 1mile, Low BER (10^{-12} observed in clear weather)

Single Beam, 850 nm, DS-3/OC-3/OC-12, Comm Available

Gigabit Ethernet Trial (9/00)

Wireless Access Trials

Fixed Wireless Internet Access - WBU

- Adaptive Broadband Technical Trial
 - 5.8GHz Unlicensed UN-II band
 - **TDMA TDD Technology**, 3-6 sectors per Base Station
 - 17.5 MHz channel per sector = 20 Mbps/Sector
 - **Subscriber Unit Outside Home LOS to Access Point**
 - Tested Interference Susceptibility, Spectral Emission, Application tests, Network stability, EMS beta testing
 - **Application High Speed Internet Access (W-DSL)**
 - **Friendly Customers Trial**

ILEC Perspectives

- Broadband Wireless Access Equipment Costs are not driving the business case costs
- Re-occurring Roof leases, operations costs and CPE Installation costs are the business case cost drivers
- Self installation, and plug and play hardware is critical
- Reliability of Wireless Access Technologies < Fiber when considering all weather conditions
- Optical links and Microwave links are complimentary and can provide high reliability when used together
- New Access Technologies are expensive to scale into large ILEC provisioning systems



ILEC Perspectives

- In Region New Revenues only from data services (No Long Distance revenues, Local Voice not new revenue)
- Excellent for CLEC out of region play in small markets
- Will bring fiber further out and closer to the home; Wireless can help with last mile solutions (e.g. DSL reach extension & gap fill strategy)
- Need wireless access technologies that will support the next generation services (VoIP, VPNs)
- Need network integration and product interoperability
- Need technology to mitigate LOS requirements/cost
- Need residential and SOHO broadband wireless access that looks like DSL service to our customers ride the light

Broadband Wireless Applications

- Applications care about layers 3-5 (Not Layer 1)
- The "Killer" Applications:

Residential - Fast Internet, Voice, Television

Business - Data, PBX, VConf, VPNs, ASPs, Web hosting

• Emerging Technologies:

Voice/Video over IP - (MPLS, Diffserv, IPv6)

Mobile IP

Gigabit Ethernet

Passive Optical Network

Optical switching





- Wired access technologies have a wireless equivalent
- CLECs well suited to implementing Broadband Wireless in areas where competition is weak & service lacking
- ILECs concerned about scaling and integration
- DS1-DS3 data is moving toward edges of network
- Wireless access networks can and will connect to core fiber networks (Mobility and Portability increase access)
- Application compatibility with Layer 3 and up are critical to successful services