

Upgrading your customers to fiber?

With the price in fiber having dropped over the past few years, businesses across the country, small and large are thinking about upgrading. Let's take a look at the Coax and Fiber landscape, improvements in technology, build outs and serviceability to see if it makes sense to upgrade your customers.

Is fiber replacing coax?

A summary of fiber benefits:

In general, fiber will have SLA's (uptime and packet delivery) and symmetrical up and download speeds. Whereas cable typically has slow upload and faster download speeds. Fiber has more consistent throughput speeds and latency. And SLA's ensure a better VoIP experience, holding the carrier more accountable. Overall, the mean time to repair fiber is shorter since it is typically business focused verse residential.

A deeper look. Just the facts.

- > Copper cables were originally designed for voice transmission and have a limited bandwidth. Fiber optic cables provide more bandwidth, carrying more data, farther.
- > While there is technically no limit to the amount of data transmitted across copper cables, it's easier, faster and more reliable to send over fiber. Technologies are workarounds to push coax into higher speeds like DSL over coax.
- > With cable internet you share bandwidth, so the more customers using it, the slower it goes. You can experience delays during high-traffic times.
- > Fiber is considered much faster than cable for both download and upload times, making it attractive to businesses where every employee can reliably download, upload, stream and share files simultaneously. Also, bandwidth can be increased or decreased based on usage.
- > Installing fiber-optic Internet is usually more labor intensive and takes longer. Unlike cable which uses existing cable lines, fiber requires cable to be run to your business.
- > While cable internet is considered reliable, businesses' internet is vulnerable to outages and interruptions in areas where there are frequent cable outages. Fiber-optic is considered just as reliable and not affected by power outages or electrical equipment failure as its conductor is glass and does not generate electricity.
- > Cable is technically more available but fiber is catching up with the large companies investing heavily in fiber builds and therefore pricing is becoming more economical. Though, coax is still cheaper to deploy and therefore a cheaper purchase.
- > Coax is a good option for network redundancy when a fiber network is already in place. And new technologies with cable companies make a hybrid network possible and scalable for business needs.

