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8th Annual Conference on

OFC NETWORKS IN INDIA

Trends, Growth, Challenges and Opportunities

June 20-21, 2019, Le Meridien, New Delhi

Organisers:

Indian Infrastructure   tele.net

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OFC NETWORKS IN INDIA

Mission

- Driven by an upsurge in data consumption, the demand for optic fibre cable (OFC) networks is set to witness a significant increase. The growth will also be led by government initiatives such as Digital India, Smart Cities, BharatNet and GramNet.
- Global trends suggest there is a direct link between fibre consumption and the evolution of technologies. A study noted that the capex spent by the top 15 telecom operators globally rose 1.6 times during 2011-17 (the period of 3G to 4G transition), while fibre consumption grew three times faster. This establishes the role of fibre in supporting India's digital economy.
- With the demand for 4G services on the rise and 5G on the anvil, developing best-in-class fibre backhaul has become critical. Currently, only 25 per cent of telecom towers in India are fiberised, as compared to 65-80 per cent in the US, China and Korea. The need for greater tower fiberisation has been highlighted in the National Digital Communications Policy (NDCP), 2018, which states that 60 per cent of the towers will need to be fiberised by 2022.
- Also important is the deployment of fibre to the x (FTTx) to meet the increasing demand for high-speed fixed broadband. As per industry estimates, FTTH is expected to account for the majority of the fixed broadband connections by 2022, helping realise the government's target of covering 50 per cent households. NDCP 2018 recognises the need for establishing a national fibre grid for this purpose.
- In view of this, telecom operators have increased the capex guidance for strengthening their OFC networks. They are making efforts to enhance their fibre networks through both organic and inorganic routes. For instance, Reliance Jio has acquired assets of RCOM's optical fibre cable network as well as the i2i submarine cable system.
- Meanwhile, the railway, defence, power, oil and gas, and city gas distribution sectors have earmarked a significant capex for enhancing their OFC networks. The growing digitalisation of cable TV networks will further add to the OFC demand from multiple system operators.
- However, there are a number of challenges facing the sector. A key issue is the prolonged financial stress that has brought telecom operators under heavy debt and high right-of-way (RoW) charges in some states.
- Operators have been exploring ways to optimise the capex associated with fibre deployments. Infrastructure sharing and leasing are gaining popularity among mobile and cable operators in developing markets. For instance, Bharti Airtel has recently announced that it is open to create an Indus Towers-like joint venture in the fibre space by merging Vodafone-Idea's fibre assets with its subsidiary, Telesonic Networks, which owns around 246,000 km of fibre assets.
- On the government side, DoT's amendment to the unified licence scheme for active infrastructure sharing, and the revised public-private partnership model for the BharatNet project adopted last year are two timely steps to promote infrastructure sharing. Combined with this, the progress made so far towards resolving the RoW issue in a number of states will further expedite the efforts.
- **The mission of this conference is to highlight the new growth drivers and opportunities for OFC in India, discuss potential business models and applications, study the impact of key government and private sector initiatives, and showcase the latest innovations and most promising technologies. The conference will also provide a platform for telecom service providers, tower companies, policymakers, OFC manufacturers and technology providers to share their experiences and exchange ideas.**

Target Audience

- The conference is targeted at top and middle-level managers from:
  - Telecom operators
  - Financial institutions and other investors
  - Industry consultants
  - Relevant railway organisations
  - Civil contractors
  - E-governance implementing agencies
  - Relevant power sector organisations
  - Other solution/service providers
  - Rural development agencies
  - Telecom equipment manufacturers
  - Relevant government agencies (telecom/IT)
  - Technology providers
  - Telecom infrastructure providers
  - OFC manufacturers
  - Etc.

Previous Participants

*The participants at our previous conferences on **"OFC Networks in India"** included: **Agmtel India Private Limited, Aksh Optifibre Limited, Anritsu India Pvt. Ltd., Anvil Cables Pvt. Ltd., Apar Industries Ltd., ATC Telecom Tower Corporation Pvt. Ltd., BBNL-DoT, Bharat Broadband Network Limited, Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited, Birla Cable Limited, Birla Furukawa Fibre Optics Private Limited, Borouge (India) Pvt. Ltd., Broadband India Forum, Capital Partners, CAPITEL Partners, Coats India, Corning Technologies India Pvt Ltd, Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu India LLP, Ernst & Young LLP, Evonik India Pvt. Ltd, EXFO Sales & Services (INDIA) Private Limited, Finolex Cables Limited, Fujikura Ltd., Himachal Futuristic Communications Ltd., HTL Ltd, Huber+Suhner (India), Incap Limited, Indore Composite Pvt Ltd/Indore Gel Pvt Ltd, INVAS Technologies Pvt. Ltd, Itco Industries Limited, ITI Limited, Keith Electronics Pvt. Ltd, Larsen & Toubro Limited, LEPTON Software Export & Research Private Limited, MEL Systems and Services Ltd, Mexichem Speciality Compunds, Ministry of Communications, Department of Telecommunications, Paramount Communications Ltd, Paramount Wires & Cables Ltd, Polycab Wires Pvt. Ltd, Power Grid Corporation of India Limited, Pratap Technocrats Pvt. Ltd, Reliance- Jio, Rex Polyextrusion Pvt. Ltd, RHINO (Gupta Power Infrastructure Limited), SEI Trading India Pvt. Ltd, Simco Materials International (P) Ltd, Svarn Infratel Pvt. Ltd, Taipa, Tata Communications Transformation Services Limited, Teijin India Pvt. Ltd, Telecom Regulatory Authority of India, Tirumala Seven Hills (P) Ltd, Tower and Infrastructure Providers Association, Trikaal Tech Enterprises Pvt. Ltd, UL India Private Limited, Vindhya Telelinks Limited, Viren Telecom Pvt. Ltd, Virgo Consultants & Marketing PVT. Ltd, West Coast Optilinks,** among others.*

AGENDA/STRUCTURE

STATE OF THE INDUSTRY
- What are the key trends and developments in the OFC industry in India?
- What are the growth drivers and challenges? What are the emerging business models?
- What are the potential OFC applications? What is the future outlook?

BHARATNET: PROGRESS UNDER PHASE II AND PLAN FOR PHASE III
- What has been the implementation experience of Phase II? What has been the progress so far?
- What is the strategy for implementing Phase III? What are the targets and timelines?
- What will be the role of various stakeholders in Phase III?

ROW POLICY - PROGRESS SO FAR
- What progress has been made in the implementation of the new RoW rules?
- What are the key challenges?
- What is the way forward?

OPERATOR PERSPECTIVE
- What are operators' OFC expansion plans? What is the current level of investments?
- What are the various use cases of OFC in the telecom sector?
- What are the expectations from OFC suppliers?

TOWER FIBERISATION: TOWERCOS' PERSPECTIVE
- What is the need for tower fiberisation? What is the international experience?
- What are the ongoing initiatives? What are the cost implications?
- What are the key challenges? What is the future outlook?

OFC IN THE LAST MILE
- What is the current status of last mile OFC deployments? What are the key drivers?
- What are the key deployment models?
- What are the key challenges and outlook?

5G TRIALS: VENDOR PERSPECTIVE
- What has been the global experience of 5G deployments?
- What are the backhaul and other technology requirements for 5G?
- What will be the potential challenges in India?

OFC IN DATA CENTRE OPERATIONS
- What is the current and projected data centre capacity in India?
- What are the OFC requirements for data centres?
- What are the key challenges? What is the outlook?

THE Wi-Fi OPPORTUNITY
- What is the opportunity in the Wi-Fi space in India?
- What are the backhaul and other technology requirements for Wi-Fi?
- What are the key challenges in OFC deployment for such projects?

SMART CITIES CONNECTING FUTURE COMMUNITIES
- What are the OFC needs and requirements under the Smart Cities Mission?
- What is the progress and what level of investment is likely to be directed towards OFC?
- What are the key challenges in OFC deployment for such projects?

CONSUMER PERSPECTIVE

DEFENCE
- What is the current size of the OFC network in the Indian defence sector?
- What is the status of OFC network development in the sector?
- What is the update on the NFS project? What are the key issues and challenges?

POWER
- What is the current status of the OFC network in the power sector?
- What are the OFC development and expansion plans of the key players?
- What are the key issues and challenges?

OIL AND GAS
- What is the current status of the OFC network in the oil and gas industry?
- What are the OFC network development and expansion plans of the key players?
- What are the key issues and challenges?

RAILWAYS
- What is the current status of the OFC network in the railways sector?
- What is the progress on the Wi-Fi initiative? What role is OFC playing in this project?
- What is RailTel's OFC expansion plan? What are the key issues and challenges?

OFC MANUFACTURING ECOSYSTEM
- What is the current status of OFC manufacturing in India?
- What are the key demand drivers?
- What are the issues and challenges?

STATE INITIATIVES
- Which are some of the state-wide fibre projects being rolled out?
- What are the key growth drivers?
- What applications are riding on such networks?

CABLE TV/DTH OPPORTUNITY
- What is the current status of the cable TV/DTH segment in terms of OFC deployment?
- What are the needs and requirements? What is the market opportunity?
- What are the key issues and challenges (regulatory, technical, financial, etc.)?

HIGH CAPACITY LONG DISTANCE OPTICAL TRANSPORT: CHALLENGES AND BUSINESS REALITY
- What is the current scale of long distance OFC networks owned and utilised by telcos in India?
- What are the challenges in operating these networks?
- What is the future outlook for these networks?

PRODUCT AND TECHNOLOGY SHOWCASE
- What are the latest technology initiatives in the OFC space globally?
- What are the new product offerings for Indian companies?
- What are the benefits of these technologies?

Organisers

*The conference is being organised by **India Infrastructure Publishing**, the leading provider of information on the infrastructure sectors through magazines, newsletters, reports and conferences. The company publishes **tele.net, Indian Infrastructure, Power Line, Renewable Watch** and **Smart Utilities** magazines. It also publishes **Telecom News** (a weekly newsletter). The group also operates **www.tele.net.in**, India's most comprehensive telecom website.*

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Registration Form

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	Total INR (incl. tax)	Total USD	Total INR (incl. tax)	Total USD	INR	GST @ 18%	Total INR	Total USD
One delegate	22,125	367	25,075	418	25,000	4,500	29,500	492
Two delegates	35,400	590	40,120	669	40,000	7,200	47,200	787
Three delegates	48,675	811	55,165	919	55,000	9,900	64,900	1,082
Four delegates	61,950	1,032	70,210	1,170	70,000	12,600	82,600	1,377

- There is 25 per cent "Super early bird" discount for those registering before May 15, 2019 and 15 per cent "early bird" discount for those registering before June 5, 2019.
- Registration will be confirmed on receipt of payment.
- To register online, please log on to http://indiainfrastructure.com/conf.html

Payment Policy:
- Full payment must be received prior to the conference.
- Conference fee includes lunch, tea/coffee and conference material.
- Payments for "early bird" registrations should come in before the last date of discount. Discount offers cannot be combined with any other offer.
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