

- 7:15AM **Registration Opens, sponsored by** 
- 7:15AM – 8:00AM **Networking Breakfast with Exhibitors, Sponsored by Celerity** 
- 8:00AM – 8:05AM **Welcome & Introduction**  
Evann Freeman, Vice President, Government and Community Relations, EPB, FBA Board
- 8:05AM – 8:15AM **Fiber Broadband: Leave No Community Behind**  
Gary Bolton, President & CEO, Fiber Broadband Association
- 8:15AM – 8:20AM **Platinum Sponsor Welcome & Introductions**  
Ashley Brown, Senior Director, Field Marketing, Adtran 
- 8:20AM – 8:45AM **Opening Keynote: What's Your Broadband Story? The Life and Times of the Digital Divide**  
Christopher Ali, Ph.D., Pioneers Chair in Telecommunications, Professor of Telecommunications, Penn State University
- 8:45AM – 9:20AM **A Case in Point: How Pennsylvania is Successfully Building Fiber**  
Pennsylvania is receiving tremendous investments in the construction of fiber throughout the state by many companies. This investment allows residents, businesses, education institutions, and medical facilities to connect to high-speed fiber and take advantage of the fast-paced, highly connected world. The new investments are essential to ensuring Pennsylvania's residents and businesses can take full advantage of the latest voice, video, and data capabilities to grow their businesses, to access educational programs, to access medical services, and for entertainment. In addition to the businesses, the Pennsylvania Broadband Development Authority is working hard to invest in the construction of fiber throughout the state with investments from ARPA and BEAD funding. This session will provide an overview of how companies are making these investments, discuss the challenges and opportunities related to successful fiber builds, and review the needed regulatory modernization that is needed to successfully build this fiber infrastructure.  
**Moderator:** Steven J. Samara, President of the Pennsylvania Telephone Association  
**Panelists:**
- John Mizerak, Director of Government Affairs and Public Policy, Brightspeed
  - Jeanne Shearer, Vice President, Government Affairs, Windstream
- 9:20AM – 9:45AM **Fireside Chat: The Future of Broadband and Public Policy**  
Kyle C. Kopko, Ph.D., J.D., Executive Director, Center for Rural Pennsylvania with Jessica Koch, Industry Associations and External Affairs Senior Manager, Calix, vice chair, FBA Conference Committee
- 9:45AM **Breakfast Sponsor Remarks**  
Jared Millard, Sales and Marketing Manager, Celerity

9:45AM – 10:30AM *Networking Break with Exhibitors sponsored by Dura-Line*

10:30AM

**Networking Break Sponsor Remarks**

Gary Cassidy, Senior Manager, District Sales, Connectivity Solutions, Dura-Line

10:30AM – 11:10AM

**Finding First Time Fiber Broadband Customers**

As broadband funding enables operators to reach new customers, many of these will be first time subscribers to fiber broadband. What do operators need to share to address Digital Literacy as they look to engage with residences that were formerly unserved? This panel discussion will focus on the tools, tips and best practices as operators close the digital divide for the communities they serve and the people each connect.

**Moderator:** Robert Shema, Director of Government Affairs and Business Development, altafiber

**Panelists:**

- Mark Boxer, Technical Manager, Solutions and Applications Engineering, OFS
- Roger Timmerman, Executive Director and CEO, UTOPIA Fiber
- Mike Scardina, Vice President of Technology and Planning, Archtop Fiber
- Brian Hollister, President and CEO, Bonfire Fiber

11:10AM – 11:50AM

**The Community Connection: How Fiber Impacts Economics and Opportunity**

As the fiber broadband industry moves to close the Digital Equity Gap, what does this mean for local stakeholders in terms of economic impact and opportunity? What role does fiber play in improving GDP, creating job opportunities, and new business development? What impact can it have on education, community services and home prices, and does fiber present the best catalyst for growth as local operators decide what technology to leverage with BEAD funding? At the heart of it is, does an option other than fiber equate to a decision to potentially leave a community behind?

**Moderator:** Darin Howe, Carrier Solution Innovation Manager, Corning

**Panelists:**

- Rob Wrighter, Jr., President, Hancock Fiber
- Kimberly Bidy, Manager of Social, Digital, and Traditional Media, Brand Strategies, EPB
- Chris Brooks, Senior Director, Operations, GoNetSpeed
- Juliet Fink Yates, Broadband Infrastructure and Digital Inclusion Manager, Office of Innovation and Technology, City of Philadelphia

11:50AM – 12:15PM

**Keynote: Pennsylvania Broadband Priorities**

The Honorable Uri Monson, Secretary of Budget, Chair, the Pennsylvania Broadband Deployment Authority, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania

12:15PM

**Lunch Sponsor Remarks**

Scott Jackson, National Market Manager, Graybar

12:15PM – 12:45PM

*Networking Lunch-Sponsored by Graybar/Ciena*

12:45PM – 1:30PM

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1:30PM – 2:05PM

**Local Focus: Permit Me to Deploy Fiber**

One of the biggest challenges facing new broadband networks is the paperwork, specifically the environmental reviews, locates, and permitting approvals needed before construction can start. Given that most networks will likely be deployed across a combination of state, federal, and privately owned land, and possibly Tribal-owned land, or access to railways, bridge/overpass infrastructures, poles or towers, ducts or conduits or federal and state highways, the number of federal, state, and local agencies an operator must work with can be overwhelming.

**Moderator:** Marissa Mitrovich, Vice President of Public Policy, FBA

**Panelists:**

- Robert Boyle, CEO, Planet Networks
- Michael J. Shultz, Sr. Vice President Regulatory & Public Policy, Consolidated Communications
- Kyle Lane, Director of Broadband Operations, Revolution Broadband
- Jeremy Jurick, Director, Regulatory Policy, Armstrong

2:05PM – 2:30PM

**Fireside Chat: If You Build It, Will They Come?**

Angela Siefer, Executive Director, National Digital Inclusion Alliance with Ash Brown, Senior Director, Field Marketing, Adtran

2:30PM – 2:35PM

*Sip & Stretch Coffee and Snack Break sponsored by Dura-Line*



2:35PM – 2:40PM

**Networking Reception Sponsor Remarks**

Kevin Van Ravenstein, Fleet Consultant, Sterling

2:40PM – 3:20PM

**Deployment Challenges and Opportunities:**

The Keystone State supports the 5<sup>th</sup> largest population in the U.S. with city populations ranging from the millions to a few hundred residents, including over 63,200 farms. This varied topography and demographics creates challenges for operators looking to deploy services across the region and state, both in terms of the outside plant conditions and the local city and country requirements network operators will face as each look to expand network footprint and reach homes previously unconnected. This panel will discuss the realities of deploying fiber broadband networks in such a diverse outside plant environment as Pennsylvania offers.

**Moderator:** Joe Baeumel, VP, Business Development and Partner Strategy, KGPCo.

**Panelists:**

- Jim Kail, President and CEO, Laurel Highland Total Communications, Inc.
- Jeff Manning, Vice President, Product and Network Strategy, SHENTEL
- Leroy Sverduk, Vice President, Engineering, Choptank Electric Cooperative
- Walt Donovan, Vice President Strategic Partnership, DYCOM

3:20PM – 3:25PM

**Closing Remarks**

3:25PM – 4:30PM

**Networking Reception with Expo Hall**

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