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What the Industry Reads First

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Viva Las Vegas: Execs Talk Trends Ahead of CES

Just as the holidays have snuck up on so many, so too has CES. Taking over Las Vegas from Jan 8-11, CES serves as a hub for innovators and business leaders who want to get a peek at the future of consumer technology. There's sure to be something for everyone with 4.4K exhibiting companies taking over the more than 2.7mln sq ft of exhibit space. "CES is a great place to see what the future MIGHT look like—and the exciting possibilities for new technology in everyday life," The Cable Center CEO Jana Henthorn told Cablefax. Last year, this meant looking at the differences between OLED TV screens and UHD screens. This year, she's hoping to learn more about "connected everything" and IoT, and she won't be the only one. "We'll be seeking information that is pertinent to the growth of connected devices, operator WiFi management initiatives and IoT customer support," OpenVault CEO Mark Trudeau said. Moving into 2019, a year sure to be marked by 5G connectivity and advances in AI, cable is using the show to prepare for additional technical needs. "As the industry's applied science arm, we're all about the network and what the network needs to support new apps that are important to business and residential customers, and we'll be looking for innovations in wireless, new connected home products, security—anything that will be connected to the cable network," SCTE pres/CEO Mark Dzuban said. Arris will also be taking a deep dive into the world of connectivity as it applies to spaces big and small. "This year, we're especially interested in the imperative for Constant Connectivity and how this is playing out on every level—from smart cities to enterprises and the home," said Duncan Potter, syp of global marketing at Arris. "And we're excited to share our vision for a new era of connectivity while learning as much as we can about how best to connect and serve the next billion people." While everyone's heading into the show with at least one priority, the unexpected surprises often turn out to be a highlight of the show. "I'm interested in seeing the latest cutting-edge applications of machine intelligence," Comcast pres, technology, product, Xperience, Comcast Cable, Tony Werner said. "But even more than that, there's always something at CES that catches me off guard, and that's what I look forward to the most." With changemakers from so many sectors converging in one place, the show floor naturally turns into a birthing place for new agreements and partnerships as each company shows off its latest and greatest advancements. "Turner will share more news on how, as



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part of the powerhouse of AT&T, we continue to evolve in advertising connectivity, and enhanced ways our partners can align with us," Turner ad sales pres *Donna Speciale* said.

Connected Consumers: Americans really love internet, as a new study from Leichtman Research Group found. In 2018, 83% of US households have an internet service at home, compared to 76% in 2008. Broadband makes up 98% of this, meaning 81% of connected households have a broadband internet service, a jump from 78% in 2013 and 57% in 2008. The report also found that of those who aren't online at home, 49% don't use a laptop or desktop computer at home. Non-subs also lean older (25% of people aged 55+ aren't online at home) and lower income (38% with annual household incomes less than \$30K don't have internet at home).

Quiet Night In: Netflix has prepared 14 New Year's Eve countdowns from its family-friendly programming. "Fuller House," "Pinky Malinky" and "Boss Baby" are among the shows with NYE countdowns. The streamer said that for the last five years, an average of 5mln families have tuned into its NYE countdowns and that its latest research shows that 77% of US parents would prefer to stay home on the last night of the year. YPulse research showed a similar sentiment amongst Gen Z & millennials with 7 in 10 wanting a quiet evening in. The countdowns will begin streaming on the service on Dec 26.

Programming: ID partnered with the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children and victims' rights advocate *John Walsh* for "In Pursuit with John Walsh." Walsh will tackle unsolved violent crimes where time is of the essence. The series will also feature two missing children each hour. The 12 ep series premieres Jan 16 at 10pm. -- Hallmark Movies & Mysteries is starting the new year with two movie premieres. "Ruby Herring Mysteries: Silent Witness" kicks off Jan 20 at 9pm, followed by "Mystery 101" Jan 27 at 9pm. -- Oxygen will premiere "Smiley Face Killers: The Hunt for Justice" on Jan 19 at 7pm. The show follows an active private investigation as they work to investigate homicides that could be connected to a larger theory. -- Cooking Channel will premiere "Food Truck Nation" on Jan 22 at 9pm. Chef *Brad Miller* will visit three food trucks and their chefs across the country each ep.

Work Culture: The deadline to nominate your company for **Cablefax's** Work Culture List is coming up! We're looking for innovators in areas such as recruitment, benefits and continuing education. It's free to enter, but do so by Jan 16.

Editor's Note: Your next issue of **Cablefax** Daily will arrive the evening of Wednesday, Jan 2, due to the holidays. We hope yours are merry and bright. Cablefax.com will keep you updated on any breaking news until we return.

