

Cablefax Daily™

WHAT THE INDUSTRY READS FIRST

Introducing the 2025 Cable Hall of Fame Class

The Cable Hall of Fame welcomes six more into its ranks at a celebration tonight at the at the Ziegfeld Ballroom in NYC. Explore the perspectives of this year's honorees through **CFX's** exclusive Q&As with these industry visionaries.

Bill Stemper



**Chairman Emeritus,
Comcast Business,
Comcast Corporation**

You helped launch Comcast Business, which will celebrate 20 years of existence next year. What's been your proudest moment being involved in the birth and growth of the division?

I've spent my career in supporting the Business Telecom space at AT&T and in Cable. I can't pinpoint a single moment that stands out as my proudest professional achievement. Instead, I take pride in the collective impact of what we accomplished at Comcast Business—transforming an industry that hadn't meaningfully changed in over a century. With the growth and success of Comcast Business, today all businesses have real choice in their internet, phone, mobile and other services. Comcast Business now serves over 2.6 million businesses globally—more than AT&T, Verizon or others. Today, Comcast Business serves every business segment in their telecom needs. Small businesses, Fortune 100, Global and Private government sector markets with billions of dollars of growth opportunity. More than our achievements, I am especially proud of the people I worked with and how we achieved our goals as a team. The enjoyment, learning, and personal growth we experienced were invaluable. The trajectory of Comcast Business was made possible and fueled by the team and Comcast leaders; that combination was critical to our success.

What do you see as the biggest challenges facing operators over the next five years?

The next five years offer a tremendous opportunity for operators with the vision to innovate and the grit to take strategic risks. The advent of AI, in particular, presents the challenge of staying on top of the latest advancements, making the right strategic decisions—not using AI as a solution in search of a problem—and recruiting top talent. But the capabilities and opportunities it promises to unlock are massive. The future is bright!

What advice do you have for someone hoping to rise through the ranks and eventually sit in the position you hold today?

For tomorrow's aspiring leaders I will always advise and coach people to remain grounded in people values. I have been blessed to work among wonderful people. Like raising your kids, you want them to hang with others and families that have the values you desire. With competitive zeal, succeed the right way with respect, ethics and deep honesty. Win or lose in your career, you'll always sleep well, live well and be your best.

You've remained deeply involved in Marquette University since your graduation and currently serve as a trustee. Why is that so important to you?

Marquette University has always been a special place for the Stemperes. I am a third-generation alum with all siblings and almost all relatives coming through Marquette. I met my wife Nancy at Marquette and it has been a common aspect of our life together. We raised our four children all over the world and each chose to go to Marquette (really). The Jesuit environment and Midwest values, produce fine citizens with sharp critical thinking and personal values.

How does it feel to become a part of the Cable Hall of Fame?

It's an incredible honor that is very hard to fathom to receive this recognition. The Cable Industry "adopted" me into their family and provided every bit of support to achieve success in the business telecom space. Every day has been a privilege to work in this industry and to help it realize the growth that is possible.

Andrew Ross Sorkin



**Co-Anchor,
'Squawk Box,' CNBC**

You joined the New York Times as an intern during your senior year of high school. What lessons from those days shaped how you approached the rest of your career?

Persistence matters more than talent. And developing the trust of your audience and sources is everything.

MEDIACOM CONGRATULATES

Pat Kehoe

2025 CABLE HALL OF FAME HONOREE

This well-deserved honor celebrates a career that has helped shape our industry and continues to inspire.

THANK YOU!

Rocco B. Commisso

Founder, Chairman, & CEO
Mediacom Communications Corporation

And the 3,800 men and women of Mediacom

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Patricia Kehoe
President
PK Network

You've broken numerous stories on M&A, financial crises, the auto industry, you name it. Is there a particular piece of breaking news or a hard-to-get interview that holds a special piece of your heart?

I get stopped on the street, even years later now, about my interview with Elon Musk. So I'll go with that one. A passport controller in Zimbabwe even mentioned it to me. That interview, to me, not just made news but had a genuine narrative arc. It required a special level of craft and, happily, it worked.

With so many turning to social media platforms and alternative sources for news, how do cable news networks have to set themselves apart?

The answer is simple but hard to pull off consistently: Make and break news.

What coverage area or emerging business is keeping you up at night?

How policy in Washington impacts the global economy both in the short and long term.

How did you feel learning you were being inducted in the Cable Hall of Fame?

Honestly? It made me smile. I felt kind of light, floating for a brief moment. And then I thought to myself, "It's only downhill from here!"

Ed Breen



**Former Chairman & CEO,
General Instrument**

When you graduated from Grove City College, you had two job offers—one from IBM and one from Jerrold. Now, how thankful are you to your past self for choosing to dive into the unknown?

I graduated college and was going to get married at 21. I wanted to go for an MBA, but my wife said, "You better go get a job so we can get on with this." I had two job offers. I ended up going with Jerrold Electronics, and it was probably the luckiest thing I ever did for my career. I remember telling my family and friends, "When I went to the interview, it was like a beehive around that place." People were yelling over their cubicles and running around. It just seemed exciting, and boy, was it. The company was growing very fast and there was always something to raise your hand for and get involved with.

Coming from a sales background, how important has it

been in your career to also take the time to know the latest technology inside and out?

I quickly realized that my customers were basically the ones who built the industry, so I needed to learn the technology if I was going to succeed. I spent a lot of time studying; it was hard work but also a lot of fun. I talked to just about everyone, including the engineers and our seasoned sales force—they were part of the first generation that started the industry. The importance of always being on the cutting-edge is something I learned from my time in the cable industry. At every company I've joined, R&D has been critically important, and learning the technology is something I've always enjoyed.

A number of cable laureates have been influential on you and your career—John Malone, the Roberts family, etc. Do you have a favorite piece of advice or story with one of those individuals you could share?

I learned so much by talking with John Malone, Brian Roberts, Frank Drendel, and others. Watching the deals they were doing in the cable industry was great training for putting together my biggest deal at GI—to win the majority of the digital set-top business. We structured a warrant deal where cable operators would receive warrants or stock in General Instrument for every box they bought. Because of accounting rules, we needed to sign up everyone on the same day, so we had to move very quickly. Dr. Malone saw the potential for the whole industry to launch the digital platform and agreed that all cable operators would get the same contract as TCI. From there, Frank Drendel and I visited nearly every cable operator. We announced an order for the first 15 million units to be deployed, and that was the start of a major transformation for the industry.

You've led four different companies through a series of challenges, restructurings and waves of change that you talked about during your GRIT Talk last year. What has been the greatest lesson you've been able to take from those tough times?

I can count maybe 20 major deals I've done in my career, and about half of them came from a risk I was concerned about. Proactively assessing risk allows you to pressure test your business strategy and take bold steps that you might not otherwise. At GI, we were the leader in analog set-top boxes, if we didn't make the switch to digital it would have been a real risk to the company. That's what led us to creating the warrant deal. For TYCO International the challenge was regaining credibility, so I ended up asking the entire board to resign. In the mid-2010s the ag industry was consolidating, if we hadn't done the DowDuPont merger, both companies might have been left out of a key market. Change is never easy, especially for employees, but the consequences of not transforming—that's the real threat.

What does being a part of the Cable Hall of Fame mean to you?

The cable industry has always felt like family to me, and it still does. I continue to be passionate about the industry and remain involved by serving on the Comcast board of directors. I'm fortunate to have started my career in cable and to have worked with many of the industry's pioneers. To be in the Hall of Fame alongside this select group, that I deeply admire, is just such a great honor.

Pat Kehoe



Founder & President, PK Network Communications

Having first aspired to a career in theater, is there a production that most reminds you of your professional path?

Looking back, I'd say there's an amalgam of theatrical productions that strike a chord with my career. My early days reflect the

humor of Neil Simon's "I Ought to be in Pictures;" launching PK Network, the drama of Tennessee Williams', "Long Day's Journey into Night" and the comedy of George Bernard Shaw's "The Importance of being Earnest." My last act—that's still pending.

Since your early days at NBC in the Guest Relations Division, you've always made your own path. What advice would you give to others that want to take that leap, but feel hesitant?

A colleague told me I was very brave leaving a corporate job to start my own business. Frankly, I did not know better. In retrospect founding a business does require courage, stamina and humor. For anyone considering their own start-up, determine what's unique about your business, and have the resources, dedication and financial acumen to go the distance. That said, if you're a risk taker and opportunist who believes in yourself, has a wonderful concept and never wants to regret you didn't give it a try, then go for it.

Why has it been so important for you to provide pro-bono services to different organizations and causes?

It costs nothing to be kind, and yet it has a huge payoff. I believe very strongly that to live a meaningful life, those that can be generous should, and must be. Running a business leaves little personal time to be philanthropic, so I decided to provide PK Network's pro bono support to causes my clients, staff, family and I were personally invested in, like Parkinson's Disease Foundation, Catholic Charities, Cable TV Pioneers, New York Cares and many others. Being charitable is as intrinsic to me personally as it is to successfully be running my business.

You've been in the front lines during the early days of

such prominent brands like Food Network and A&E. Is there a story that sticks with you from seeing those brands take their first steps?

I was very fortunate that Nory Le Brun hired PK Network to launch Food Network. While Nory was establishing significant distribution, he knew a breakthrough event at the NCTA convention would increase interest and awareness. (In those days, contracts were signed at shows.) So, we came up with the great Food Network "Cable Chili Cookoff"—our celebrity chefs were MSO chiefs, cooking at our booth's 'kitchen.'" The promotion was a great success, leaving a strong memorable and sensory impression; it became an evergreen event for a few years until other exhibitors complained the convention hall was smelling like a roadside diner, even though it was a good one. But it did set a precedent for other exhibitors to serve food and drinks in years to come.

What does it mean for you to join the Cable Hall of Fame?

It's a validation of the contributions made by all founding small businesses to the growth and prosperity of our industry. It's an honor to be personally recognized along such illustrious fellow honorees and prior inductees.

Zenita Henderson



Chief Marketing Officer, Point Broadband

When you think about the most influential people in your professional success, who comes to mind?

- My Mom. I can't fail; I am her legacy.
- Matt Aden proves that nice people can and do finish first.

• Susan Campbell taught me how to love my job, not just do my job. Susan entered my life in 2006, and it hasn't been the same since. Susan helped me evolve from being a transactional executioner to being more strategic. Hence, delivering value beyond what I was asked to do.

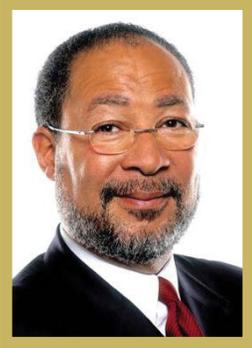
• Yvette Kanouff, Nomi Bergman, Jennifer Yohe, Grace Killelea, Christine Whitaker, Martha Soehren, Charlotte Field, Stephane Mitchko Beale, Theresa Hennessy, and Leslie Ellis—this group of ladies saw something in me many years ago. I love what I do! I have fun, keep my head down and charge forward. These ladies are there pushing me, and they never let me get away with anything!

You've been so involved in organizations like NATAS, The WICT Network, The Syndeo Institute at the Cable Center and more. Why is it so important for you to give back through your work at those institutions?

I have been so blessed in this industry as a woman, a Black woman in technology that I want everybody to know there is a place for them in this industry. I want others to know about its rich history and build upon that history to create new technology experiences. The cable industry is an important part of technol-

Richard Parsons Receives Bresnan Ethics in Business Award Posthumously

The late Richard Parsons, who served as Chairman and CEO of Time Warner as well as Chairman of Citigroup is the 2025 Bresnan Award recipient. Named in honor of the late William J. Bresnan, founder and chairman of Bresnan Communications and longtime chairman of the board of the Sydeo Institute at The Cable Center, the award celebrates a leader whose career exemplified Bresnan's strong commitment to business ethics. Parsons was inducted into the Cable



Hall of Fame in 2013. At the ceremony, he referred to then-Time Warner Cable Chairman Glenn Britt as "my Yoda" and, referring to the achievements of cable guys, said that he'd gladly "quibble" with Tom Brokaw on whom should be given the moniker "The Greatest Generation." "Dick Parsons was a transformational groundbreaker for our industry," said Michael Willner, Chairman and CEO of PenThera Partners and Chairman of the Sydeo Institute at The Cable Center's board. "He led with great integrity, was passionate about the cable industry and dedicated to many philanthropic pursuits. It is an honor to recognize him with the 2025 Bresnan Ethics in Business Award." Parsons served as a lawyer on the staff of then-New York Governor Nelson Rock-

efeller, following him to D.C. when he was appointed Vice President of the U.S. in 1974. He held various roles in the government, including as a senior White House aide for President Gerald Ford. Parsons returned to NYC in 1977 and joined the board of Time Warner in 1991. He became president of the company in 1995 and succeeded Gerald Levin as Chairman and CEO of Time Warner, Inc. in 2002. He served in the role until 2008 and then joined Citigroup as Chairman from 2009 to 2012. Parsons passed away on Dec. 26, 2024 at age 76 from cancer. His distinguished career also included serving a member of President Barack Obama's Economic Transition Team, Chairman of the Apollo Theater Foundation and as interim CEO of the L.A. Clippers.

ogy's history, and I will be bold to say, the foundation of all that we experience today via the internet and entertainment. If the visionaries and pioneers of our industry had not taken the chances to build infrastructure and create the products and services they did, we would not have all the great connected experiences in our homes, at work or entertainment that we do now. We must respect the past, as we continue to innovate and provide access for all.

You've achieved so much through your stints at Jerrold, Arris, SCTE, etc. What bucket list items do you still have as it relates to your professional life?

- I am a huge football fan, crazy Eagles fan, so my ultimate goal is to work for the NFL or the Philadelphia Eagles.
- Politician (Congress or Senate).
- Work for a nonprofit.

Point Broadband is expanding through acquisitions like Riviera Utilities. What unique marketing challenges do additions like that bring?

No challenges, but lots of opportunities. We are a rural fiber provider. We live, work, and play in the communities we serve. I am having a great time getting to know our customers, up close and personal. Our CEO and I have been out with our technicians to do installs, and I have even done a few installs (that was super fun!) and helped customers order their streaming service. It's been all hands on deck, and we love it! Point Broadband's mission is to improve lives through fiber technology, and that is what we are doing.

How does it feel to join the Cable Hall of Fame?

Surreal. I still don't believe it is happening. I won't fully feel it until I get there. Never expected, but so deeply appreciated.

Joseph (Joe) Cohen



President of The Switch Sports Group; Chairman & CEO of West Ridge Associates

Having played a role in the creation of MSG Network and other regional sports networks, what are your thoughts on the state of those channels today and their role in the future of sports distribution?

Regional Sports Networks (RSNs) like MSG and others are facing financial challenges, but they're also innovating to adapt to changing viewing habits. In the New York market, the joint venture of YES Network and MSG Network, Gotham Sports, were the first RSNs to offer live stats and interactive games. NBC Sports Bay Area continues to innovate with live-game broadcasts, including those of the San Francisco Giants and Golden State Warriors. Amazon distributes the FanDuel Sports and DRC INSIGHT app through Prime Video and currently all streaming entities are studying and implementing sports strategies. As for the future, the landscape for sports television will continue to evolve. More than ever, RSNs will need to adapt to changing viewing habits. They must be nimble, adapt and invent new ways to attract viewers and generate revenue.

The ever-inflating cost of sports rights is a massive challenge. Do you see the bubble bursting, and how

does the market adjust?

The cost of sports broadcasting rights has been skyrocketing for years, driven by competition among broadcasters, the rise of streaming services, and the unparalleled live-viewing engagement that sports offer. For the time being, revenue will continue to go up the more inventory the leagues control. Going back to radio, sports was important for radio because everybody knew what sports was. When television arrived, sports became important to capture the audience. Then cable came and cable needed sports for the same reason radio and television did. We went from six channels with television to 50 with cable. As technology, like mobile, advances we now have an infinite universe and people are seeking a recognizable product and sports provides that. But how revenue is divided is the latest chapter in the big market/small market divide. Inventory comes from the schedule of games. Even though the revenue total is increasing, the more games that go to national services on an exclusive basis, the less are available to local markets. As technology opportunities continue to increase, the likelihood is that total rights fees will continue to increase as well.

When it comes to the consumption of sports at home, what is the most stark difference between viewers and fans today from how they behaved at the start of your career?

The level of interactivity and on-demand immediate access is the most significant difference between sports viewers and fans today compared to the 1970s. It used to be, the big attraction was the games themselves. Then the interest in analysis inspired pre- and post-game shows and further adjacent programming. Now there are complete

channels dedicated to this analysis. The demographics of the audience has changed. Fans are more interested in highlights and quick-betting results and less interested in sitting through an entire game. Digital and mobile technologies have increased the market. Today, streaming services, DVRs, and social media allow fans to watch games (in whole or in part) whenever and wherever they want, often consuming highlights instantly. In the past, watching sports was a largely passive, one-screen experience—fans gathered around a TV. Now, fans engage across multiple devices, using social media, betting apps, and real-time stats while watching, creating a more interactive experience. The core love of sports remains, but the way fans consume and interact with sports has evolved dramatically due to technology, media expansion, and globalization.

How does it feel to be joining the Cable Hall of Fame?

Being inducted into the Cable Hall of Fame is a seminal moment in my career. Being recognized by my peers in the cable and telecommunications industry is a prestigious honor. It represents being saluted for making a lasting impact on the industry through innovation, leadership and contributions to its growth. It is deeply rewarding, as it acknowledges career achievements and dedication to shaping the industry. It's humbling because it places me alongside legendary figures who have transformed media and technology. It's exciting in that it offers a moment to reflect on the industry's evolution and my role in it. And it's inspiring as it motivates me to continue making contributions and mentoring the next generation. It is particularly meaningful to be recognized in Manhattan, where my cable career started a few blocks away at Madison Square Garden.

Jake Perlman Receives Innovation and Intrapreneurship for Excellence Award

The daily pursuit of discovering new technologies and seeing how they benefit companies can be unpredictable, but the

steady leadership of Jake Perlman makes the endeavor a smooth one, hence why he's the first-ever recipient of the Innovation and Intrapreneurship Award.

"It is a special honor. I have been lucky to be surrounded by tremendous business partners and supported with great teams and managers. This is really an award that celebrates the success we have had

together, driving improvements for our customers and our business," he says.

Perlman has shown curiosity at each step of his career. As a recent graduate from Brown University, he moved to Silicon Valley to join a communications startup that focused on voice over internet. He was then hooked on the telecommunications industry and the innovations that come with it, eventually joining the likes of Qwest and CenturyLink (now Lumen) as well as Bright House Networks as CIO.

Perlman joined Charter when it purchased Bright House in 2016, and since then he's played a key role in molding how Charter approaches certain technologies. Recently, he's been leading the charge on

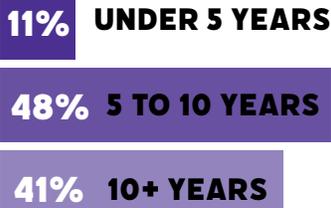
artificial intelligence and machine learning, which have been used in many facets such as support for Spectrum Mobile, human resources, credit risk initiatives and construction. However, his approach remains diligent, despite the endless opportunities AI and ML present.

"While embracing AI for the potential it has for our business and customers, we also carefully weigh each use case to avoid pitfalls, including watching for bias and other experiences that do not meet our operating standards. In our case, this means active formal and informal governance across the business. Diligent research on platforms, lots of validation, and open dialogue among executives help us make good decisions."

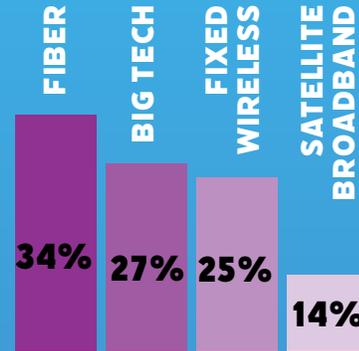
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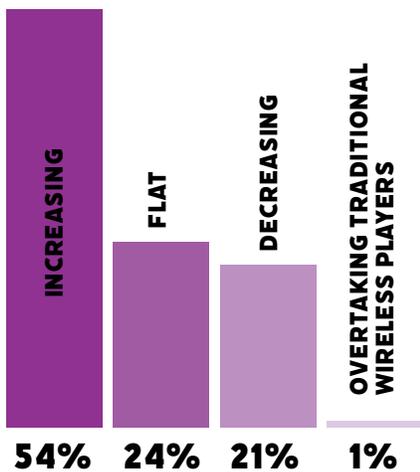
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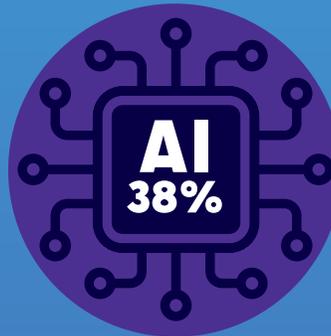
BIGGEST THREAT TO CABLE-PROVIDED BROADBAND



CABLE'S EXPECTED SHARE OF WIRELESS/MOBILE MARKET IN 2030



EMERGING CABLE INDUSTRY JOB TITLE/ROLE CATEGORIES



TECHNOLOGY (NON-AI AND CYBERSECURITY)
18%

SALES/REVENUE/
MARKETING
13%

CYBER/DATA SECURITY
10%

MANAGEMENT/
STRATEGY/HR/LEGAL
10%

CONTENT
7%

GOVERNMENT RELATIONS
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