



Technology you can count on.

Independents Fiber Network Deployment & Operational Updates

Early 2017 has been an exciting time for Independents Fiber Network as we continue to expand our presence in western Ohio, eastern Indiana, and southern Michigan. Independents has not only expanded its fiber footprint, but has also improved its internal processes and added new tools to better serve our customers. We continue to strive to be the market leader in our region.

So far in 2017, we have continued our expansion via the projects we set into place in 2016, as well as some newly realized opportunities. We have recently released construction of a lateral that will bring our fiber to Arlington, Ohio. This is scheduled for completion in June 2017 and will allow us to improve the quality of service that we currently have with customers in the community. We are, also, extending our fiber plant in the Monroe, Ohio region. This new deployment will give us fiber facilities west of I-75 in the Warren – Butler County area. Further east, Independents has just completed an extension of our fiber assets to downtown Wilmington. These construction projects, along with our acquiring and managing of fiber assets in this region, position us to take a lead role in providing fiber and ethernet transport solutions to the area. In addition to our expansion in that area, our planned route between Kenton and Richwood, Ohio is still on target for completion by the end of the third quarter of this year.

As our network expands, it is becoming more critical that we develop internal tools and resources to han-

dle the increased activity. Independents has recently brought Katlyn Ruck on board to implement and operate our new mapping software that will allow for more efficient tracking of assets in our ever-growing fiber network. In addition to this, Independents is updating its quoting, sales, and ordering processes and software to continue to push for efficient and effective circuit turn up and management.

Our work to continue to improve our internal processes and grow our network demonstrates Independents' commitment to providing excellent products and services to our customers. This year is off to a fast start, and we look forward to delivering and exceeding our standards and commitments to our customers.

Don't forget to visit our interactive Network Fiber Map on our newly designed website

www.ifnetwork.biz



Independents Fiber Network Reinforces Network Security Against DDoS Attacks

Independents has teamed up with Corero Network Security, a leading provider of Distributed Denial of Service (DDoS) defense solutions, to safeguard our customers against DDoS attacks. As a Tier 2 Telecommunications company with 21 Tier 1 interconnected partners throughout Ohio, Indiana and Michigan, we

have provided operational services, as well as Ethernet transport services to Telco companies and commercial businesses for almost 25 years.

The joint alliance with Corero was a strategic decision to help mitigate Internet disruption by DDoS attacks. DDoS attacks are attempts to make online services unavailable by overwhelming it with traffic from multiple sources. The attacks are extremely difficult to defend against and can be very costly to the Internet providers. Corero delivers real-time DDoS protection via the SmartWall® Threat Defense System (TDS) with SecureWatch® Analytics, a connected suite of security applications that delivers comprehensive DDoS defense services. Another benefit is that Independents' security staff have more time to focus on other key aspects of customer-related security issues, such as virus and malware-related events.

Protecting the security of our network and delivering value added service has always been a prime focus of Independents; therefore, investing in the Corero SmartWall system is the best solution to more effectively monitor and mitigate DDoS threats automatically, inline and in real time. Independents plans to use the new DDoS mitigation capabilities to create new service offerings that would benefit customers with enhanced service level agreements supported by further secured Core networks.

Missed inquiries and terrible conference calls are a thing of the past with our IP voice services.

Quality voice starts with a high-capacity network like the one we operate throughout the region. We offer a low-latency network with enough available capacity to accommodate real-time services like voice, avoiding one-way audio, broken audio and talking over one another due to delays encountered when voice is delivered over the Internet.

Independents Fiber Network can provide you robust, highly protected transport to connect to the CNI IPTV headend for those who need an analog headend replacement and/or who are adding a linear video service for their residential subscribers. We can, also, provide on-site or hosted IP-PBX service and/or SIP-Trunking to businesses quickly and efficiently through a network of facility-based providers.





Ericsson and Cisco hyped opportunities for CCA members in adopting a greater focus on 5G, IoT and video services.

LAS VEGAS – The domestic mobile telecommunications space's continued head-long rush towards a "5G" technology and Internet of things-heavy future is currently being driven by its largest players, though two vendors took to the stage at this week's Competitive Carriers Association Mobile Carriers Show to highlight how those efforts are set to impact the entire ecosystem.

Speaking during a keynote address at the event, Gowton Achaibar, head of strategy and technology at Ericsson, started with the calming note that the move towards 5G is a natural advancement to where the market is today in terms of its use of 4G technology. However, with surging consumer and enterprise demand for video content, mobile operators jumping back into "unlimited" data plans and over-the-top players continuing to draw consumer usage on the backs of established operators, Achaibar laid out a future that could prove challenging for CCA members.

Archaibar said Ericsson sees a transformation happening across multiple domains and access technologies, which are moving from support for "broadband" to "ultra broadband," and the evolution of core networks moving from traditional telecom nodes to those powered by network functions virtualization and software-defined networking technologies.

Article continued: <http://www.rcwireless.com/20170405/carriers/5g-iot-and-video-set-to-alter-network-operations-landscape-for-cca-members-tag2>

If you're looking for a scalable communications solution for your business that's reliable and won't destroy the budget — Independents Fiber Network is one of Ohio's top providers for business VoIP services. We have local, national, and international capabilities that support your business needs. Whether you have a small business that's rapidly growing, or a larger enterprise adding additional locations, you can count on Independents Fiber Network to help you overcome any communication challenges you may face.

Dear Customers,

We would like to offer you a heartfelt thanks for taking part in our Customer Satisfaction Survey in March, 2017.

We had a 15% response rate, and because of the important feedback that you have supplied to Independents Fiber Network, we will continue to improve operative processes and define new areas of service development.

Thank you, again, for your participation.



We welcome your comments, questions or suggestions.

Please send any feedback to:

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