3 Pages Today

CableFAX Daily

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What the Industry Reads First

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House Commerce: FCC Process Reform, Cybersecurity Eyed Before Recess

Heading into Aug recess, House Commerce's key subcrntes will have their hands full preparing to reintroduce 2 bills concerning FCC process reform and addressing cyber attacks and IP protection. On Thurs, the communications and tech subcrite, headed by Rep Greg Walden (R-OR), will discuss drafts of the 2 process revamp proposals, which aim to minimize the potential for "procedural failings and abuse, and to improve agency transparency, efficiency, and accountability," according to a committee memo. Former Republican FCC commish Robert McDowell is expected to testify. Both bills passed the House but failed in the Democrat-controlled Senate last year. Walden has been one of the most vocal backers of efforts to streamline the FCC's reporting obligations and reduce regulatory burdens on regulated companies. Specifically, the subcmte will review provisions in the FCC Process Reform Act, which asked the agency to examine the state of technology and markets, and conduct cost-benefit analyses before regulating. The bill also asked the FCC to create "shot clocks" for action. To minimize the potential for abuse of transaction reviews, the bill would require any conditions to be narrowly tailored to transaction-specific harms. The bill also would reform the "Sunshine Act" to allow 3 or more commissioners to gather on a bipartisan basis. Meanwhile, subcmte members will discuss the FCC Consolidated Reporting Act, which seeks to eliminate outdated studies and consolidate the ones that remain into a biennial release. The draft also proposed a "State of the Industry" report, focused on the challenges and opportunities in the market. On the cybersecurity front, members from both sides of the oversight subcmte worried that the Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act might not stop cyber espionage. In light of increasing reports of cyber attacks in the last few months, the subcmte, headed by Rep Tim Murphy (R-PA), sought ways to protect US intellectual property during a hearing Tues. Calling CISPA a "flawed bill," Rep Henry Waxman (D-CA) said the proposal lacks mandatory standards to protect the private sector from cyber threats. Citing recent findings, he claimed China is responsible for cyber breaches targeting military and corporate confidential information. Cable has supported CISPA, with NCTA calling it an important step in allowing private companies and the govt to share critical info on evolving cyber threats. The bill awaits a vote in the Senate, although the White House had threatened to veto the bill before amendments were made.

NAMIC: NAMIC's board on Tues reported that it found no basis for an anonymous email that had accused pres/CEO *Nicol Turner-Lee* of mismanagement. The email, sent in Mar (*Cfax*, 3/12) under the name *Tony Stark*, an alias for the Iron Man superhero, had alluded to outstanding debts owed to NAMIC's education partner, the Darden School, and deteriorating relationships with vendors, such as the Hilton Hotel. "Enlisting the services of an independent auditing firm, NAMIC can report that the information gathered does not reflect any impropriety on the part of the association or its President and Chief Executive Officer," said NAMIC board chair *Michael Armstrong* in a statement. "Also, NAMIC's membership is consistent with prior trending, and relationships with our vendors including the Darden School of Business, are in good standing. On behalf of NAMIC, the Board thanks its members, supporters



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and other key stakeholders for their patience demonstrated during this period of inquiry."

<u>CTAM</u>: CTAM has officially hung the "Help Wanted" sign. Following current CTAM pres/CEO *Char Beales*' announcement earlier this year that she will retire at the end of '13, the group tapped **Howard Fischer Associates International** to search for its next pres/CEO, who will be the group's 4th since it was founded in '76. "Select members of the CTAM Board and the CTAM Educational Foundation Board are working closely with Howard Fischer Associates over the next few months to select the new President and CEO," said *David Juliano*, chair, CTAM board. "CTAM is well-positioned to engage a leader who has the experience and passion to take the organization into the future," he said in a statement.

<u>Speed Test</u>: While most major ISPs' ranks in **Netflix**'s June speed index remained unchanged, **Time Warner Cable** (2.05 Mbps) rose to #8 from #10 in May, at the expense of **Mediacom** and **AT&T U-Verse**, which both dropped a notch. Excluding **Google Fiber**, **Cablevision**'s Optimum service (2.48 Mbps) continues to dominate, for the 6th consecutive month.

<u>At the Portals</u>: The FCC emphasized again that it backs WiFi use. In light of WV University's launch of campus-wide WiFi network, acting chairwoman *Mignon Clyburn* said "innovative deployment of TV white spaces presents an exciting opportunity for underserved rural and low-income urban communities across the country." The university has partnered with AIR.U (Advanced Internet Regions University) to provide free public WiFi access for students and faculty.

<u>Technology</u>: Broadcom is teaming with **CableLabs**, MSOs and OEMs to define the requirements for the DPoE 1.0 specifications, which will enable new business and mobile backhaul service opportunities for cable MSOs, Broadcom said. -- **Comcast Business** inked a deal with **Connecticut Center for Advanced Technology** to offer Ethernet services and PRI Trunks to improve the group's IT operations. The services also seek to enable CCAT to transfer high-resolution manufacturing files between its main facility and is local advanced manufacturing center.

<u>Lifeline</u>: Time Warner Cable launched its Lifeline program for home phone substhroughout NY state. The FCC phone subsidy program requires participation in a government-assistance program like Medicaid or Food Stamps. The Lifeline credit applies for 1 year, after which customers must verify their info. The MSO plans to roll out Lifeline across all markets.

<u>Measurement:</u> Rentrak sealed a multi-year TV Essentials contract with National Media Research, Planning and Placement, which works with Republican political, public affairs and issue campaigns. The political agency will use Rentrak's ratings to plan TV campaign strategies for licensed statewide and Congressional campaigns in the '13-'14 election cycle.

<u>Ratings:</u> NBC Sports Net averaged 633K primetime viewers in 2Q, marking the most-watched quarter in primetime in the net's history and a 17% increase YOY. The net posted its most-watched non-Olympic quarter in total day with an average of 153K viewers. -- **Golf Channel** posted its most-watched 2Q, scoring nearly 29mln unique viewers in 2Q. As for total day, it averaged 124K viewers per minute in the quarter, a 8% YOY increase. -- **TV One** saw its highest monthly primetime ratings of the year in June among 25-54 and HHs. Among the core 25-54 audience, the net posted a 34% YOY increase (106K vs 79K). It was up 21% YOY among HHs.

<u>Programming:</u> TV One launched "News One Now," a live 1-hour weekday morning news program scheduled to debut in Sept. Journalist *Roland Martin* will be host and managing editor of the DC-based program. More info at **www.cable-fax.com**. -- Style Media signed a development deal with writers *Graydon Sheppard* and *Kyle Humphrey* to create a



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style-centric alternative format series based on their Web series "Sh-t Girls Say." -- As previously announced, **TLC**'s longest running primetime series "What Not To Wear" is coming to an end. Starting Aug 9, the net will run the last eps during the show's original slot on Fri nights. The series finale airs on Oct 18. -- Discovery Channel ordered new scripted miniseries, "Untitled William Wallace and Robert the Bruce Project" (wt). The mini-series is based on historical books by Nigel Tranter. -- Rob Lowe will reprise his guest role in 1 ep of season 7 of Showtime's comedy series "Californication," which premieres next year. -- Food Network will air its 13-ep competition series "Cutthroat Kitchen" on Aug 11. -- ESPN will televise the '13 Chevrolet Home Run Derby on Mon. The program will also be available on ESPN Deportes and across platforms, including Xbox and Apple TV via WatchESPN.

On the Circuit: The British Academy of Film and Television Arts Los **Angeles** will honor *George Clooney* with the Stanley Kubrick Britannia Award for Excellence in Film, at the '13 BAFTA Britannia Awards presented by **BBC America** on Nov 9.

People: World Fishing Network named Kim Carver pres/CEO. -- YES **Network** upped Mike Webb to vp, broadcast operations. -- ABC News vet Mark Lima is moving to Fusion, the new net for Hispanics from ABC and **Univision**, to be vp of news.

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