Connect in Mount Vernon: The Right Bandwidth

We live in a world of instant communication. Constant change is the new dynamic of the global economy, and makes agility even more necessary than at any point in business history. How can business respond to this dynamic? What infrastructure will be required for tomorrow's business and community?

We also live in our world of choices of where to do business. Where sole proprietors or a major corporation can move billions of dollars and goods at a push of a button from any location in the world. Where are the optimum locations to do business today and tomorrow?

Connect in Mount Vernon. It's the right location, with the right infrastructure, with the right bandwidth to accommodate high technology businesses today. And tomorrow.

Fiber Optics Technology:
Getting Plugged Into Intelligent Cities

Businesses today are redefining bandwidth as a need and not as a value added service. Bandwidth is now an essential commodity, in the same category as power, water, sewer, and other services. In order for businesses to be effective in the information intensive economy, they need bandwidth to be delivered on a redundant fiber- optic infrastructure, which will provides the speed and even more essential the reliability of constant service.
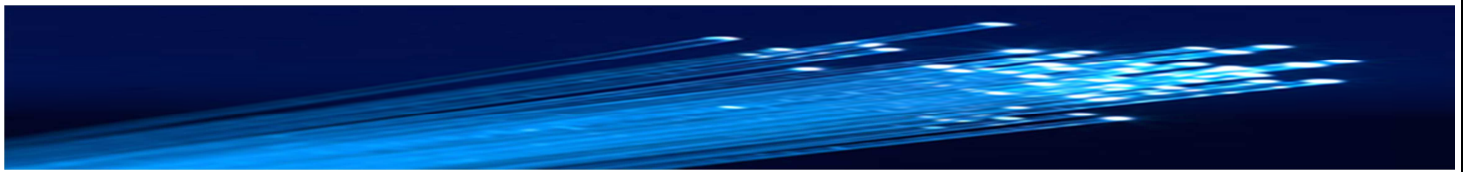
Fueled by the realized benefits of information, communication, and commerce over the Internet, businesses and residential demand for more flexible, higher speed services are increasing. The need for additional bandwidth is expected to grow by 400% to 500% per year.

With this kind of growth, most cities are finding that private providers do not have the incentive to provide the bandwidth necessary for businesses to compete in today's economy or it's not economically feasible for most entities to obtain.

For today's communities to benefit from the infrastructure build-outs and advances in technology, cities must become "Intelligent Cities." Cities must evolve beyond the current monopolistic closed systems currently in place and build upon open fiber transport systems therein providing businesses and homes with the means to use the free enterprise system to choose providers and services they need to flourish in the high tech environment. Traditional solutions (i.e., of single-use telephones, datacom and video service providers) will never be able to accommodate the diversity in services because they are invested in the status quo and suffer from lack of flexibility, drawn-out capacity expansion cycles, poor capacity utilization and slow introduction of new services in smaller communities.

In recognition of this challenging, and in an effort to meet this demand for more bandwidth at a lower price, Mount Vernon has deployed a backbone Fiber Infrastructure, which has the capacity to provide the foundation for business and local economic growth.

The Fiber Network will provide the foundation for broadband Internet access, VoIp, voice-on-demand (VOD), interactive video, medical imaging, Application Service Provider (ASP) services, Cloud computing and server farm growth. This Network's advanced architecture will also enable these services to be offered at affordable prices, through the availability of flexible, low cost managed bandwidth services.

The Power of a Fiber Optic Network

DSL and cable Internet are fast. To put it simply, fiber optic Internet is faster and bi-directionally equal for both downloading and uploading.

Ultra-fast Internet traveling on a beam of light, that's fiber optic Internet. While most fiber optic networks are not currently as far reaching as broadband or DSL, they are most certainly the future of communication. Of course, if your neighborhood is wired, you can take advantage of fiber optic Internet by bringing the future of communications and entertainment to your business today!

Fiber optic networks transmit light to connect your business directly to the Internet with the fastest connection ever offered. At speeds up to 25 times faster or more than cable Internet or DSL, fiber optic high speed Internet access makes quick work of downloading music, pictures and videos. Unfortunately, fiber optic Internet isn't as widely available as high speed cable or DSL Internet, unless you are in Mount Vernon.

The Fiber-Optic Internet Access Providers, due to a lesser interference has a more satisfying use over the copper wires, especially when it comes to long distance or high demand applications.

Because of its flexibility Fiber-optic Cables is one of the most commonly used mediums for telecommunication and networking. The electrical signal passed through the optical fiber cable can carry more information than any other.

Putting Together the Right Fiber Optic Pieces

Mount Vernon, which is positioned as the hub of the consumer community, is the logical choice for providing these services because we can. Mount Vernon has invested in a fiber optic infrastructure and technology with the expectation that with the deployment of such technology comes economic development. The creation of new services and service providers will proliferate, as bandwidth becomes available.

Mount Vernon has designed the Fiber Network to be an Open Service provider Net- work (OSPN) system allowing as many service providers as possible, to facilitate fair and open competition, and to provide the community's business and residential customers with the greatest diversity of services available, both now and in the future.

The city has also partnered with the City of Burlington and the Port of Skagit. Through these partnerships Fiber Infrastructure has been built out and will continue to be expanded upon throughout Mount Vernon, Burlington and the Port of Skagit.

The City of Mount Vernon's fiber infrastructure is connected redundantly to a SONNET OC192 buried ring that extends to Vancouver British Columbia to the north and to Seattle to the south and that ring completes going round through the Puget Sound. Once in Seattle the ring is connected to multiple fiber rings in the state. With this capability and redundancy the City has six providers that can offer data and voice solutions through the fiber, at rates well below what the bigger urban areas can provide.

Bottom line? The City of Mount Vernon is ready, wired and within reach of business today and tomorrow. Whether you are doing business in the great Pacific Northwest or globally, Mount Vernon is the right choice.

Connect to a great life.
City of Mount Vernon Economic Development
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