

# Cablefax Daily™

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What the Industry Reads First

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## Wheeler's Plan: More Actions to Promote Broadband Competition Coming

Here are a few takeaways from FCC chmn *Tom Wheeler's* speech at the **Brookings Institute** Fri: The chmn expects to move its proposal to classify some OTT video providers as MVPDs covered by program access protections to a Report and Order this fall, and the agency will continue to look for other ways to promote broadband competition. One way to stimulate broadband is to increase opportunities for additional competition in upstream markets, Wheeler said at the event titled "Maximizing the benefits of broadband." "That is why we proposed a rule to give over-the-top video providers the ability to choose the same business model as cable and satellite providers, with the same program access rights. We expect to move that to a Report and Order this fall. There is a line of new OTT providers queuing up to expand video choice—and increase consumer demand—for broadband," the chmn said. Citing service providers' continuous effort to transition to IP-based world, or software-defined networks, Wheeler said the effects of software-based networks are good for competition because they enable LECs to become "more fulsome competitors to cable operators' dominant position in high-speed broadband." Meanwhile, to continue to promote broadband competition, the agency seeks to lower some of the costs of extending broadband facilities. "We dealt with the inability of competitors to get access to poles and conduits in the Open Internet Order. Building on that, we are now undertaking an effort to better align the costs of using poles and conduits," said Wheeler. And perhaps the FCC's most tangible role in growing broadband is to make more licensed and unlicensed spectrum available for mobile broadband use. According to the chmn, with data demand on the rise, there will be more spectrum sharing. "Spectrum is something that has to be shared," he said. The agency is currently seeking comments on sharing mechanism and potential interference issues with the deployment of LTE-unlicensed spectrum. Numerous WiFi groups, providers and vendors raised red flags on the technology. Meanwhile, Wheeler repeated his earlier comments on the FCC's role in a post-Title II net neutrality order world. "I keep describing this oversight as a 'referee on the field who can throw the flag.' In our implementation, I plan to adhere to the wisdom that the best referees do not make

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themselves part of the game unnecessarily.” When it comes to interconnection deals and other network arrangements, it will be up to the competitors, for instance, to advocate for themselves in negotiations with other competitors, he said: “Our job isn’t to substitute the FCC for what should be hard-fought negotiation and tough competition. It’s up to the players to compete hard against their opponents. But, make no mistake, if they violate the rules, we will blow the whistle.” An unsettled issue from the net neutrality order is related to the FCC’s authority on broadband consumers’ privacy. The FCC will start the rulemaking process this fall to clarify its authority under the new open internet rules, according to Wheeler. On the agency’s review of proposed mergers, he said “our skepticism about the competitive impact of the rumored **Sprint-T-Mobile** merger of a year ago, and the recently abandoned **Comcast-Time Warner Cable** merger are evidence that we take seriously our responsibility to protect competition,”

**Cox Doubles Top Speed Tier:** Cox has increased its top residential Internet speed from 150 Mbps to 300 Mbps (maximum download speed) for subs in AZ. Similar speed increase for the tier, dubbed Cox High Speed Internet Ultimate, will be rolled out to other markets later this year. The move came after the MSO extended its gigabit Internet speeds to residential customers.

**Espial Buys Bluestreak:** Multiplatform and smart TV software provider **Espial** agreed to acquire **Bluestreak Technologies**, a video software firm that counts pay-TV ops such as **Time Warner Cable** and vendors like **LG Electronics**, **Cisco** and **aiotv** as clients. Espial recently added former TWC tech evp *Mike Hayashi* to its board. The acquisition is expected to beef up Espial’s reference design kit (RDK) and HTML solutions, pres/CEO *Jaison Dolvane* said in a statement.

**Starz Teams with NYTVF:** **Starz** scored a partnership with NYTVF to identify a producer or production selected from the Official Artists participating in the 2015 New York Television Festival for the 1st “Starz Rising Talent Award.” Winner(s) will be awarded a cash prize and the opportunity to work with Starz’ development/programming team.

**One World Expands Footprint:** As part of the net’s agreement with **NCTC** earlier this year, **One World Sports** scored distribution deals with 3 new affil partners including **Duncan Cable**, **Kuhn Communications** and **Shentel**. These multiyear, multiplatform agreements give viewers in rural MD and parts of PA, VA, VT and WV access to various live sporting programming.

**Ratings:** The finale of **HGTV**’s real estate/home renovation series “Brother vs. Brother” Wed night averaged a 0.95 rating among 25-54, making it the top 10 cable program in primetime that night. The performance helped the net score a top 5 cable net position among 25-54 and among W25-54 Wed night. More than 3.7mln total viewers watched the finale as Jonathan defeated his twin brother Drew.

**Same-sex Marriage Ruling:** Cable nets and tech companies joined in on the celebration of the Supreme Court’s ruling Fri legalizing same-sex marriage nationwide. **Apple** CEO *Tim Cook* took to Twitter to voice his support for the ruling. **Google** prepared a video for the decision, titled #ProudToLove. **MTV** changed its Twitter profile picture to a rainbow-colored one. **Fuse TV** tweeted: “It’s a good day to be an American. #LoveWins.” More than 350 businesses signed on to a Supreme Court brief earlier this year, urging the court to overturn bans on gay marriage on the state level. The companies include pay-TV providers like **Verizon**, **Cox**, **Comcast**, and **AT&T**.

**People:** *Jeremy Legg*, head of tech strategy and product monetization at **Turner**, is now CTO of the company, according to his **LinkedIn** profile, updated Fri. He will oversee all linear and digital technology.

**Snapchat Much?:** *Cynopsis Digital*, a sister pub of **Cablefax**, ran a webinar this week focused on how brands can use **Snapchat**—one of the fastest growing social media platforms—to connect with younger audiences. It was mainly for advertisers, but there were many takeaways applicable to the broader video ecosystem as a whole. Read up on a few insights and listen to the webinar on demand on [Screenster](#) at [Cablefax.com](#).

**Cablefax Week in Review**

Company	Ticker	6/26 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
<b>BROADCASTERS/DBS/MMDS</b>				
DIRECTV:	DTV	93.70	0.99%	8.07%
DISH:	DISH	69.73	(1.12%)	(4.34%)
ENTRAVISION:	EVC	8.43	2.18%	30.09%
GRAY TELEVISION:	GTN	15.85	1.67%	41.52%
MEDIA GENERAL:	MEG	16.85	(1.29%)	0.72%
NEXSTAR:	NXST	57.93	1.72%	11.86%
SINCLAIR:	SBGI	28.27	(2.21%)	3.33%

Company	Ticker	6/26 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
<b>MSOS</b>				
CABLEVISION:	CVC	25.19	3.45%	22.04%
CHARTER:	CHTR	171.50	1.08%	2.93%
COMCAST:	CMCSA	61.27	1.26%	5.62%
COMCAST SPCL:	CMCSK	61.09	1.08%	6.11%
GCI:	GNCMA	16.63	(0.66%)	20.95%
GRAHAM HOLDING:	GHC	1080.01	1.60%	25.04%
LIBERTY BROADBAND:	LBRDA	51.79	(1.3%)	3.39%
LIBERTY GLOBAL:	LBTYA	56.12	(1.18%)	11.77%
SHAW COMM:	SJR	22.43	2.65%	(16.9%)
SHENTEL:	SHEN	34.20	6.11%	9.44%
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TIME WARNER CABLE:	TWC	179.50	1.24%	18.05%

Company	Ticker	6/26 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
<b>PROGRAMMING</b>				
21ST CENTURY FOX:	FOXA	32.94	0.09%	(14.24%)
AMC NETWORKS:	AMCX	83.69	3.72%	31.24%
CBS:	CBS	57.00	(1.72%)	3.00%
CROWN:	CRWN	4.65	5.20%	31.36%
DISCOVERY:	DISCA	33.84	(0.21%)	(1.77%)
DISNEY:	DIS	114.99	2.10%	22.08%
GRUPO TELEVISIVA:	TV	39.51	0.84%	16.00%
HSN:	HSNI	71.24	1.98%	(6.26%)
LIONSGATE:	LGF	37.46	(0.58%)	16.99%
MSG:	MSG	83.90	(1.5%)	11.48%
SCRIPPS INT:	SNL	67.01	(0.36%)	(10.97%)
STARZ:	STRZA	45.00	3.40%	51.52%
TIME WARNER:	TWX	88.13	0.15%	3.17%
VIACOM:	VIA	66.91	(1.55%)	(11.38%)
WWE:	WWE	17.49	7.17%	41.73%

Company	Ticker	6/26 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
<b>TECHNOLOGY</b>				
ADVANTAGE:	AEY	2.38	(1.24%)	(2.46%)
AMDOCS:	DOX	56.15	(0.14%)	20.34%
AMPHENOL:	APH	55.68	(3.48%)	3.48%
APPLE:	AAPL	126.79	(0.3%)	14.87%
ARRIS GROUP:	ARRS	31.46	(2.42%)	4.21%
AVID TECH:	AVID	13.45	(11.04%)	(5.35%)
BLNDER TONGUE:	BDR	0.75	11.94%	(72.12%)
BROADCOM:	BRCM	52.11	(3.02%)	20.26%
CISCO:	CSCO	28.30	(2.51%)	1.73%
COMMSCOPE:	CTV	25.90	0.04%	1.01%
CONCURRENT:	CCUR	6.41	(0.16%)	(9.59%)
CONVERGYS:	CVG	26.47	4.09%	29.95%
CSG SYSTEMS:	CSGS	32.18	1.77%	28.36%
EHOSTAR:	SATS	49.20	(2.84%)	(6.29%)
GOOGLE:	GOOG	531.69	(0.93%)	1.00%
HARMONIC:	HLIT	7.14	(0.56%)	1.85%
INTEL:	INTC	31.02	(3.27%)	(14.52%)

Company	Ticker	6/26 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
<b>INTERACTIVE CORP:</b>				
INTERACTIVE CORP:	IACI	80.48	5.34%	32.39%
JDSU:	JDSU	12.01	(6.32%)	(12.46%)
LEVEL 3:	LVT	53.80	(1.88%)	8.95%
MICROSOFT:	MSFT	45.31	(1.71%)	(2.45%)
NETFLIX:	NFLX	651.62	(0.85%)	90.75%
NIELSEN:	NLSN	46.22	1.49%	3.33%
RENTRAK:	RENT	71.88	(0.1%)	(1.29%)
SEACHANGE:	SEAC	7.35	(2.13%)	15.20%
SONY:	SNE	31.17	5.09%	52.27%
SPRINT NEXTEL:	S	4.56	(1.51%)	9.88%
TIVO:	TIVO	10.56	(1.4%)	(10.81%)
UNIVERSAL ELEC:	UEIC	50.21	(3.13%)	(22.79%)
VONAGE:	VG	5.01	3.09%	31.50%
YAHOO:	YHOO	40.06	(1.11%)	(20.69%)

Company	Ticker	6/26 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
<b>TELCOS</b>				
AT&T:	T	36.12	4.24%	7.53%
CENTURYLINK:	CTL	29.99	(7.61%)	(24.23%)
TDS:	TDS	30.17	2.76%	19.49%
VERIZON:	VZ	47.62	0.34%	1.80%

Index	Value	% Chg	% Chg	
<b>MARKET INDICES</b>				
DOW:	DJI	17947.02	(0.37%)	0.70%
NASDAQ:	IXIC	5080.51	(0.71%)	7.27%
S&P 500:	GSPC	2101.61	(0.39%)	2.07%

**WINNERS & LOSERS**

<b>THIS WEEK'S STOCK PRICE WINNERS</b>		
COMPANY	CLOSE	1-WK CH
1. BLNDER TONGUE:	0.75	11.94%
2. WWE:	17.49	7.17%
3. SHENTEL:	34.20	6.11%
4. SHENTEL:	34.20	6.11%
5. INTERACTIVE CORP:	80.48	5.34%

<b>THIS WEEK'S STOCK PRICE LOSERS</b>		
COMPANY	CLOSE	1-WK CH
1. AVID TECH:	13.45	(11.04%)
2. CENTURYLINK:	29.99	(7.61%)
3. JDSU:	12.01	(6.32%)
4. AMPHENOL:	55.68	(3.48%)
5. INTEL:	31.02	(3.27%)

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