

Cablefax Daily™

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What the Industry Reads First

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Cable/Wireless: Possible Tie-up, Partnership Seen

With more video content being consumed over wireless, a pay-TV/wireless carrier hookup may be inevitable. **Oppenheimer** analyst *Tim Horan* predicts that a top pay-TV provider such as **Comcast** could potentially acquire **T-Mobile** or form a partnership with the carrier. Now that **AT&T** has closed its acquisition of **DirectTV**, “we see a cable company (either **Charter** or **Comcast**) and TMUS [T-Mobile] as the next most likely outcome as cable companies seek to add a wireless component to their offering,” he wrote in a recent research note. In light of its terminated **Time Warner Cable** merger, Comcast will probably stay out of the M&A spotlight for a while, *Amy Yong* with **Macquarie Securities** told us. However, she added that won’t preclude the MSO from entering a MVNO agreement with a wireless carrier. In the long run, Horan expects incumbent telcos and MSOs to “migrate to a full quad play service with M&A between the wireless providers and cable companies the most logical way to offer this.” All these possible moves are likely to drive “competitive encroachment” among cable, satellite and wireless providers, making T-Mobile, the 4th largest wireless carrier in the country, “the potential king-maker, particularly for Comcast,” the analyst wrote. He sees Comcast (with T-Mobile and partnering with other cable companies), AT&T, Verizon and Sprint as the 4 “likely surviving companies.” DISH head *Charlie Ergen* has voiced interest in a partnership or merger with a carrier like T-Mobile, but Horan sees little chance that it will happen given DISH’s recent setback with the FCC (It was asked to return the \$3.3bn spectrum credit from AWS auction). While Charter is still working to close its Time Warner Cable merger, the MSO might consider entering the wireless space after the transaction is closed, Horan said. However, a potential marriage won’t come anytime soon. Regardless of the timing, “we expect all 4 wireless carriers to align with a paid TV provider in some form,” he said. While anything is possible, cable companies might not be in a hurry to enter into wireless deals, according to Yong, noting cable’s wireless strategy is still centered on accelerated WiFi expansion and efforts to improve the WiFi user experience. And WiFi technology is constantly evolving to provide a cellular-like experience and smooth handoff between one access point to another. Wireless execs, on the other hand, seem eager for a date with pay-TV. During T-Mobile’s earnings

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conference calls this year, CEO *John Legere* made it clear he sees cable and wireless as potential partners and alternatives for each other in the future. That's because video, music and other content are all moving to mobile platforms. **AT&T's** chief exec *Randall Stephenson* shared the sentiment, reiterated that the Internet is moving toward mobile during the company's analyst day last week.

Cable One Upgrades Speed: **Cable One** will double its downstream speeds for new and existing residential broadband subs in more than 90% of its markets starting this Oct. By tier, here's how the downstream speed bumps stack up: 50 Mbps jumps to 100 Mbps; 75 Mbps rises to 150 Mbps; and 100 Mbps "Ultra" plan hits 200 Mbps. Among those plans, the MSO is offering the 100 Mbps tier for \$35 per month to new subs for the first 3 months starting in Oct. Cable One is looking to provide a 1 Gbps residential broadband service, details of which will be announced soon.

Media Device Research: Some 86mln streaming media devices will be sold globally in 2019, according to **Parks Associates**. According to the research firm's latest report, **Amazon, Apple, Google** and **Roku** accounted for 86% of all units sold to US broadband HHs in 2014. Roku continues to lead streaming media device sales in the US with 34% of units sold last year, followed by Google at 23%. Nearly 20% of US broadband HHs own at least 1 streaming media player, such as a Roku 3, Amazon Fire TV, or Apple TV. About 8% own at least 1 streaming stick, such as a Google Chromecast, Amazon Fire TV Stick or Roku's HDMI Streaming Stick, while 2% own both.

El Rey Offers Early VOD Preview: **El Rey** will offer a preview of the 1st ep of Season 2 of its supernatural crime saga "From Dust Till Dawn: The Series" through VOD platforms from its distributors in advance of the linear debut scheduled for Tues at 9pm EST. The preview also features behind the scenes content including special effects, makeup, stunts and an interview with *Robert Rodriguez*, who directs the season 2 premiere and finale.

Ratings: **Starz's** "Power" Season 2 finale on Sat scored 2.39mln viewers Live+3. That was +51% vs the 1st season finale ep viewership of 1.59mln and +17% vs the season average of 2.03mln. -- **History's** reality series "Alone" scored a series high 2.4mln viewers for the Season 1 finale Thurs night. The 10-ep program, which places 10 survivalists alone in the Vancouver Island wilderness and has them self-document their lives, delivered series bests in 25-54 (1.1mln) and 18-49 (804K) in its 10pm time period. The series was recently renewed for a 2nd season.

WICT Lunch: Playwright, screenwriter ("About Last Night") and director *Leslye Headland* will keynote **WICT's** Touchstone Luncheon Sept 28 at the Marriott Marquis in NY. *Lisa Schwartz*, **Sundance Selects** and **IFC Films** evp, distribution, operations & biz development, will serve as honorary chair at the Diversity Week lunch honoring Woman of the Year (**Time Warner Cable's Ellen East**) and **WICT's** Women to Watch (**HBO's Bernadette Aulestia** and **TWC's Rachel Welch**).

Programming: **WEtv** ordered "Ex Isle," a dating and relationship show that helps former couples break free from one another and form new, healthy relationships. The 10-ep series will debut in 2016. -- **AXS TV** will begin airing "The X Factor UK" companion show "The Xtra Factor" on Aug 30, immediately following the Season 12 US premiere of the UK talent search series. This is the 2nd year that AXS has aired The X Factor UK.

Supply Chain Diversity: **Comcast NBCU** was inducted into **The Billion Dollar Roundtable**, a high-level corporate advocacy organization that promotes supply chain diversity excellence. It joins 20 other US-based corporations in an exclusive group that has attained \$1bln or more in annual Tier 1 supply-chain diversity spend. Other BDR members include **AT&T, Verizon, Wal-Mart** and **Johnson & Johnson**. Comcast NBCU is the 1st media company to join the list.

SCTE Expo Update: The **SCTE** Cable-Tec Expo will feature top execs in a panel moderated by **Cox** pres *Pat Esser* and explores topics including broadband network investment, energy management, the connected home, business services and others. Panelists include *Balan Nair*, evp and CTO of **Liberty Global**/program chair of this year's Expo, *Nomi Bergman*, pres of **Bright House**, *Phil McKinney*, pres/CEO of **CableLabs**, and *John Schanz*, evp and chief network officer of **Comcast**.

People: **Time Warner** elevated *Priya Dogra* to svp, mergers and acquisitions, where she'll oversee M&A efforts.

Cablefax Week in Review

Company	Ticker	8/21 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
BROADCASTERS/DBS/MMDS				
DISH:	DISH	60.95	(8.08%)	(16.38%)
ENTRAVISION:	EVC	7.58	(11.45%)	16.98%
GRAY TELEVISION:	GTN	11.79	(18.13%)	5.27%
MEDIA GENERAL:	MEG	11.96	(7.5%)	(28.51%)
NEXSTAR:	NXST	47.41	(10.33%)	(8.46%)
SINCLAIR:	SBGI	26.65	(6.03%)	(2.6%)
TEGNA:	TGNA	23.94	(5.9%)	0.00%

Company	Ticker	8/21 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
MSOS				
CABLE ONE:	CABO	419.75	(1.06%)	0.00%
CABLEVISION:	CVC	23.74	(7.01%)	15.02%
CHARTER:	CHTR	177.53	(1.27%)	6.55%
COMCAST:	CMCSA	56.78	(3.57%)	(2.12%)
COMCAST SPCL:	CMCSK	57.64	(3.34%)	0.12%
GCI:	GNCMA	16.75	(6.53%)	21.82%
LIBERTY BROADBAND:	LBRDA	53.50	(1.85%)	6.81%
LIBERTY GLOBAL:	LBTYA	48.44	(6.88%)	(3.53%)
SHAW COMM:	SJR	20.12	(1.57%)	(25.45%)
SHENTEL:	SHEN	40.18	(3.85%)	28.58%
TIME WARNER CABLE:	TWC	183.59	(1.3%)	20.74%

Company	Ticker	8/21 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
PROGRAMMING				
21ST CENTURY FOX:	FOXA	27.94	(7.7%)	(27.26%)
AMC NETWORKS:	AMCX	67.72	(9.54%)	6.19%
CBS:	CBS	45.09	(8.39%)	(18.52%)
CROWN:	CRWN	4.56	(4.8%)	28.81%
DISCOVERY:	DISCA	27.10	(4.27%)	(21.34%)
DISNEY:	DIS	98.84	(7.76%)	4.94%
GRUPO TELEVISIA:	TV	30.12	(6.49%)	(11.57%)
HSN:	HSNI	60.93	(3.9%)	(19.83%)
LIONSGATE:	LGF	36.75	(6.49%)	14.77%
MSG:	MSG	72.03	(6.49%)	(4.29%)
SCRIPPS INT:	SNI	54.00	(6.12%)	(28.26%)
STARZ:	STRZA	36.86	(0.57%)	24.11%
TIME WARNER:	TWX	72.70	(7.07%)	(14.89%)
VIACOM:	VIA	40.85	(8.14%)	(45.89%)
WWE:	WWE	20.54	(3.88%)	66.45%

Company	Ticker	8/21 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
TECHNOLOGY				
ADVANTAGE:	AEY	2.30	2.68%	(5.73%)
AMDOCS:	DOX	57.56	(4.72%)	23.36%
AMPHENOL:	APH	51.84	(6.71%)	(3.66%)
APPLE:	AAPL	105.76	(8.8%)	(4.19%)
ARRIS GROUP:	ARRS	26.44	(3.99%)	(12.42%)
AVID TECH:	AVID	8.01	(12.46%)	(43.63%)
BLNDER TONGUE:	BDR	0.54	(6.9%)	(79.93%)
BROADCOM:	BRCM	48.43	(4.1%)	11.77%
CISCO:	CSCO	26.47	(5.97%)	(4.85%)
COMMSCOPE:	CTV	25.98	(0.19%)	1.33%
CONCURRENT:	CCUR	5.17	(1.9%)	(27.08%)
CONVERGYS:	CVG	22.22	(4.31%)	9.08%
CSG SYSTEMS:	CSGS	31.06	(2.66%)	23.89%
ECHOSTAR:	SATS	43.81	(5.64%)	(16.55%)
GOOGLE:	GOOG	612.48	(6.79%)	16.35%
HARMONIC:	HLIT	5.58	(4.45%)	(20.4%)
INTEL:	INTC	26.56	(8.48%)	(26.81%)
INTERACTIVE CORP:	IACI	70.66	(5.97%)	16.24%

Company	Ticker	8/21 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
LEVEL 3:	LVL	46.11	(5.08%)	(6.62%)
MICROSOFT:	MSFT	43.07	(8.36%)	(7.28%)
NETFLIX:	NFLX	103.96	(15.75%)	(69.57%)
NIELSEN:	NLSN	45.92	(5.34%)	2.66%
RENTRAK:	RENT	46.00	(8.46%)	(36.83%)
SEACHANGE:	SEAC	5.85	(7%)	(8.31%)
SONY:	SNE	24.51	(9.62%)	19.74%
SPRINT NEXTEL:	S	4.71	12.68%	13.49%
TIVO:	TIVO	8.97	(7.53%)	(24.24%)
UNIVERSAL ELEC:	UEIC	46.37	(4.27%)	(28.69%)
VONAGE:	VG	6.05	(3.04%)	58.79%
YAHOO:	YHOO	32.93	(9.13%)	(34.8%)

Company	Ticker	8/21 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
TELCOS				
AT&T:	T	33.38	(1.97%)	(0.63%)
CENTURYLINK:	CTL	27.11	(4.1%)	(31.51%)
FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS:	FTR	5.15	(6.19%)	(19.53%)
TDS:	TDS	28.99	(3.5%)	14.81%
VERIZON:	VZ	46.10	(2.93%)	(1.45%)

Index	Value	% Chg	YTD %Chg
MARKET INDICES			
DOW:	DJI	16459.75	(5.82%) (7.65%)
NASDAQ:	IXIC	4706.04	(6.78%) (0.63%)
S&P 500:	GSPC	1970.89	(5.77%) (4.27%)

WINNERS & LOSERS

THIS WEEK'S STOCK PRICE WINNERS

COMPANY	CLOSE	1-WK CH
1. SPRINT NEXTEL:	4.71	12.68%
2. ADVANTAGE:	2.30	2.68%
3. DIRECTV:	93.55	0.00%
4. COMMSCOPE:	25.98	(0.19%)
5. STARZ:	36.86	(0.57%)

THIS WEEK'S STOCK PRICE LOSERS

COMPANY	CLOSE	1-WK CH
1. GRAY TELEVISION:	11.79	(18.13%)
2. NETFLIX:	103.96	(15.75%)
3. AVID TECH:	8.01	(12.46%)
4. ENTRAVISION:	7.58	(11.45%)
5. NEXSTAR:	47.41	(10.33%)

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