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SINCE 1982

NEWSLETTER AUGUST 2007
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The 700 MHz Auctions

Do you remember the old television sets with a UHF tuning dial and rabbit ears? If you grew up in the age of cable and satellites, probably not ... but UHF TV won't be making a comeback, since the FCC has mandated that all television must be digital (DTV) by 2009.

This means that the frequencies used to transmit television signal over the airwaves will no longer be needed, so the FCC has determined they could be put to good use if reassigned to wireless Internet service providers.

Most current WISPs (wireless Internet service providers) use what are called the *unlicensed* frequency bands, which are also used by microwave ovens, cordless phones, garage door openers, baby monitors, and a variety of other devices. These are essentially free-for-all frequencies, and a lot of innovation (and sometimes diplomacy) has gone into the avoidance of interference with one another. To help minimize interference, the FCC also mandated very low transmit power limits.

However, since use of the pending new 700 MHz reallocation (the old UHF frequency band) will be *licensed* by the FCC, there will be no potential for interference and much higher transmit power will be allowed.

In addition, the current unlicensed frequencies are in much higher "GHz" frequency bands than 700 MHz. Lower frequencies are much better able to propagate through and around obstacles, so combined with higher transmit power the range of service can be extended and line-of-sight issues largely dismissed. Much more bandwidth can be carried (for music and video), and mobile users can even surf the net from their favorite park bench.

OACYS plans to participate in the 700 MHz auction process, although the stakes are high and many big players are interested – this is essentially "beachfront property" in terms of licensed frequency, and since so much of the federal airwaves are already allocated an opportunity like this won't come up again in the foreseeable future.

Many observers view the interest by the large telcos and cable operators as defensive, essentially protecting their DSL and cable markets by buying up wireless spectrum that would otherwise compete with them. They certainly have the deep pockets to do this, but the FCC is now considering

Continued on Side Two



Richgrove at last!

On July 18th we installed our antenna tower high atop the landmark water tank in Richgrove. With the brand new Community Center and computer lab nearly finished, the USDA/RUS grant project for this small community 20 miles south of Porterville is nearly ready to launch after almost four years of on-again off-again progress. The Community Center will feature 28 new computer workstations with high-speed Internet service beamed from Porterville across the OACYS network, providing free service to local residents. The official grand opening ceremony is scheduled for August 15th.



The OCS home page passed 10 million hits in March 2007 – that's a great audience for advertisers!

Work from home!

OCS can connect your home to your office or tie multiple offices together at high speed and with full "VPN" security, anywhere in the Valley or beyond...



OCS service plans are described at www.porterville.com

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THE NATIONWIDE OCS REFERRAL PROGRAM

If you refer a friend, family, or business associate to OCS, tell them to mention your name and you'll receive a month of free service! **Our subscribers have earned \$48,677 so far!** Click *Referrals* on our home page for details. Your friends may simply click *Subscribe* to sign up online, now from anywhere in the country!



WIRELESS SERVICE AREAS

Success Valley is ready!

- Porterville
- Springville
- Pleasant Valley
- River Island
- Globe Drive
- Strathmore
- Terra Bella
- Lindsay
- Exeter
- Visalia
- Yokohl Valley
- Camp Nelson
- Success Valley
- In progress
- Richgrove

Our Exeter tower also covers Badger Hill!

• VIRUSES STOPPED BY OCS SYSTEM: 1,283,481 (July 2007: 352)
• SPAM BLOCKED BY OCS SYSTEM: 88,580,861 (July 2007: 5,611,185)

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The 700 MHz Auctions

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how to best level the playing field so that smaller companies who have proved their competence in delivering quality and reliability at a competitive price to the public also have a chance to participate.

If you have experience with any of the Goliath providers and feel their overall performance, quality of service, reliability, and customer support is superior, then you don't need to do anything and you may soon find them dominating wireless Internet as well as the DSL and cable they already have.

But if you'd rather see established local WISPs have an opportunity to compete at the next level, then now's the time to mention this to your representatives in congress as well as to the FCC.

In particular, George Radanovich sits on the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which has oversight over telecom matters. Other legislators, although not necessarily on that committee, can certainly relay your comments ... this is a big issue.

The FCC receives input via their online Electronic Comment Filing System (ECFS) at www.fcc.gov/cgb/ecfs. When submitting comments be sure to reference Proceeding (docket) number 04-186. You may either upload a letter in most word processing file formats, or simply type a message into the space provided.

The Goliaths already own DSL and cable and "big wireless." If they're allowed to simply buy out the upcoming FCC 700 MHz wireless auctions, thanks only to their deep pockets, the public will be stuck with the results for a very long time.



Help us celebrate! OCS turned 25 in February, the company was started in a home office in 1982. We've had our 25-year logo printed on a selection of glassware as gifts for our customers, please stop by the office and choose yours! We have mugs in three colors, tall mixing (pint) glasses, and etched wine glasses. While they last, limit two per customer!

Telecommuting numbers up

The proliferation of wireless technologies and feature-rich Internet applications is contributing to a rising number of professionals who work outside of the office, according to a new survey done for a unit of Robert Half International (NYSE: RHI) of Menlo Park.

Nearly half of chief information officers surveyed said their companies' workforce is telecommuting at a rate that is higher than five years ago.

Improved retention, morale, and increased productivity were cited as the greatest benefits among firms that allow telecommuting. (Source: CVBT)



Fan Mail

"Your service and customer support are 1000% better than my previous ISP." STC, 5/07

"OCS is beyond comparison with any other ISP. Excellence in service and customer care are rare these days." LN, 10/05

"I've used cable and DSL before, and OCS is the best!" SK, 10/05

"We like to refer clients because we know your reputation." KM, 8/06

Toll-Free Support

If you're out of town and need to call OCS Customer Service, you can now use 888-OACYS.COM (888-622-9726).

I Didn't Know That!

OCS provides "A-to-Z" computer technology services:

- Complete computer service and repair shop
- Broad variety of Internet access plans and packages
- Professional website design, development, and hosting
- Professional programming and custom application development
- eCommerce and business groupware solutions
- Computer and Internet technology consulting
- Secure branch office inter-networking
- Internet-based "VOIP" telephone services
- iSuite of online utility applications

OACYS INTERNET SERVICE PLANS

Plan Name	Average Speeds			B-M-W ¹	One-Time Fees			Monthly Service
	Min	Typ	Max		Service Activation	Install/Configure	Equipment Deposit	
1 Bandwidth-Mailboxes-Webpace (see notes)								
DIALUP	26K	40K	53K	1-5-5	25.00	-	-	24.95
Accelerator	Typically 2-5X faster			-	-	-	-	+5.00
WIRELESS STANDARD 2.4 GHz								
24 Basic	125K	500K	750K	10-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	49.95 ^{2,3}
24 Premium	250K	1M	1.5M	15-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	79.95 ^{2,3}
24 Business	375K	1.5M	2M	20-10-10	25.00	100.00	100.00	129.95 ^{2,3}
WIRELESS SPECIAL CASES 900 MHz (where available)								
900 Basic	125K	375K	750K	5-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	59.95 ^{4,5}
WIRELESS MISSION CRITICAL 5.8 GHz (where available)								
58 Premium	250K	1M	1.5M	15-5-5	25.00	100.00	100.00	99.95
58 Business	375K	1.5M	2M	20-10-10	25.00	100.00	100.00	129.95
58 Professional	500K	2M	3M	25-25-25	25.00	100.00	100.00	159.95
58 Corporate	750K	3M	4M	30-30-30	25.00	100.00	100.00	199.95
58 Enterprise	1M	4M	5M	40-40-40	25.00	100.00	100.00	249.95

All plans include automated central email virus scanning, email spam filtering, and website parental controls. Some plan types permit webpace for personal use only. Wireless installation and deposit package may be paid in installments upon request. All speeds are symmetrical (same for upload and download) within the OACYS network only. All plans terminate at OACYS Porterville headquarters and transport to the Internet via dual T3s over dedicated OC12 fiber optic circuit. All plans subject to change without notice. Pricing and terms are current at the date of this newsletter and supersede previous versions. For footnotes 2,3,4,5 surcharges may apply. Please check with our office for additional details.

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