



Thursday, February 7, 2019

## MCTV's Excellerate Aerial Build Is Complete In Northeast Ohio

**MASSILLON, Ohio** – MCTV, a leading Internet, TV and phone provider across eight counties in Ohio, is excited to announce that the aerial build for its Excellerate network is complete. MCTV launched the project in June, 2017 to be one of the first cable TV operators to bring PON-based fiber-to-the-home technology in northeast Ohio.



Planning for Excellerate began in 2016 as MCTV began investigating network upgrades in order to keep pace with ever-increasing consumer demand for more bandwidth. MCTV selected a Passive Optical Network (PON) on which to build Excellerate. PON utilizes a point-to-multipoint fiber architecture with a fiber being shared between approximately 32 homes.

“We chose PON technology for several reasons,” MCTV President Robert Gessner said. “By building out our already robust fiber network, we will be able to keep pace with consumer demand by making upgrades in the future without expensive system rebuilds. PON also requires less equipment in the field, which means fewer points of failure. This, in turn, means a reliable experience for customers.”

Since work began in 2017, more than 1,200 miles of fiber have been constructed. MCTV's in-house teams have done the majority of the work, along with the help of a few outside construction contractors.

“Our guys came to us early in the process and said ‘we can build this ourselves,’” MCTV Vice President Katherine Gessner said. “We said ‘go for it’ and they tackled it head on. They have spent thousands of hours envisioning, researching, building, splicing and activating the Excellerate network and we couldn't be prouder of them.” [Read more](#)

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## Shentel Announces Launch Of 1 Gig Internet In Virginia Markets



Shentel announced the official launch of 1 Gig Internet in its Virginia markets. The 1 Gig package is the highlight of Shentel's new PowerHouse high-speed Internet offerings, which are revamped with Over-The-Top (OTT) users and homes with multi-device use in mind. PowerHouse offers the Internet speeds families need with a price that is more affordable than ever.

"The PowerHouse packages are a direct result of listening to our customers," said Willy Pirtle, Senior Vice President of Sales and Marketing at Shentel. "These packages offer our customers more speed, flexibility and bandwidth, at a reasonable price."

Shentel PowerHouse has four Internet speed options – 50M, 150M, 300M and 1G. The range of slower Internet speeds once offered by Shentel will gradually be eliminated, though customers with those speeds will be grandfathered in. Shentel is promoting both the benefits and availability of high-speed Internet to current and potential customers in an effort to break down the barriers of distance and time created by geographic challenges. [Read more.](#)

Source: Press Release | Jan. 30, 2019

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## Vyve Broadband Announces Launch Of 200 Megabit Broadband Service In Mena, Ark.

**Mena, Ark** - Vyve Broadband's mission is to level the playing field by providing rural communities with access to the same world-class broadband services typically found in big cities across the country. Vyve has taken the next step in that mission with the launch of 200 Megabit-per-second Internet service and an upgraded all-digital HD TV platform to customers in Mena, Ark., an offering unavailable from any other provider in the area.



The local Vyve team completed successful testing of 200 Mbps service, and it is now available to local residents and businesses in Mena. The boost to 'Vyve 200' quadruples Vyve's previous Internet speed offerings in the area. Residents with multiple connected devices such as smartphones, security cameras, video doorbells, and gaming systems will be able to run their devices concurrently.

"We're thrilled to be able to bring even faster Internet speeds and Vyve XSTREAM TV service to the Mena community," said Dave Harwood, General Manager for Vyve across West Arkansas. "As folks continue to fill their homes with WiFi devices and their time



## ACA Tweets About Members' Broadband Deployments



**Matthew M. Polka** @MATT... · 5d

So proud of @AmericanCable Mbrs like @HORIZONCABLE that are #BroadbandForward for their customers and communities. #WeConnect MMP [ptreyeslight.com/article/planni...](http://ptreyeslight.com/article/planni...) Planning for broadband, Horizon drills under lagoon via @PointReyesLight



**Horizon Cable:**  
Golden State Broadband Means  
Drilling Under A Lagoon



**Ted Hearn**  
@TedatACA

This Crew Is Good: MCTV's Excellerate Aerial Build Is Complete, Advanced Fiber-To-The-Home Internet Service Construction Ahead Of Schedule | @MCTVOhio [bit.ly/2Sb6hMn](http://bit.ly/2Sb6hMn)



**MCTV:**  
Fiber-To-The-Home Ahead Of  
Schedule



## ACA Members Recognized On Twitter



**Brendan Carr** @Brendan... · 1d  
 Thanks to Andy & Luis for letting me run a few lengths on the boring machine.

In Sherman, Texas, had the chance to connect with a crew that's doing the hard work needed to bring more broadband to this growing community.

#CarrTrip #5gJobs



FCC Commission Carr At Cable ONE Broadband Deployment Site In Sherman, Texas

**Cable ONE**  
 @cableONE

Thank you to @BrendanCarrFCC for visiting a Cable ONE construction site in Sherman, Texas, where we are working to expand our broadband network for the communities we serve! Photos courtesy @ShermanEDC.

#WeConnect



Cable ONE Thanks FCC Commissioner Carr For Visiting Texas Deployment Site

## TDS Expanding Fiber Services To Stevens Point, Weston In Wisconsin

TDS Telecom said it expanded its fiber services to 2 new localities from Wisconsin -- Stevens Point and Weston. The city council in Stevens Point and the village board in Weston granted final approvals to TDS Telecom's plan to install a high-speed fiber optic-network for residents in these communities.



The company will invest \$12 million to \$15 million in the network in Stevens Point and \$8 million and \$10 million in the one in Weston. Work will begin this spring with the first customers connected in the fall. Both communities will gain access to 1-gigabit Internet speeds, TV, and voice services. In addition, area businesses in Stevens Point can order up to 1 Gbps Internet, dedicated fiber connections, and TDS' hosted VoIP business phone platform, managedIP. The project in Stevens Point is expected to connect more than 8,200 homes and 900 businesses. In Weston, construction will start in Tax Incremental District #1 and expand to the rest of the village. When completed, more than 4,400 residential customers and 550 business customers within the village limits will have access to the new network. [Read more.](#)

Source: Telecompetitor/Jan. 24, 2019

## Tiny Horizon Cable Drills Under California Lagoon To Deliver Broadband To 1,600 Bolinas Residents



**Shop Local...Shop Horizon**

A horizontal directional drill burrowed through the earth beneath the rushing tides at the mouth of the Bolinas Lagoon on Monday, directed by employees for a small West Marin cable company with big dreams of bringing broadband Internet to Bolinas.

The news of Horizon Cable’s activities, which were aided by a boring contractor, came as a surprise to the Bolinas Community Public Utility District, which has backed plans by a different company, Inyo Networks, to elevate the town’s Internet service. Horizon Cable, a five-employee cable company that serves around 1,400 customers across West Marin, has expressed interest in expanding to Bolinas since the community clamored for faster service two-and-half years ago.

The BCPUD conducted outreach to a host of companies at that time. But the district ultimately supported Inyo, a Southern California company that recently received state funding to build out a broadband network in Nicasio, to apply for a \$1.87 million grant from the California Public Utilities Commission to deploy broadband Internet infrastructure in the town. Inyo won the grant, which would cover an estimated 60 percent of the project cost, last May.

Yet Kevin Daniel, who co-owns Horizon Cable, refused to be locked out by the competition and objected to Inyo’s grant request. When that failed, he proceeded with the daunting task of getting permits to drill under the lagoon, which is managed by numerous county, federal and local agencies. “This process has been kind of like eating an elephant: one bite at a time and you just hope you get through it,” Mr. Daniel, a Fairfax resident who has owned Horizon for 35 years, said from the job site this week.

**[Read more.](#)**

*Source: Point Reyes Light | Jan.30, 2019*

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Have a story or an article you'd like ACA to feature?  
Contact Ted Hearn at [thearn@americancable.org](mailto:thearn@americancable.org)

