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# Cablefax Daily™

Monday — February 23, 2015

What the Industry Reads First

Volume 26 / No. 034

## Title II: As Vote Nears, House Probe Heats Up; Final Comments Trickle In

The FCC made it official Fri, announcing the agenda for its open meeting this week. In addition to a vote on chmn *Tom Wheeler's* Title II net neutrality rules, the 5 commissioners will take up the issue of exempting state laws for municipal broadband in Wilson, NC, and Chattanooga, TN. Both items are expected to be approved 3-2, with Republicans objecting. Meanwhile, the **House Committee on Oversight and Govt Reform** sent Wheeler a letter Fri as part of its probe into whether there was potential White House involvement in the draft of the open Internet order (a hearing is slated for Wed). Helping scoot things along is an article on **Vice.com** featuring email exchanges the news site received through a Freedom of Information Act request. Cmte chmn *Jason Chaffetz* told Vice that the heavily redacted emails that it received between the White House and FCC staffers raise "serious concerns about the level of White House involvement." The lawmaker already requested all such email exchanges on Feb 6 but in a letter Fri made it clear he wants unredacted emails, particularly between Wheeler, and White House officials *Jeffrey Zients*, *Jason Furman* and *Obama* counsel *John Podesta*, by 5pm Mon. With FCC rules preventing public comment one week before votes on a proposed rule, Thurs was the last chance to get a word in before the vote on Title II Open Internet rules. **NCTA** and **ACA** linked up, filing a letter Thurs to address the impact the proposal could have on pole attachment rates. Before any Title II reclassification takes place, they argued the FCC should grant a petition for reconsideration filed by NCTA and **COMPTTEL** in 2011 that would ensure all broadband providers are able to attach poles at the lowest rate available under Commission rules. "Reclassification of broadband as a Title II telecommunications service exposes cable operators to hundreds of millions of dollars in increased pole attachment fees each year and threatens to undo the Commission's longstanding policy of encouraging broadband deployment by allowing cable operators to attach to poles at the cable rate," they wrote, explaining that the NCTA/Comptel petition would eliminate the gap between the cable rate and telecom rate in all circumstances. On Wed, reps from **Level 3** and **Netflix** made an appearance at the Commission to get in their last words before the vote. Their key push: a straightforward complaint process to prevent any interconnection funny business. They want the FCC to clarify that it would be "unjust and unreasonable" for an ISP to engage in conduct regarding the exchange of Internet traffic that would have the effect of impairing the effectiveness of the open Internet rules. **Akamai** paid its visit Thurs, stressing that the order must make it clear that ISPs may allow

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some but not all content providers distributing content (such as CDNs) access to any particular ISP facility. "If the Order is unclear, ISPs may believe they must provide access to all. This is not technically feasible and the result could be access for none, which would decrease the performance, scalability, reliability and security of the Internet," the company said in an ex parte. **Vimeo** also chimed in on the interconnection issue Thurs, suggesting the FCC release all data on measuring the health of interconnection to the public as soon as practicable. "Only through open, robust monitoring and swift enforcement can the Commission ensure that it is protecting an open Internet through these critical entry and exit points," Vimeo said.

**O'Neill Says Goodbye to Discovery:** Turns out *Eileen O'Neill* won't head up Discovery Studios as global group pres. **Discovery Comm** named her to the post in Aug and set March as her start date to assume the newly created role (her email says she's out of the office from Sept 1-March 1). Instead, O'Neill sent a memo to staffers Fri that she'll no longer be with the company effective May 1—a significant date as it marks her 25th anniversary (not including 4-month unpaid internship before she was hired). In her goodbye memo, she highlighted the risk-taking her team has taken on. "We never shied from controversy whether it was with Muslims in Michigan, Sarah in Alaska or Amish folk in places which surprised; and, of course, we unleashed mega sharks (and a seal named Snuffy) for record-breaking Shark Weeks," she wrote. O'Neill's successes at Discovery include a **TLC** makeover, with the addition of shows such as "Jon & Kate Plus 8" and "All-American Muslim." Prior to the Studios appointment, she served as group pres **Discovery Channel, Science** and **Velocity Nets**, where she helped usher in new series such as "Fast N' Loud" and "Moonshiners."

**Cable One 4Q:** Video PSUs may be down 16% from 2013, but **Cable One** has managed to reduce programming costs significantly, Cable One parent **Graham Holdings** said in an earnings release Fri. The op dropped **Viacom** nets last April, and Graham plans to spin off the cable unit into a separate publicly trading company this year. Cable One posted 4Q revenue of \$197.7mln, slightly down from a year ago. The op ended the period with 451,217 basic video subs, down 25,016 from the 476,233 in 3Q. HSI subs increased by 2,300 to 488,454.

**Crown 4Q:** Thanks to solid ad revenue growth, **Crown Media** posted 4Q revenue of \$134.2mln, a 13% increase YOY. Ad sales revenue increased 14% for the quarter and 11% for the year, thanks to strong pricing across channels and audience gains in 4Q, especially on **Hallmark Movies & Mysteries**, the company said Fri. For the quarter, cost of services decreased slightly to \$38.7mln. Programming costs decreased 6% over the previous quarter. Net income nearly doubled to \$51.6mln or 14 cents a share, from \$26.7mln, or 7 cents per share, a year ago.

**People:** *Robert Mills* was named svp, alternative series, specials & late-night programming, **ABC Entertainment**. Effective immediately, he will report to *Paul Lee*, pres, **ABC Entertainment Group**.

# CTAM THINK

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Speakers:

**MARK GREATREX**

Chief Marketing & Sales Officer  
Cox Communications, Inc.

**MIKE ISKANDAR**

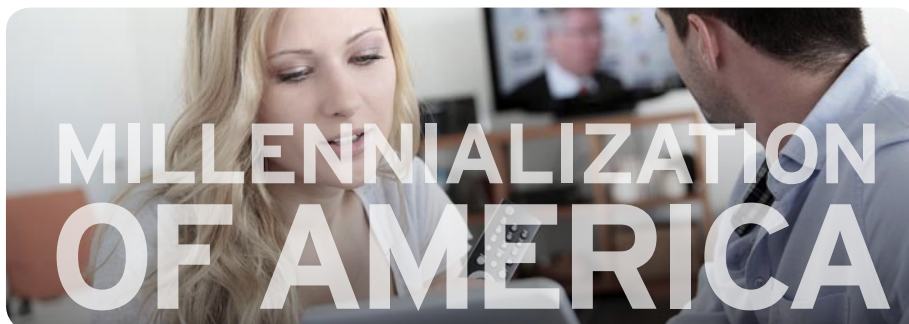
Culture Leader, "Chief Experience Officer"  
Southwest Airlines

**LAURA MARTIN**

Managing Director, Senior Analyst:  
Entertainment & Internet,  
Needham & Company, LLC

**JAMES R. STENDEL**

Marketing Author and Advisor, President /  
CEO, The Stengel Company Former Global  
Marketing Officer, Procter & Gamble



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**Cablefax Week in Review**

Company	Ticker	2/20 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
<b>BROADCASTERS/DBS/MMDS</b>				
DIRECTV:	DTV	87.26	(0.29%)	0.65%
DISH:	DISH	78.31	1.44%	7.44%
ENTRAVISION:	EVC	6.88	(2.96%)	6.17%
GRAY TELEVISION:	GTN	10.57	4.24%	(5.63%)
MEDIA GENERAL:	MEG	16.95	7.41%	1.32%
NEXSTAR:	NXST	54.21	1.10%	4.67%
SINCLAIR:	SBGI	27.90	5.08%	1.97%

Company	Ticker	2/20 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
<b>MSOS</b>				
CABLEVISION:	CVC	19.86	(3.59%)	(3.78%)
CHARTER:	CHTR	175.89	(1.12%)	5.56%
COMCAST:	CMCSA	58.50	(1.63%)	0.84%
COMCAST SPCL:	CMCSK	58.12	(1.44%)	0.96%
GCI:	GNCMA	14.43	(0.41%)	4.95%
GRAHAM HOLDING:	GHC	987.46	1.11%	14.33%
LIBERTY BROADBAND:	LBRDA	50.61	1.32%	1.04%
LIBERTY GLOBAL:	LBTYA	53.25	1.45%	6.05%
SHAW COMM:	SJR	23.63	(0.25%)	(12.45%)
SHENTEL:	SHEN	29.71	(2.14%)	(4.93%)
SHENTEL:	SHEN	29.71	(2.14%)	(4.93%)
TIME WARNER CABLE:	TWC	148.58	(0.77%)	(2.29%)

Company	Ticker	2/20 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
<b>PROGRAMMING</b>				
21ST CENTURY FOX:	FOXA	35.29	1.64%	(8.12%)
AMC NETWORKS:	AMCX	69.34	0.64%	8.73%
CBS:	CBS	59.50	(0.55%)	7.52%
CROWN:	CRWN	3.45	5.83%	(2.54%)
DISCOVERY:	DISCA	30.93	(1.65%)	(10.22%)
DISNEY:	DIS	104.55	0.36%	11.00%
GRUPO TELEVISIA:	TV	33.08	(5.02%)	(2.88%)
HSN:	HSNI	68.11	1.17%	(10.38%)
LIONSGATE:	LGF	31.99	(0.56%)	(0.09%)
MSG:	MSG	78.53	(0.24%)	4.34%
SCRIPPS INT:	SNL	73.57	0.78%	(2.26%)
STARZ:	STRZA	31.52	(0.72%)	6.13%
TIME WARNER:	TWX	84.53	0.79%	(1.04%)
VIACOM:	VIA	70.03	1.38%	(7.25%)
WWE:	WWE	16.17	(2.53%)	31.04%

Company	Ticker	2/20 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
<b>TECHNOLOGY</b>				
ADVANTAGE:	AEY	2.46	1.94%	0.69%
AMDOCS:	DOX	51.57	0.82%	10.52%
AMPHENOL:	APH	56.92	0.94%	5.78%
AOL:	AOL	40.89	(2.13%)	(11.44%)
APPLE:	AAPL	129.49	1.90%	17.31%
ARRIS GROUP:	ARRS	28.59	7.16%	(5.3%)
AVID TECH:	AVID	14.74	4.39%	3.73%
BLNDER TONGUE:	BDR	1.76	2.92%	(34.57%)
BROADCOM:	BRCM	44.68	(2.21%)	3.12%
CISCO:	CSCO	29.61	0.61%	6.43%
COMMSCOPE:	CTV	26.28	0.08%	2.50%
CONCURRENT:	CCUR	6.18	(11.08%)	(12.83%)
CONVERGYS:	CVG	22.05	4.50%	8.25%
CSG SYSTEMS:	CSGS	30.41	0.20%	21.30%
ECHOSTAR:	SATS	55.31	0.42%	5.35%
GOOGLE:	GOOG	538.90	(1.84%)	2.37%
HARMONIC:	HLIT	7.90	0.00%	12.70%

Company	Ticker	2/20 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
INTEL:	INTC	34.41	0.15%	(5.18%)
INTERACTIVE CORP:	IACI	67.06	3.81%	10.31%
JDSU:	JDSU	13.53	2.04%	(1.38%)
LEVEL 3:	LVT	54.08	1.10%	9.52%
MICROSOFT:	MSFT	43.85	(0.03%)	(5.59%)
NETFLIX:	NFLX	478.20	2.60%	39.98%
NIELSEN:	NLSN	45.28	(0.68%)	1.23%
RENTRAK:	RENT	53.00	(10.02%)	(27.22%)
SEACHANGE:	SEAC	7.70	2.80%	20.69%
SONY:	SNE	27.26	(0.15%)	33.17%
SPRINT NEXTEL:	S	4.83	(7.65%)	16.39%
TIVO:	TIVO	10.82	1.12%	(8.61%)
UNIVERSAL ELEC:	UEIC	57.51	(13.28%)	(11.56%)
VONAGE:	VG	4.56	4.35%	19.69%
YAHOO:	YHOO	44.11	(0.7%)	(12.67%)

Company	Ticker	2/20 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
<b>TELCOS</b>				
AT&T:	T	34.08	(1.67%)	1.46%
CENTURYLINK:	CTL	37.02	(6.18%)	(6.47%)
TDS:	TDS	25.31	(3.51%)	0.24%
VERIZON:	VZ	48.97	(0.69%)	4.68%

Index	Ticker	2/20 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
<b>MARKET INDICES</b>				
DOW:	DJI	18140.44	0.67%	1.78%
NASDAQ:	IXIC	4955.97	1.27%	4.64%
S&P 500:	GSPC	2110.30	0.63%	2.50%

**WINNERS & LOSERS**

<b>THIS WEEK'S STOCK PRICE WINNERS</b>				
COMPANY		CLOSE		1-WK CH
1. MEDIA GENERAL:	MEG	16.95		7.41%
2. ARRIS GROUP:	ARRS	28.59		7.16%
3. CROWN:	CRWN	3.45		5.83%
4. SINCLAIR:	SBGI	27.90		5.08%
5. CONVERGYS:	CVG	22.05		4.50%

<b>THIS WEEK'S STOCK PRICE LOSERS</b>				
COMPANY		CLOSE		1-WK CH
1. UNIVERSAL ELEC:	UEIC	57.51		(13.28%)
2. CONCURRENT:	CCUR	6.18		(11.08%)
3. RENTRAK:	RENT	53.00		(10.02%)
4. SPRINT NEXTEL:	S	4.83		(7.65%)
5. CENTURYLINK:	CTL	37.02		(6.18%)

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