

Cablefax Daily™

Monday — December 21, 2015

What the Industry Reads First

Volume 26 / No. 244

One Step Closer: FCC OKs Altice-Suddenlink

The **FCC** signed off Fri on **Altice's** \$9.1bln acquisition of **Suddenlink**, with the agency concluding that public interest benefits outweigh any potential harms. Approval seemed a sure bet, with the transaction's docket only drawing 5 filings (3 comments expressing concern and 2 replies). The **DOJ** also has given the deal its blessing, provided the FCC condition it on compliance with a National Security Agreement that DOJ struck with the companies. "No commenter has raised substantive concerns regarding Altice's qualifications to provide service," said the Commission's order, which noted persuasive evidence Altice will bring operational expertise and resources that would let it accelerate service offerings for Suddenlink customers. The County of Humboldt (CA) had asked the FCC to deny the transaction, citing an ongoing dispute over PEG fees, and the **CA Emerging Technology Fund** asked that mergers, as a general matter, be conditioned on advancing affordable broadband. The FCC said the issues were outside the scope of its review. Altice, which will end up with 70% of Suddenlink, has promised to outline management once the deal closes, which should happen any moment now. The Commission continues to vet Altice's proposed \$17.7bln acquisition of **Cablevision**, announced in Sept. **NCTA** chief *Michael Powell* issued a statement welcoming the European-based Altice to the US cable industry, saying the group looks forward to working with a new company that can "offer fresh insight and perspective to us." If Altice receives approval for Cablevision, it will be the 4th largest cable provider in the US. Initial comments were due to the FCC earlier this month in its review of the Cablevision deal. **CWA** and **Zoom Telephonics** have filed petitions to deny the acquisition, while **Cogent** has asked the FCC to impose conditions that would ensure Altice doesn't engage in interconnection practices that would jeopardize broadband customers' access to Internet endpoints (**CFX**, 12/9).

NCTA Objects to AllVid Demos: **NCTA** fired off a letter to the **FCC** following recent filings indicating that **Google** and other members of the **Consumer Video Choice Coalition** hosted private technical demonstration of their solution for competitive navigation devices at retail. "There is a reason that Commission rules do not permit ex parte presentations to hide new proposals and technical data from outside review," **NCTA** wrote, complaining that the ex partes contain no technical and operational details on the demos. **NCTA** said the proponents failed to identify the

100

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Which two channels are broadly distributed on Verizon FiOS TV nationally and AT&T nationally, but not on your lineup? **One America News Network and AWE**

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*Based upon a combined rate of 19 cents for both One America News Network and AWE with broad distribution. Call for details.

CABLEFAX DAILY (ISSN 1069-6644) is published daily by Access Intelligence, LLC ● www.cablefax.com ● 301.354.2101 ● Editorial Director: Amy Maclean, 301.354.1760, amaclean@accessintel.com ● Publisher: Michael Grebb, 323.380.6263, mgrebb@accessintel.com ● Sr. Editor: Joyce Wang, 301.354.1828, jwang@accessintel.com ● Cablefax/Screenster Editor: Kaylee Hultgren, 646.764.8267, khultgren@accessintel.com ● Advisor: Seth Arenstein ● Dir. of Business Dev.: Rich Hauptner, 203.899.8460, rhauptner@accessintel.com ● Acct. Exec: Olivia Murray, 301.354.2010, omurray@accessintel.com ● Dir. of Market Dev.: Laurie Hofmann, 301.354.1796, lhofmann@accessintel.com ● Production: Joann Fato, jfato@accessintel.com ● Diane Schwartz, SVP Media Comms Group, dschwartz@accessintel.com ● Group Subs: Laurie Hofmann, 301.354.1796, lhofmann@accessintel.com ● Sub Questions, Client Services: 301.354.2101, clientservices@accessintel.com ● Annual subscription price: \$1,649/year ● Access Intelligence, LLC, 9211 Corporate Blvd., 4th Floor, Rockville, MD 20850

devices used or the standards. It wants the FCC to direct the Consumer Video Choice Coalition to answer a series of questions about the demonstration, including whether it was just for linear TV (already available from a myriad of apps) and whether the solution supported the distinctive, branded differentiated retail offerings from each MVPD. "Given the AllVid proponents' hide-the-ball approach, we can only conclude that their proposal continues to suffer from the same host of problems that have always plagued it," NCTA said.

Windstream Unloads Data Biz: Windstream has completed the sale of its data center business to cloud computing firm **TierPoint** in a \$575mln all-cash transaction. Originally announced on Oct 19, the deal includes an ongoing, reciprocal strategic partnership that allows each firm to sell its products and services to the other's prospective customers. The transaction is expected to allow Windstream to focus on its core telecom services and pay down debt. TierPoint recently named **Jerry Kent**, outgoing chmn/CEO of **Suddenlink**, as its chmn/CEO. Kent will remain at Suddenlink until the **Altice** acquisition closes. Kent will also remain the CEO of the **Cequel III** telecom management firm he co-founded in 2002. He also previously served as CEO of Charter.

Waste Disposal: Comcast agreed to pay \$26mln to the state of CA to resolve allegations that it unlawfully disposed of electronics, including remote controls and modems, and discarded records without first omitting or redacting private customer info. The state reached a similar \$24mln settlement last year with **AT&T**. According to an investigation by the Attorney General and District Attorney's offices, Comcast facilities unlawfully handled disposal of various hazardous waste products since 2005. If approved by the court, Comcast will pay \$19.85mln in civil penalties and costs. An additional \$3mln will fund projects furthering environmental and consumer protection and enforcement in the state. Comcast will also provide Cal-Recycle with \$2.25 million in airtime over a 4-year period and \$150K to develop and produce PSAs on proper disposal of hazardous waste. The company also must spend a minimum of \$700K to enhance environmental compliance.

Comcast's New Sports Contract: Comcast's enterprise arm **Comcast Business** scored a multi-year deal with the **Sacramento Kings** to provide connectivity to the team's indoor sports and entertainment venue. The MSO will enable free WiFi for fans, help power the Kings mobile app and offer cloud-based voice and unified communications services for team members at the arena and at the team's corporate offices. In addition, the company will provide an in-house video feed to all TV monitors throughout Golden 1 Center. The agreement continues an existing partnership that includes a long-term broadcast pact with **Comcast SportsNet CA**, which holds exclusive TV rights for Sacramento Kings basketball.

USA Lands on Roku: USA Network's TVE service USA Now is available on **Roku** Players and Roku TV models in the US. The service allows Roku users who authenticate via their pay-TV provider to stream full seasons and select eps of the net's shows.

Ovation's Launches: Ovation is launching on **Service Electric** in the Sparta, NJ, market on expanded basic tier on Jan 1. The net recently launched on **RCN** in DC on the premiere tier on Dec 1.

Have a VR New Year: Everyone's all about virtual reality these days... We got a kick out of **The Cable Center's** VR holiday card, which lets recipients wander around a snowy landscape with the Cable Center and a Peanuts-style version of its staff in the background. Want to know more about VR? Check out **Cablefax's** VR webinar on Jan 19. <http://www.cablefax.com/eventsawardswebinars/virtual-reality-webinar>

Better Tech for Latinos: Univision and Mexican media company **Grupo Televisa** will expand their existing programs to offer more opportunities for Latinos in the US media and tech sector in 2016. Through education, mentorship and career development programs, the companies seek to continue to expand their existing initiatives to increase the number of Latinos in media and tech, and develop and educate future media professionals.

Programming: **Esquire** premieres 2nd original scripted series "Beowulf" on Jan 23. Based on the English poem that's more than a thousand years old, the 13-ep 1-hour drama series will chronicle Beowulf's return to his home to make peace with his past. -- **Destination America** will ring in the New Year with the premiere of 4 horror series from Dec 28 to Jan 3. The series are: "Ghostly Encounters," "Most Haunted," "Paranormal Survivor," and "A Haunting."

Last Call: Did your company execute a killer **Facebook** campaign in 2015? Maybe you've got an app that's ah-mazing or a blogger who deserves recognition? Last chance to nominate them for a **Cablefax Digital Award**!

Cablefax Week in Review

Company	Ticker	12/18 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
BROADCASTERS/DBS/MMDS				
DISH:	DISH	57.16	(3.12%)	(21.58%)
ENTRAVISION:	EVC	7.61	(3.3%)	17.44%
GRAY TELEVISION:	GTN	15.34	1.19%	36.96%
MEDIA GENERAL:	MEG	14.98	(1.38%)	(10.46%)
NEXSTAR:	NXST	56.06	0.34%	8.24%
SINCLAIR:	SBGI	31.66	(0.91%)	15.72%
TEGNA:	TGNA	25.37	(0.31%)	0.00%

MSOS				
CABLE ONE:	CABO	436.56	(0.88%)	0.00%
CABLEVISION:	CVC	31.00	2.85%	50.19%
CHARTER:	CHTR	178.29	0.13%	7.00%
COMCAST:	CMCSA	56.40	(2.71%)	(2.78%)
GCI:	GNCMA	18.77	(2.19%)	36.51%
LIBERTY BROADBAND:	LBRDA	50.31	(0.26%)	0.44%
LIBERTY GLOBAL:	LBTYA	38.86	(6.11%)	(22.61%)
SHAW COMM:	SJR	16.96	(12.4%)	(37.16%)
SHENTEL:	SHEN	42.84	(2.33%)	37.09%
TIME WARNER CABLE:	TWC	181.13	0.35%	19.12%

PROGRAMMING				
21ST CENTURY FOX:	FOXA	27.11	(1.27%)	(29.42%)
AMC NETWORKS:	AMCX	76.27	(1.26%)	19.60%
CBS:	CBS	45.66	(2.52%)	(17.49%)
CROWN:	CRWN	5.25	1.74%	48.31%
DISCOVERY:	DISCA	26.22	(4.2%)	(23.89%)
DISNEY:	DIS	107.72	(0.3%)	14.36%
GRUPO TELEVISIA:	TV	27.78	2.47%	(18.44%)
HSN:	HSNI	49.75	(1.11%)	(34.54%)
LIONSGATE:	LGF	32.36	(5.05%)	1.06%
MSG NETWORKS:	MSGN	20.70	2.12%	0.00%
SCRIPPS INT:	SNI	53.89	(1.34%)	(28.4%)
STARZ:	STRZA	32.61	(2.16%)	9.80%
TIME WARNER:	TWX	63.51	(2.99%)	(25.65%)
VIACOM:	VIA	41.64	(5.58%)	(44.85%)
WWE:	WWE	17.20	8.38%	39.38%

TECHNOLOGY				
ADVANTAGE:	AEY	1.86	(14.29%)	(23.77%)
AMDOCS:	DOX	54.19	(0.95%)	16.14%
AMPHENOL:	APH	51.64	(1.84%)	(4.03%)
APPLE:	AAPL	106.03	(6.32%)	(3.94%)
ARRIS GROUP:	ARRS	29.28	(4.47%)	(3.01%)
AVID TECH:	AVID	6.08	(7.6%)	(57.21%)
BLNDER TONGUE:	BDR	0.35	(7.89%)	(86.99%)
BROADCOM:	BRCM	56.28	(1.85%)	29.89%
CISCO:	CSCO	26.27	0.42%	(5.57%)
COMMSCOPE:	COMM	25.00	(3.33%)	9.51%
CONCURRENT:	CCUR	5.04	5.00%	(28.91%)
CONVERGYS:	CVG	25.18	3.28%	23.61%
CSG SYSTEMS:	CSGS	33.87	(0.88%)	35.10%
ECHOSTAR:	SATS	36.86	(0.91%)	(29.79%)
GOOGLE:	GOOG	739.31	0.06%	40.45%
HARMONIC:	HLIT	4.21	(1.17%)	(39.94%)
INTEL:	INTC	33.87	(1.18%)	(6.68%)
INTERACTIVE CORP:	IACI	60.17	0.84%	(1.02%)
LEVEL 3:	LVT	50.85	(1.3%)	2.98%

Company	Ticker	12/18 Close	1-Week % Chg	YTD %Chg
MICROSOFT:	MSFT	54.13	0.13%	16.53%
NETFLIX:	NFLX	118.02	(0.75%)	(65.45%)
NIELSEN:	NLSN	45.64	0.42%	2.03%
RENTTRAK:	RENT	43.60	(3.9%)	(40.13%)
SEACHANGE:	SEAC	6.90	2.07%	8.15%
SONY:	SNE	24.44	0.41%	19.39%
SPRINT NEXTEL:	S	3.66	0.27%	(11.81%)
TIVO:	TIVO	8.50	(0.82%)	(28.21%)
UNIVERSAL ELEC:	UEIC	49.41	(1.12%)	(24.02%)
VONAGE:	VG	5.79	3.02%	51.97%
YAHOO:	YHOO	32.95	0.12%	(34.77%)

TELCOS				
AT&T:	T	33.60	1.30%	0.03%
CENTURYLINK:	CTL	25.11	0.80%	(36.56%)
FRONTIER:	FTR	4.64	1.53%	(27.5%)
TDS:	TDS	25.30	(3.88%)	0.20%
VERIZON:	VZ	45.56	1.65%	(2.61%)

MARKET INDICES				
DOW:	DJI	17128.45	(0.79%)	(3.9%)
NASDAQ:	IXIC	4923.08	(0.21%)	3.95%
S&P 500:	GSPC	2005.52	(0.34%)	(2.59%)

WINNERS & LOSERS

THIS WEEK'S STOCK PRICE WINNERS

COMPANY	CLOSE	1-WK CH
1. WWE:	17.20	8.38%
2. CONCURRENT:	5.04	5.00%
3. CONVERGYS:	25.18	3.28%
4. VONAGE:	5.79	3.02%
5. CABLEVISION:	31.00	2.85%

THIS WEEK'S STOCK PRICE LOSERS

COMPANY	CLOSE	1-WK CH
1. ADVANTAGE:	1.86	(14.29%)
2. SHAW COMM:	16.96	(12.4%)
3. BLNDER TONGUE:	0.35	(7.89%)
4. AVID TECH:	6.08	(7.6%)
5. APPLE:	106.03	(6.32%)

Cablefax Industry Jobs

TIP 1 : Target Candidates!

Post your openings on Cablefax's job board to reach top talent and filter applicants that lack industry experience. Ask about bundles to fit your needs and budget.

TIP 2 : Be Selective!

Don't waste time reading pointless resumes. You can search Cablefax's resume database for free, while utilizing the demographic filters.

TIP 3 : Stand Out!

Take advantage of upgrades to add exposure by taking advantage of upgrades, including weekly job eletters sent to over 40k industry executives.

Let
Cablefax's
Job Board
do the work
for you