

Community Broadband Solutions

Community broadband projects are much in the news recently as municipalities, large and small, seek to improve local economic vigor by encouraging open services communications infrastructures. Few will argue the benefit of such networks, but to successfully deploy one, a municipality must navigate a stormy sea arising from legal, regulatory, technical, financial, and business issues. Integrated Architectures and its partners have the expertise to safely guide you to a broadband implementation that meets your community's unique situation.

It's not just municipalities who are using broadband networks to connect their communities. Colleges and universities are extending campus networks to the off-campus community of students, faculty, and staff. Real estate developers and property managers are increasing property values by installing broadband network infrastructures for residential and business developments. Even companies that are not traditionally communications providers, such as power companies, are finding ways to use existing access and distribution facilities to offer broadband services to their customers.

The term "broadband network" is a catch-all phrase for any communications network that delivers high bandwidth to the end-user. They can be based on an OSI Layer 2 protocol, like Ethernet, or on an OSI Layer 3 protocol, like TCP/IP. They can be delivered over any one or combination of coaxial cable, optical fiber (passive or active), copper phone wires, radio waves, and even electrical wires. Though distribution means and network hardware may vary from deployment to deployment, all broadband networks must solve the same set of legal, regulatory, financial and business issues.

Broadband is often confused with high-speed Internet service. While it is true that high-speed Internet access is often the primary service offered on a broadband network, broadband networks can do so much more. Additional services, like voice, video, gaming, security, video-on-demand, and meter-reading, increase revenues while incurring only minimally increased operational expenditures and no increased capital expenditures.

Many entities that own the property, rights-of-way, or charters to deploy broadband networks do not have the desire or expertise to provide, manage, and bill services on their networks. Integrated Architectures can help these entities to build the necessary systems and expertise to become service providers. Or we can provide guidance in finding and negotiating with service provider companies to bring services to the networks.

Whatever your needs, Integrated Architectures is prepared to guide you to a successful, economically viable broadband network that will improve your community. For more information on our broadband solutions, please call us at (508) 533-6765, or email us at sales@iai.com.