



“

**HFC is the Network of  
choice to support HS  
Services based upon IP  
Technology**

”

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## **Abstract**

**The prevailing architecture and  
critical components of an HFC  
(Hybrid Fiber Coax) plant capable  
of supporting IP service  
applications based on DOCSIS  
(Data Over Cable Service Interface  
Specification) is discussed**

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## Agenda

- Early CATV Architecture
- Hybrid Fiber Coax Infrastructure
  - Optical
  - Rings
  - Upgrade for Quality Service
- Friendly vs. Hostile Upstream Frequency
- Network Management of Physical System
- Attributes of HFC
- IP Access Platform
- HFC Network with IP Access
- The Promise of IP
- Conclusion

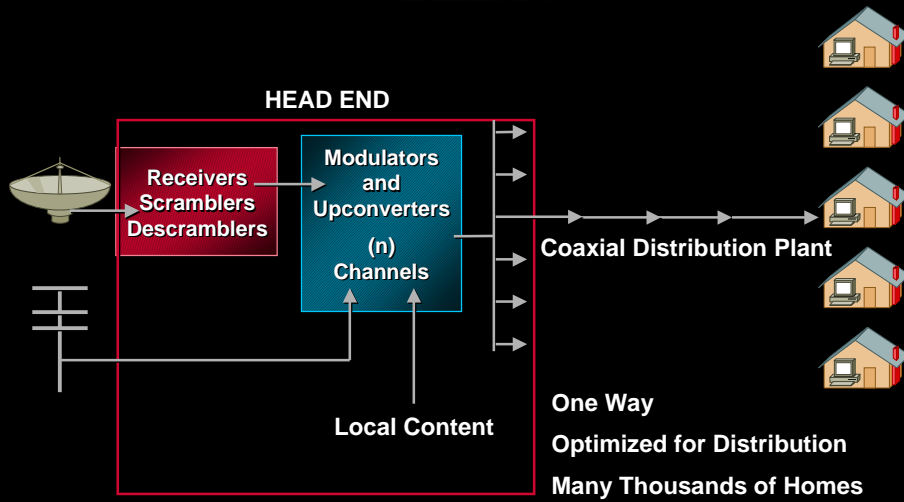
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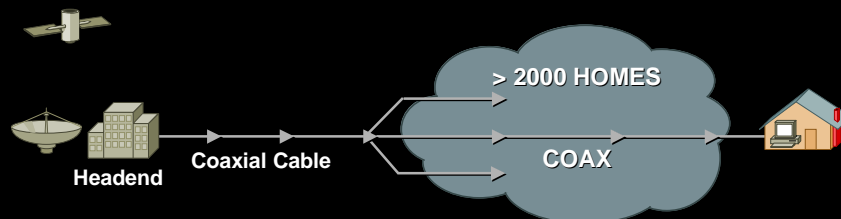
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## Typical Cable Distribution Plant



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## Early Coaxial Feeder Network



- **One way distribution**
- **Cascade of many amplifiers**  
Degraded performance  
Failure prone
- **High operation and maintenance cost**

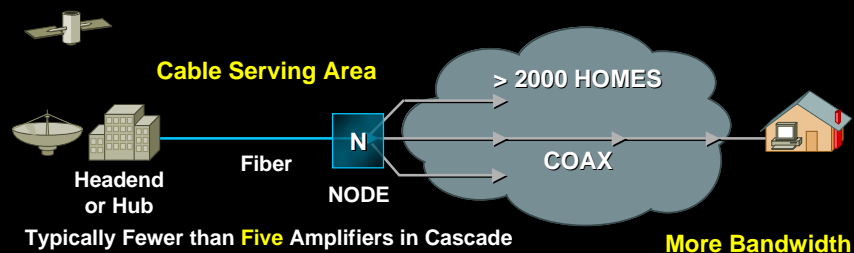
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## Hybrid Fiber Coax Infrastructure



- **Video** is transmitted over fiber to the node, where it is converted to an electrical signal and forwarded to the subscriber over existing coaxial cable
- Provision is made to support **return traffic** for future services

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## Hybrid Fiber Coax Infrastructure

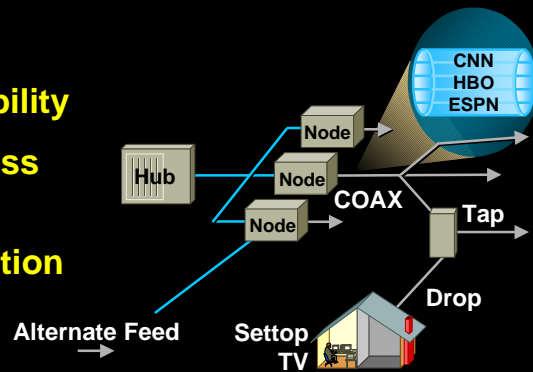
- Optical nodes provide:

**Small robust serving areas**

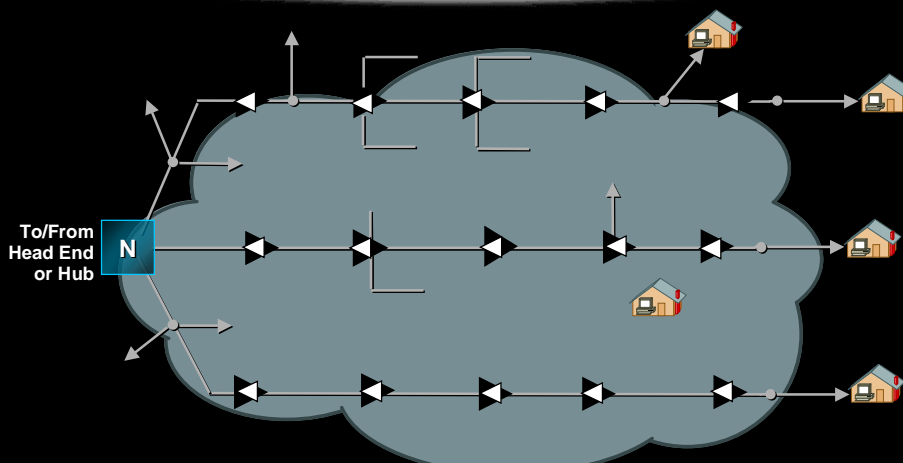
**Improved reliability**

**Increased access bandwidth**

**Two way operation**



## Hybrid Fiber **Coax** Infrastructure



**Typically Fewer than Five Amplifiers in Cascade to Support up to 2K Homes**

## Hybrid Fiber Coax Infrastructure

### Benefits of HFC to Node level

- **Increases RF bandwidth**  
750 MHz (or more)  
Source brought closer to subscriber  
Facilitates introduction of two way
- **Improves reliability and availability**  
Fewer failure components  
Improves noise characteristics

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**Reliable, High Quality Access  
Bandwidth Provided by HFC  
Technology Validates that:**

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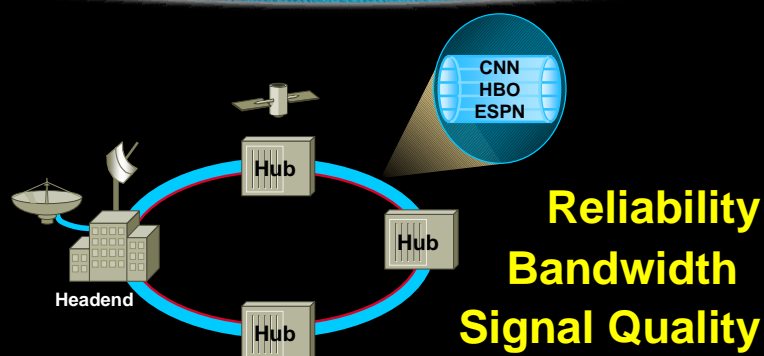
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## Hybrid Fiber Coax Infrastructure



- Analog fiber RING for to improve reliability of broadcast video
- SONET/SDH RING overlay for reliability of advanced services

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## Hybrid Fiber Coax Infrastructure

### Benefits of RING Configuration

- **Increases RF bandwidth**
  - 750 MHz (or more)
  - Source brought closer to subscriber
  - Facilitates introduction of two way
  - Supports hub distribution
- **Improves reliability and availability**
  - Fewer failure components
  - Improves noise characteristics
  - Ring path protection

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### Reliable, High Quality Access Bandwidth Provided by HFC Technology Validates that:

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## Hybrid Fiber Coax Infrastructure

### Upgrade for Quality Service

- High bandwidth (750 MHz or more)
- Two way operation
- Migration strategy to small nodes
- Minimize amplifier cascades
- Design to prevailing industry standards
- Incorporate DOCSIS plant specifications
- Design for maximum noise abatement
- Network management

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## Hybrid Fiber Coax Infrastructure

### Upgrade for Quality Service

- Recognize home wiring ingress
- Ensure best upstream CNR  
(Carrier to Noise Ratio)
- Characterize the plant and maintain to the original level

Build to **Minimum** Noise Criteria

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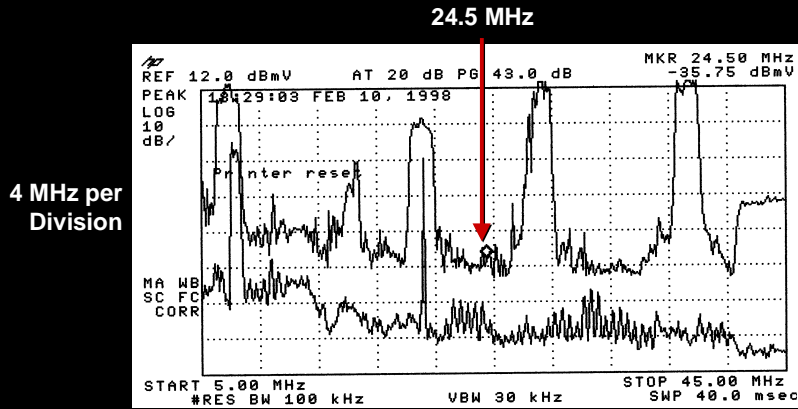
## Friendly vs Hostile Upstream Frequency

### Characteristics of (US) Upstream Spectrum

- **Subject to known potential interference**
  - CB (Citizens Band Radio)
  - HAM (Amateur radio)
  - Government, Military, Naval radio, etc.
- **Portions of the US lost to interference**
- **Only Portion of the US available for two way**

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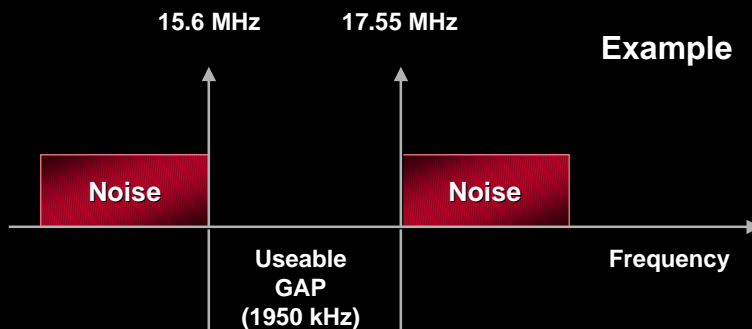
## Friendly vs Hostile Upstream Frequency



**Consider Operating within this Upstream Spectrum!**

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## Friendly vs Hostile Upstream Frequency



- Useable gaps dictate
  - Upstream channel selection and bandwidth
  - Spectrum management options
  - Upstream data throughput

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## Friendly vs Hostile Upstream Frequency

### Useable Spectrum Gaps

From (KHz)	To (KHz)	GAP (KHz)	200 (KHz)	400 (KHz)	800 (KHz)	1600 (KHz)	3200 (KHz)
5000	5950	950	4	2	1	0	0
6200	7000	800	4	2	1	0	0
7300	9500	2200	11	5	2	1	0
9900	10100	200	1	0	0	0	0
10150	11650	1500	7	3	1	0	0
12050	13600	1550	7	3	1	0	0
13800	14000	200	1	0	0	0	0
14350	15100	750	3	1	0	0	0
15600	17550	1950	9	4	2	1	0
17900	18068	168	0	0	0	0	0
18168	21000	2832	14	7	3	1	0
21850	24980	3040	15	7	3	1	0
24990	25670	680	3	1	0	0	0
26100	26960	860	4	2	1	0	0
27410	28000	590	2	0	0	0	0
29700	40000	10300	51	25	12	6	3

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**HFC Infrastructure Provides Adequate Useable Quality Bandwidth Validating that:**

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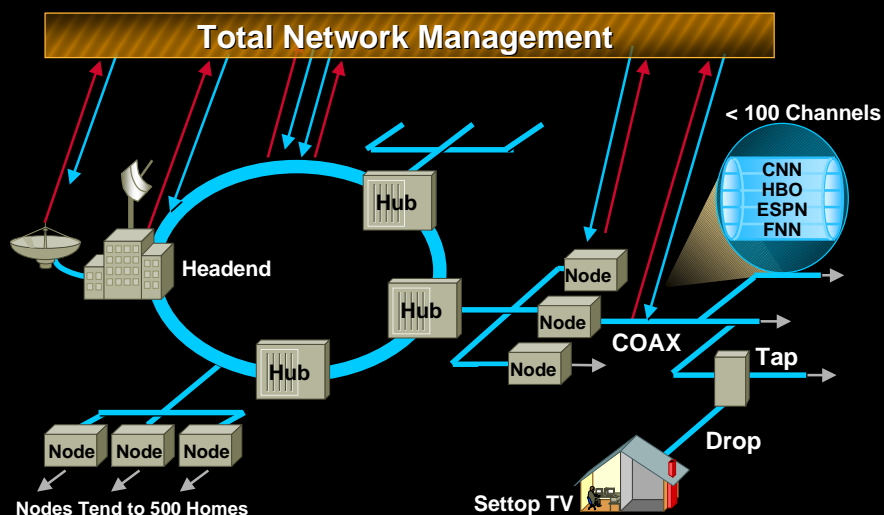
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## Network Management of the Physical System



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## Network Management of the Physical System

### Network Management

- Means to identify and diagnose faults
- Permits preventive maintenance
- Assures reliability and high availability
- Provides valuable maintenance aid
- Helps maintain customer satisfaction

**Install One, and Reap the Benefits!!!**

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**HFC Infrastructure can Be Provisioned  
with Enhanced Network Management  
to Ensure that:**

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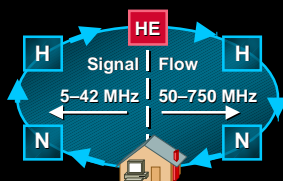
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## Attributes of HFC

- High reliability
- Increased bandwidth:
  - Downstream “rebuilds” to 750 MHz
  - Wide band amplifiers etc...
- Two way operation
  - Upstream (5–42 MHz) “Provisioned” and “Operational”

100 Channels



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## Cisco IP Access Platform



**uBR904 SOHO CM**  
**uBR924 SOHO Cm e/w VoIP**



**uBR7246**



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## Cisco IP Access Platform

- **Universal broadband router**  
uBR7246 and uBR7223  
Router integrated with DOCSIS CMTS  
(Cable Modem Terminating System)
- **Cisco subscriber cable modem**  
uBR904 CM for data  
uBR924 CM for data and voice  
Partner cable modem products
- **Interoperable multivendor CM products**

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**A Field Proven Interoperable  
DOCSIS IP Platform Is now  
Available to Support that:**

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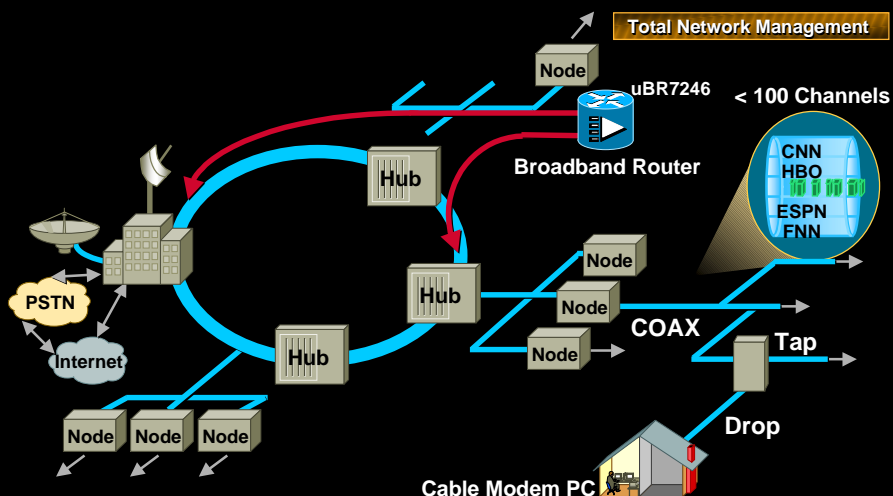
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# HFC with IP Access



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**HFC Networks Provisioned with A  
Proven Interoperable DOCSIS IP  
Platform Ensures without Doubt that:**

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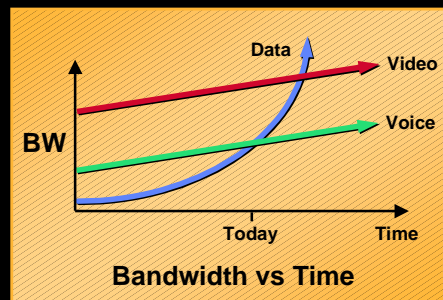
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## Promise of IP

### Data, a “Growth Opportunity”

- Acceptance and penetration of the Internet
- Data bandwidth/cost beating Moore’s Law
- Open standards for DOCSIS and digital TV



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## Promise of IP

### Recent CATV Consolidations

- AT&T purchase of TCI
- AT&T purchase of Media One
- Adelphia purchase of Century
- Cox purchase of TCA
- Cox purchase of Media General

**High Capacity HFC Cable Plants Is the Common Denominator**

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**Market Dynamics and the Growth of the Internet Indicate that HFC Cable Plants Are the Platform of the Future Indicating that:**

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## Conclusion

- **HFC plants can be built to provide**
  - Reliable transmission media**
  - High access bandwidth**
  - High-speed IP access using DOCSIS**
- **HFC plants with HS IP access offer**
  - A viable business opportunity for**
    - Data**
    - Voice (VoIP)**
    - Interactive video**
    - Future advanced services**

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**Is your CATV Plant Being Upgraded to HFC?**

**Are Plant Upgrades Meeting Current Standards?**

**Is Network Management Included?**

**Is a DOCSIS IP Network Considered?**

**What about Noise Control?**

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“

**“We believe hybrid  
fiber coaxial has the  
potential to carry the  
most capacity over  
the future”**

”

Michael Armstrong  
Chairman & CEO AT&T

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