



WOW! and Nokia Deploy Cable **Industry's** First Virtualized Distributed Access Architecture

Boosted WOW! network now enables gigabit services to meet growing need for ultra-broadband service

Englewood, CO – WOW! (NYSE: WOW), one of the United States' leading broadband providers, and Nokia **announced the industry's first commercial virtualized Distributed Access Architecture (vDAA) deployment. WOW!'s existing HFC (Hybrid Fiber-Coaxial) network capacity will be significantly increased using Nokia's Unified Cable Access** solution, helping WOW! meet exploding bandwidth demands of subscribers, adapt to the evolving ways they consume multimedia content and deliver an even better internet experience.

Traditional HFC networks — originally designed to carry broadcast analog video — are being overwhelmed by traffic from IP video, high-speed data services, cloud computing and other business applications. Facing 40-60 percent average annual compound growth in data capacity requirements, WOW! and Nokia are delivering new ways to cope with the increasing bandwidth demands being placed on HFC networks.

“The Nokia virtualized DAA is a groundbreaking technology that enables us to expand our network faster, deploy services more easily and provide the best internet experience for our customers,” said Cash Hagen, chief operations officer of WOW! Internet, Cable & Phone. **“As the first to deploy the technology, we are ready to lead the way in providing a new solution to meet increasing bandwidth demands.”**

Nokia's unified cable access solution provides a fully distributed and virtualized access architecture that will increase the capacity of **WOW!'s** existing HFC infrastructure while simultaneously eliminating cable-specific hardware from headends and hubs, significantly reducing space and power requirements. The architecture enables Multiple System Operators (MSOs) to rapidly deploy new services and cost-effectively migrate their networks to a software-driven, all-IP architecture.

“The cable MSO market is on the cusp of a change that will require a new approach to building access networks, one that can more effectively scale to meet the growth of IP video and **high-speed data demands,**” said **Federico Guillén, president of Nokia's Fixed Networks Business Group.** **“Nokia's unified cable access solution and Gainspeed vDAA** provides cable MSOs with a cost-efficient upgrade path for their existing DOCSIS networks, delivering the added capacity required while simultaneously simplifying network operations and preparing their networks for an all-fiber, all-IP **network.”**

WOW! will deploy **Nokia's** Unified Cable Access solution, including the Gainspeed Controller, Gainspeed SC-2D Access Node and Gainspeed Video Engine, to support rapid network expansion as the company continues to bring services to new communities and increase performance for subscribers, ensuring a better internet experience. Once the network is fully deployed, WOW! will be able to effectively eliminate the CMTS/CCAP as a physical box and replace their analog optical transmission with 10Gbps Ethernet.



This network transformation will enable WOW! to drastically reduce operating expenses while providing the architecture needed to deliver multi-gigabit services to customers using their existing coaxial cable. In deploying the unified cable access solution and virtualized Distributed Access Architecture (vDAA), WOW! is taking a leadership position and demonstrating how innovation can meet the ever-growing and changing needs of customers.

About WOW!

WOW! is one of the nation's leading broadband providers, serving residential, business and wholesale customers in Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Maryland and the Southeast. With an expansive portfolio of advanced services including high-speed Internet, data, voice, cloud and cable television services, the company is dedicated to delighting customers with friendly, quality service at affordable prices. Visit wowway.com for more information.

About Nokia

We create the technology to connect the world. Powered by the research and innovation of Nokia Bell Labs, we serve communications service providers, governments, large enterprises and consumers, with the industry's most complete, end-to-end portfolio of products, services and licensing.

From the enabling infrastructure for 5G and the Internet of Things, to emerging applications in virtual reality and digital health, we are shaping the future of technology to transform the human experience. nokia.com

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