

Contents

Special Report Notice Of Disclaimer	iii
List of Figures	viii
List of Tables	ix
Foreword	xi
1. Introduction	1-1
1.1 Purpose and Scope	1-1
1.2 Structure and Use of this Document	1-2
2. Overview of Cable TV Networks	2-1
2.1 Traditional Cable Networks	2-1
2.2 Evolution to Modern Two-Way HFC Networks	2-5
2.3 Evolution of Metropolitan Area Networks	2-7
2.4 Evolution of Gateway-Connected Networks	2-7
2.5 Why Use HFC?	2-8
2.6 Cable TV Competitive Environment	2-9
2.6.1 Broadcast Competition	2-9
2.6.2 Satellite Competition	2-9
2.6.3 LMDS Competition	2-10
2.6.4 Video Rental Competition	2-10
2.6.5 Overbuild Competition	2-10
3. Cable Network Regulation	3-1
3.1 The Communications Act of 1934	3-1
3.2 The Telecommunications Act of 1996	3-2
3.3 Regulatory Summary	3-3
4. Cable Networks	4-1
4.1 Technology Overview	4-1
4.2 Standards Initiatives	4-2
4.2.1 Important Pre-Cable Standards	4-2
4.2.1.1 National Television Standards Committee (NTSC)	4-2
4.2.1.2 Society of Cable Telecommunications Engineers (SCTE) Digital Video Subcommittee (DVS)	4-3
4.2.1.3 Joint Engineering Committee	4-3
4.2.1.4 Digital Audio Video Council (DAVIC)	4-3
4.2.1.5 IEEE 802.14 Cable Modem Working Group	4-3
4.2.2 Video (OpenCable™)	4-4
4.2.3 Voice and Data (DOCSIS)	4-6
4.2.4 Real-time/Multimedia Services (PacketCable)	4-6
4.3 Basic HFC System Architecture	4-7
4.3.1 One-Way Cable Networks with a Telephony Return	4-10
4.3.2 Headend Equipment	4-11
4.3.3 Cable Data Network Architecture	4-13
4.3.4 Fiber Transmission	4-16
4.3.5 Coaxial Transmission	4-16

4.4	Service Capabilities of Cable Networks	4-17
4.4.1	Broadcast Video	4-17
4.4.1.1	Analog Video	4-18
4.4.1.2	Digital Video	4-18
4.4.2	Data over Cable	4-21
4.4.2.1	DOCSIS Protocol Stack	4-23
4.4.3	Analog Voice over Cable	4-24
4.4.4	Digital Voice over Cable	4-25
4.4.4.1	Billing Considerations	4-27
4.4.4.2	Challenges of Providing Toll-Quality Service on Cable Networks	4-27
4.4.4.3	Fax over Cable	4-29
4.4.5	Interactive Services	4-29
4.4.5.1	Web on the TV	4-32
4.4.5.2	Personal Video Recording (PVR)	4-32
4.4.6	On-Demand Services	4-32
4.4.6.1	Video-On-Demand (VOD)	4-33
4.4.7	Electronic Program Guide	4-33
4.5	Integration with other Technologies	4-34
4.5.1	SONET/SDH	4-34
4.5.2	Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM)	4-34
4.5.3	Internet Protocol (IP)	4-35
4.6	CPE Considerations	4-36
4.6.1	Cable TV Set-top Converter Box	4-36
4.6.1.1	Analog Set-top Converters	4-36
4.6.1.2	Digital Set-top Converters	4-37
4.6.2	The Cable Modem	4-37
4.7	Limitations and Issues of HFC	4-39
5.	Operations and Network Management	5-1
5.1	Cable Network Management	5-1
5.1.1	Telecommunication Management Network (TMN) Overview	5-1
5.2	HFC Access Network Management	5-5
5.2.1	Fault Management	5-5
5.2.2	Configuration Management	5-6
5.2.3	Performance Management	5-6
5.3	Data over Cable Management	5-7
5.4	Packetized Voice over Cable Management	5-8
6.	Cable Network Security	6-1
6.1	Video Services Security	6-1
6.1.1	Filtering	6-1
6.1.2	Addressability	6-2
6.1.3	De-Scrambling	6-2
6.1.4	Off-Premises Systems	6-3
6.1.5	OpenCable Security Initiative	6-3
6.1.5.1	Output Control	6-4
6.2	Data/Voice Services Security	6-5
6.2.1	Unauthorized Access	6-5

6.2.2	Virus Attacks	6-5
6.2.3	Signal Interception	6-6
6.2.4	Service Fraud	6-6
6.2.5	DOCSIS Security Initiative	6-6
6.2.5.1	Data Transport Services Security	6-6
6.2.5.2	CPE System Security	6-8
6.2.6	Authorization, Authentication, and Encryption	6-8
6.2.7	Other Higher-Layer and/or Integrated Solutions	6-9
7.	Evolution of HFC Networks	7-1
7.1	Technology and Market Trends	7-1
7.2	The Road Ahead for HFC	7-2
	Appendix A: Alternatives to Cable Network for Broadband Access	A-1
A.1	The xDSL Family of Access Technologies	A-1
A.2	Wireless Access Technologies	A-5
A.3	Fiber-Based Access Technologies	A-7
	Appendix B: Major Players in the Cable Industry	B-1
B.1	DOCSIS Cable Modem Vendors	B-1
B.2	DOCSIS Cable Modem Termination System (CMTS) Vendors	B-3
B.3	Cable Internet Service Providers and Systems Integrators	B-3
B.4	Digital Set-top Converter Box Vendors	B-3
B.5	Headend and Distribution Equipment Vendors	B-4
	Appendix C: Bibliography and References	C-1
C.1	Telcordia Documents	C-1
C.2	Other Documents and References	C-3
	Appendix D: Glossary	D-1

List of Figures

Figure 2-1	Traditional All-Coax Cable Network	2-2
Figure 2-2	Traditional CATV Headend Functions	2-3
Figure 4-1	OpenCable Reference Model and Architecture	4-5
Figure 4-2	High-Level Architecture of an HFC Network	4-8
Figure 4-3	Frequency Spectrum Allocation for Cable Network Services	4-8
Figure 4-4	Customer Premises Network Supporting Two-Way Data Services	4-9
Figure 4-5	One-Way Cable Plant with a Telephony Return Path	4-10
Figure 4-6	Functional Diagram of a Headend	4-11
Figure 4-7	High-Level View of a Super Headend	4-14
Figure 4-8	High-Level View of a Regional Data Center	4-15
Figure 4-9	The National Cable Data Network	4-16
Figure 4-10	Transparent IP Traffic Through the Data over Cable System	4-21
Figure 4-11	Data over Cable Reference Architecture	4-22
Figure 4-12	DOCSIS Protocol Stack	4-23
Figure 4-13	PacketCable Reference Architecture	4-26
Figure 4-14	Basic Cable Modem Architecture	4-38
Figure 5-1	Logical Layering of a TMN Architecture	5-2
Figure 5-2	PacketCable Network Elements and OSS Components	5-5
Figure 5-3	CableLabs Data over Cable Reference Architecture	5-8
Figure A-1	High-Level View of a Typical xDSL Architecture	A-2
Figure A-2	High-Level View of the xDSL Architecture with a Digital Loop Carrier (DLC)	A-3
Figure A-3	Generic BFWA Network Based on an Internet Protocol (IP) Backbone	A-7
Figure A-4	High-Level View of a Fiber To The Curb (FTTC) Network	A-8
Figure A-5	High-Level View of a Fiber To The Home (FTTH) Network	A-8

List of Tables

Table 4-1	Comparison of QoS Requirements for Interactive and On-Demand Services	4-30
Table 5-1	Cable Network Management Functions	5-3
Table 6-1	Attacks and Remedies for Data, Voice, and Video Information . .	6-7
Table 7-1	Residential Broadband Internet Market in North America	7-2