



- ▶ HOW BAD MAPS ARE RUINING BROADBAND
- ▶ **RURAL AMERICA WORRIES ABOUT 5G**
- ▶ FCC ROBOCALLER FINE
- ▶ **CAF PHASE II UNCOVERED RURAL AREAS**
- ▶ ROSENWORCEL ON 3.5 GHZ CBRS BAND
- ▶ **TECH COMPANIES BACK U.S. PRIVACY LAW** ...1
- ▶ **TOP 6 ISSUES FACING RURAL WIRELESS CARRIERS**
- ▶ TARIFFS LIKELY TO INCREASE TELECOM COSTS
- ▶ **AT&T FIXED WIRELESS AVAILABLE IN 18 STATES**
- ▶ SMART THERMOSTATS ARE A GATEWAY ...1
- ▶ U.S. CELLULAR SMART AG SERVICES
- ▶ **5G REVOLUTION IS COMING**
- ▶ 5G AS DEFENSE AGAINST STINGRAY SPYING
- ▶ **AT&T JUMPS INTO BLOCKCHAIN OFFERINGS**
- ▶ WINDOWS 10 SECURITY AND MALWARE ...2

○ ISSUE 8 | ○ VOL 9-28 | ○ 2018

Alexicon *insider*

INFORMATION AND ADVOCACY FOR THE
RURAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS INDUSTRY

Regulatory Headlines

How Bad Maps Are Ruining Broadband

Like countless other American cities, Cleveland, Ohio, suffers from a lack of meaningful broadband competition. With only one or two largely apathetic ISPs to choose from, high prices, slow speeds, limited deployment, and customer service headaches are the norm.

Rural America Worries About 5G

Lawmakers and consumer advocates are pressing telecommunication companies to ensure that rural areas are not left behind in the race to adopt fifth-generation, or 5G, mobile broadband technology. Industry says the new wireless standard will dramatically boost internet speeds and bandwidth.

FCC Robocaller Fine

The commission announced that it's proposing a \$37.5 million fine against a company based in Arizona that allegedly made 2.3 million telemarketing calls under false phone numbers.

CAF Phase II Uncovered Rural Areas

With the CAF II auction completed, the FCC's next Connect America Fund responsibility will be to establish plans for the CAF remote area auction, which aims to help bring broadband to remote areas not currently addressed through the Connect America Fund program. And one FCC commissioner is questioning whether there is sufficient funding for that auction.

Rosenworcel on 3.5 Ghz CBRS Band

Another FCC meeting is in the books with no final decisions on the 3.5 GHz Citizens Broadband Radio Services (CBRS) band.

Tech Companies Back U.S. Privacy Law

Major technology companies and internet service providers told a U.S. Senate panel on Wednesday they support federal legislation to protect data privacy but want Congress to preempt tough new rules adopted by California.



Market Watch

[Top 6 Issues Facing Rural Wireless Carriers](#)

[Tariffs Likely to Increase Telecom Costs](#)

[AT&T Fixed Wireless Available in 18 States](#)

[Smart Thermostats are a Gateway](#)



Alexicon

Questions? Comments?
Contact Chris Barron

cbarron@alexicon.net

Technology Trends

New and notable technology and services

5G Revolution is Coming

The next generation of wireless technology, fittingly known as 5G, is just around the corner. And it promises to change our lives forever. At least, that's what the wireless industry is saying. It really wants 5G to be a thing. Ever since Verizon said it would be the first major telecom company to deploy 5G field tests three years ago, the hype for the technology has been building. It's been referred to as a foundational tech that will supercharge areas like self-driving cars, streaming virtual and augmented reality and telemedicine like remote surgery.

5G as Defense Against Stingray Spying

Security experts and privacy advocates are hopeful the rollout of the new 5G wireless network could eliminate a glaring surveillance vulnerability that allows spying on nearby phone calls.

AT&T Jumps Into Blockchain Offerings

AT&T announced a suite of blockchain-based services designed to help its enterprise customers cut costs and speed automation processes. By creating virtual ledgers, enterprises will be able to track and manage information across various parties in a value chain. Blockchain, which was developed for bitcoin, is a digitized, distributed ledger that tracks transactions as statements of facts that can be used in a digital economy by businesses, regulators, operators and consumers.

Windows 10 Security and Malware

Microsoft has been working on an answer to some clever new techniques used in penetration-testing kits to bypass Windows Defender Advanced Threat Protection (ATP), its key security platform for protecting Windows 10 in the enterprise.

US Cellular Smart Ag Services

U.S. Cellular next month plans to launch several smart agriculture services in partnership with Internet of Things America, a company that specializes in agricultural IoT, said U.S. Cellular Director of Emerging Product and Services Management Scott Scheuber in an interview with Telecompetitor. U.S. Cellular IoT connectivity will support the offering, which will be cloud-based...



IN FOCUS:

The FCC's 5G FAST Plan

FCC Chairman Ajit Pai released the strategy to Facilitate America's Superiority in 5G Technology, or the 5G FAST plan today. According to the release, the "strategy includes three key components: (1) pushing more spectrum into the marketplace; (2) updating infrastructure policy; and (3) modernizing outdated regulations."

The Commission, especially with the addition of Commissioner Brendon Carr, has shown a renewed and heavy focus, and understandably so, on 5G technology and how to ensure the United States is ready for rollout. The one-page summary spells out the actions the Commission has taken around 5G service under the three categories listed above:

Spectrum. The FCC lists actions taken in relation to high-band, mid-band (including the 3.5 GHz band discussed above in the Rosenworcel article), low-band, and unlicensed spectrum.

Infrastructure Policy. Actions touted by the FCC include the new rules adopted to expedite review of small cell infrastructure needs, and speeding up state and local review of small cells.

Modernizing Outdated Regulations. The FCC touts actions in the areas of Net Neutrality, one-touch make-ready pole attachments, IP transition, business data services, and supply chain integrity as leading directly to 5G success in the United States.



Alexicon at Work

EXPO²⁰¹⁸ November 4 - 7 | New Orleans

The NECA Expo will be held this year on November 4-7 in New Orleans. Alexicon's Zach Cochran will give a presentation on broadband mapping and federal broadband deployment policy. This presentation is intended to be a satirical (but not insulting) look at broadband mapping. It will outline the use, importance, complications and problems surrounding broadband mapping and Form 477. It will also discuss some solutions to the problems. This is timely due to the recent RUS NOI, GAO report, and FCC Form 477 proceeding.

If you are in New Orleans on November 7, please stop by the New Orleans Marriot at 8:00 am to hear Zach's presentation. Here is some more information on the Expo:

[Registration](#)

[Expo Website](#) (schedule, course descriptions, etc)

We hope to see you there!

Conferences and Meetings

Doug Kitch, Rob Strait, Dion Nero and Chris Barron will attend the WTA Fall Conference in Palm Springs, CA on October 7-10.



Alexicon

Questions? Comments?

Contact Chris Barron

cbarron@alexicon.net