

FiberTower Corporation CTIA Investor Day Presentation

March 24, 2010



FiberTower

Safe Harbor Statement

- ▶ Statements included in this presentation which are not historical in nature are “forward-looking” statements, as that term is defined in the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995 or by the Securities and Exchange Commission, or SEC, in its rules, regulations and releases. Forward-looking statements relate to expectations, beliefs, projections, future plans and strategies, anticipated events or trends and similar expressions concerning matters that are not historical facts. These include statements regarding, among other things, guidance for expected ranges of 2010 revenue, adjusted EBITDA and capital acquisitions, our financial and business prospects, the deployment of our services, capital requirements, financing prospects, planned capital expenditures, expected cost per site, anticipated customer growth, expansion plans, and anticipated cash balances. There are many risks, uncertainties and other factors that can prevent the achievement of goals or cause results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements including, among other things, negative cash flows and operating losses, additional liquidity requirements, potential loss of significant customers, downturns on the wireless communications industry, regulatory costs and restrictions, potential loss of FCC licenses, equipment supply disruptions and cost increases, competition from alternative backhaul service providers and technologies, along with those risk factors described in the Company’s Annual Reports on Form 10-K and Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q, as filed with the SEC.



Agenda

- ▶ Kurt Van Wagenen – President & Chief Executive Officer
- ▶ Ravi Potharlanka – SVP & Chief Operating Officer
- ▶ David Jones – SVP, Network Services
- ▶ Patrick Coughlin – SVP, Sales & Marketing
- ▶ Thomas Scott – SVP & Chief Financial Officer



FiberTower at a Glance

Company Snapshot

- NASDAQ Listed: FTWR
- Approximately 150 Employees
- First site live: March 2003
- National Licensed Spectrum
- 13 Existing U.S. Markets

Network Services

- Low Capacity: T1
- Mid Capacity: nxT1, Ethernet
- High Capacity: DS-3, OC-n, Ethernet
- Wavelengths: Inter and Intra Metro
- TDM to Ethernet Migration

Financial Highlights – YE 2009

- Annual Revenue \$63.2M
- Yr/Yr Revenue Growth 28.5%
- Gross Margin Positive Q1 2009
- Cash & Equivalents (EOY) \$50M

Network Metrics

- Customer Cell Sites > 6,300
- Cell Towers Served > 3,100
- Network Route Miles > 12,800
- Fiber Partners > 20

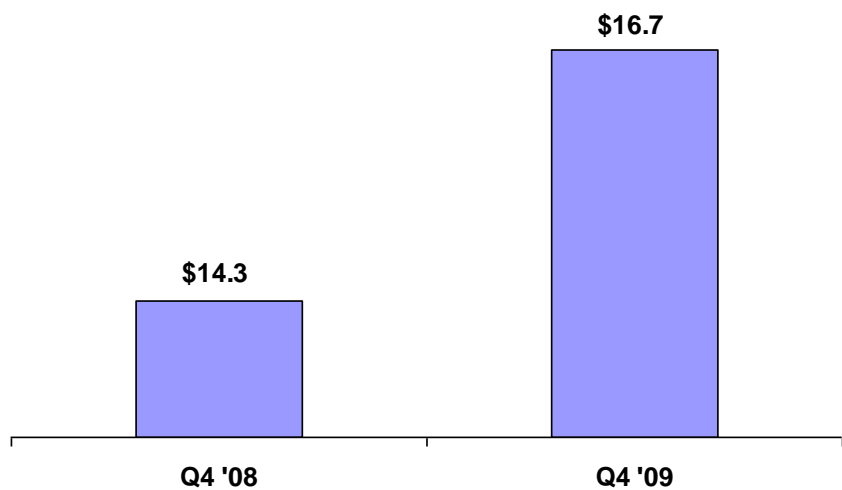
- ▶ Facilities based hybrid fiber/microwave backhaul provider for over 6 years
- ▶ Among 500 fastest growing technology companies in the U.S. (#100)*

* Source: Deloitte & Touche Fast 500

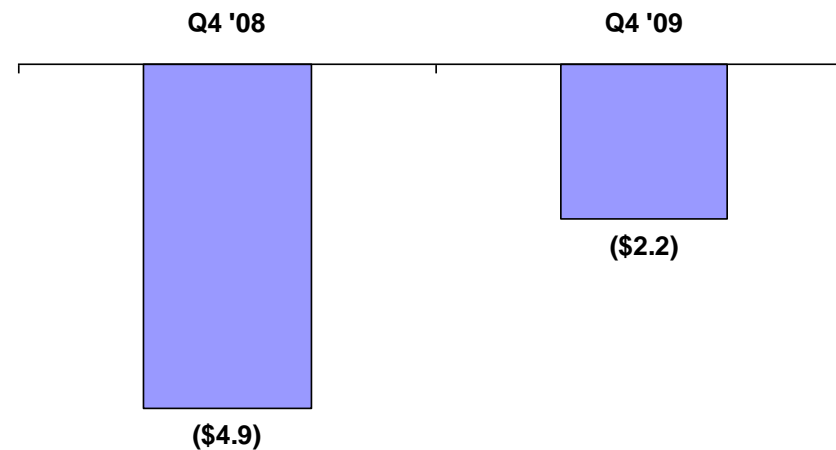


Financial Highlights

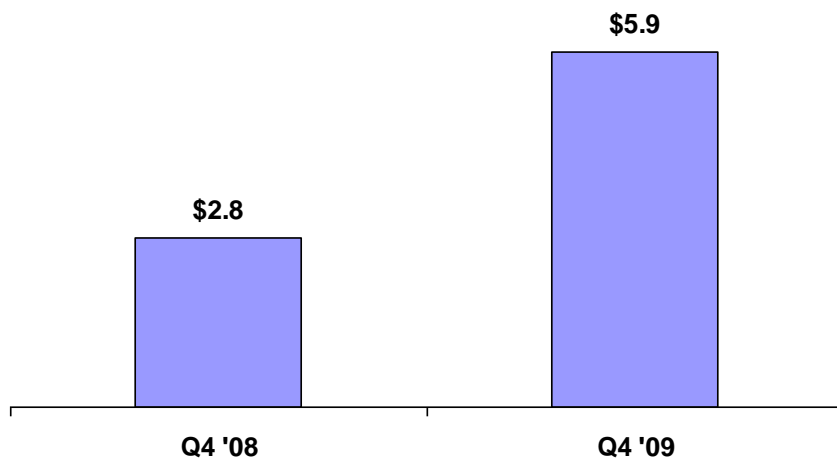
Revenue



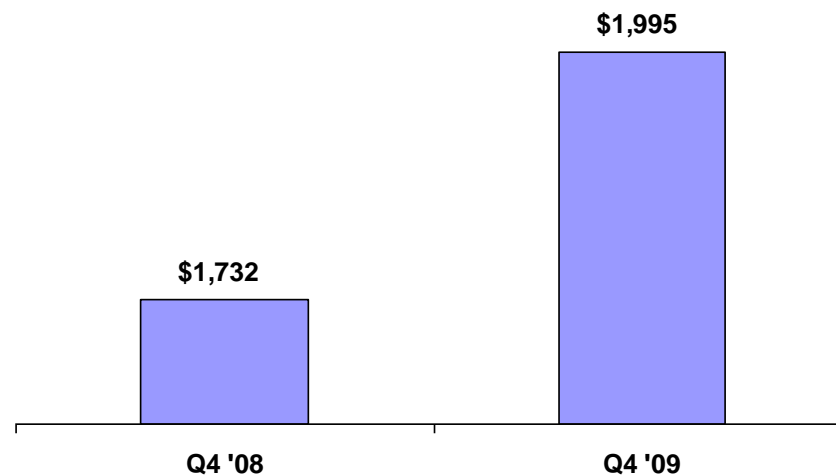
Adjusted EBITDA



Capital Acquisitions

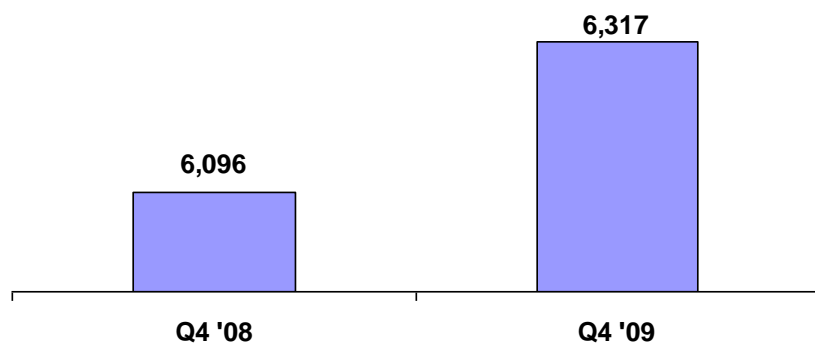


Revenue/Billing Site

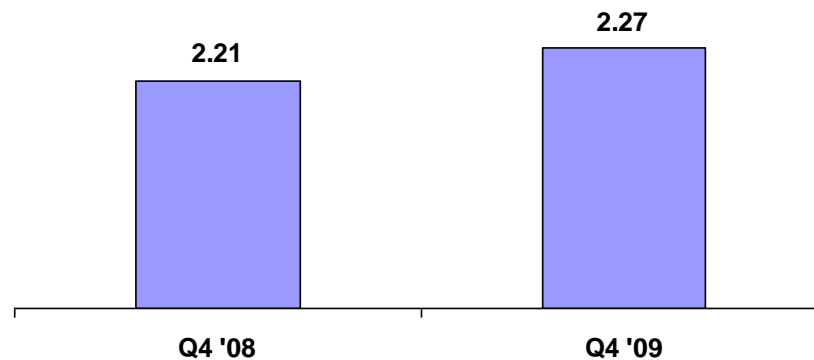


Operating Highlights

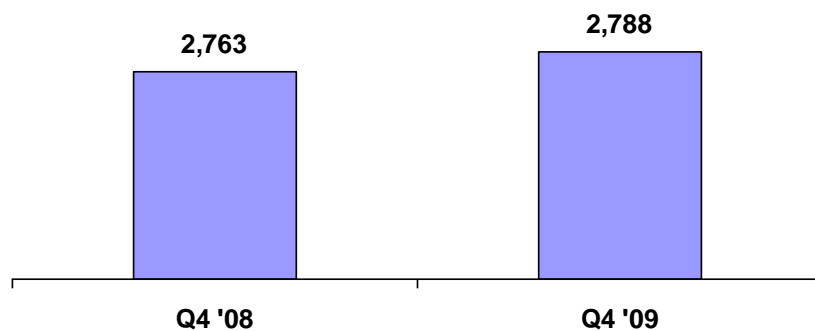
Billing Customer Locations



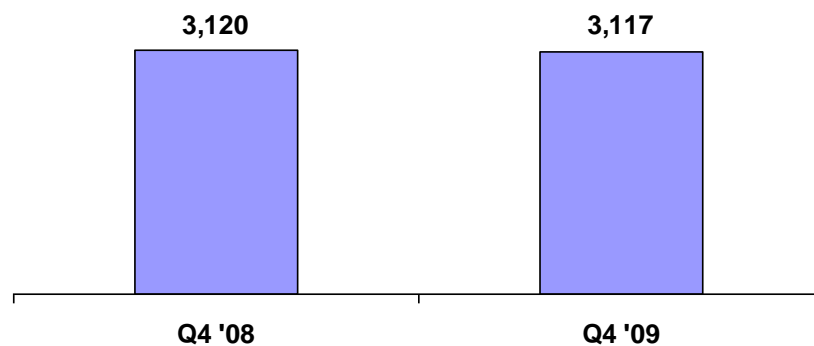
Collocation Rate



Billing Sites



Deployed Sites*



* Deployed Sites are net of decommissions



Sales Growth Opportunities

Sales to Current Carriers
on Existing Network



- Existing customers continue to grow bandwidth based on new devices and applications

Sales to New Carriers on
Existing Network



- Existing network has unsold opportunity of almost 3K wireless carrier collocations

New Sites in
Existing Markets



- Existing 13 markets have available “near net” site pool of over 10K potential sites

Wholesale & Government
Opportunities



- New customers enable leveraging of skill set and network assets, like fiber

New Sites in
New Markets



- New customer networks provide an opening to expand to new markets

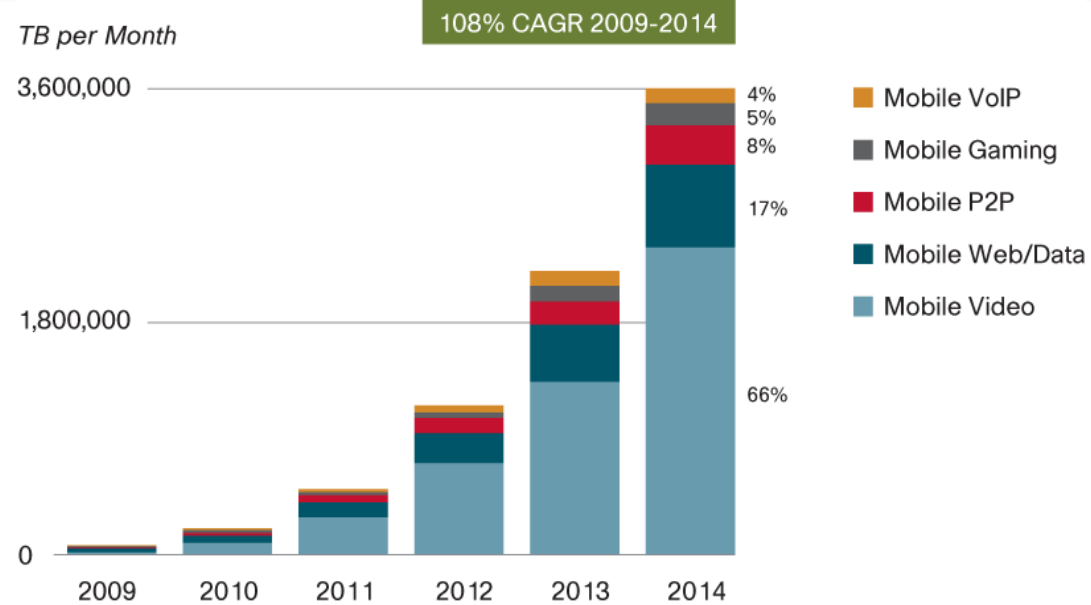
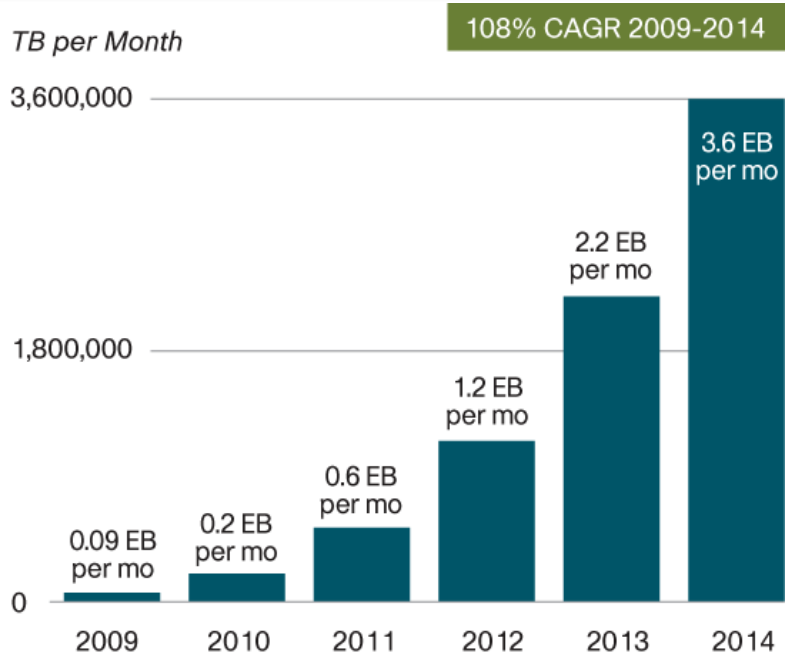


Ravi Potharlanka – Market Opportunity and Positioning



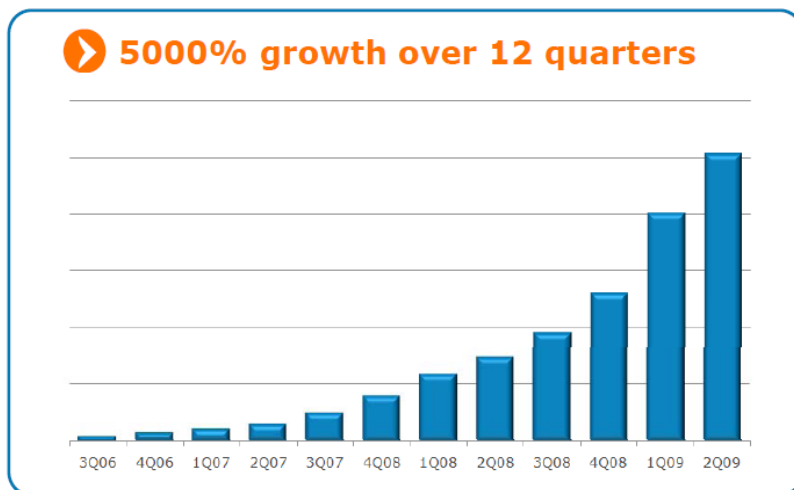
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Key Secular Trend: Mobile Data Traffic Explosion

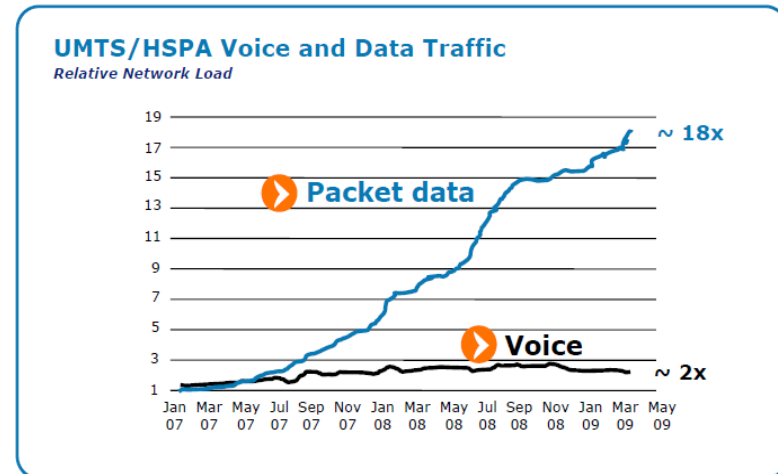


Source: Cisco VNI Mobile, 2010

For more details, see Appendix B: Forecast and Methodology.
Source: Cisco VNI Mobile, 2010



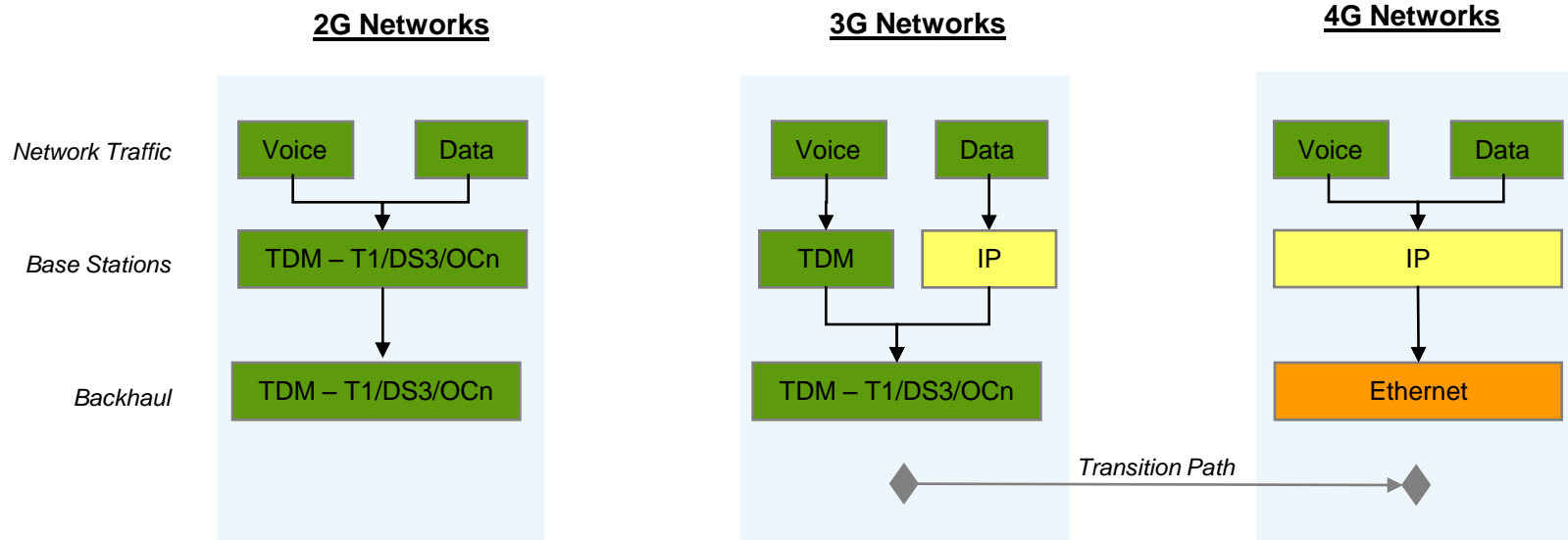
Source: at&t, LTE Americas Conference, Nov 2009



Source: 3G Americas/Peter Rysavy



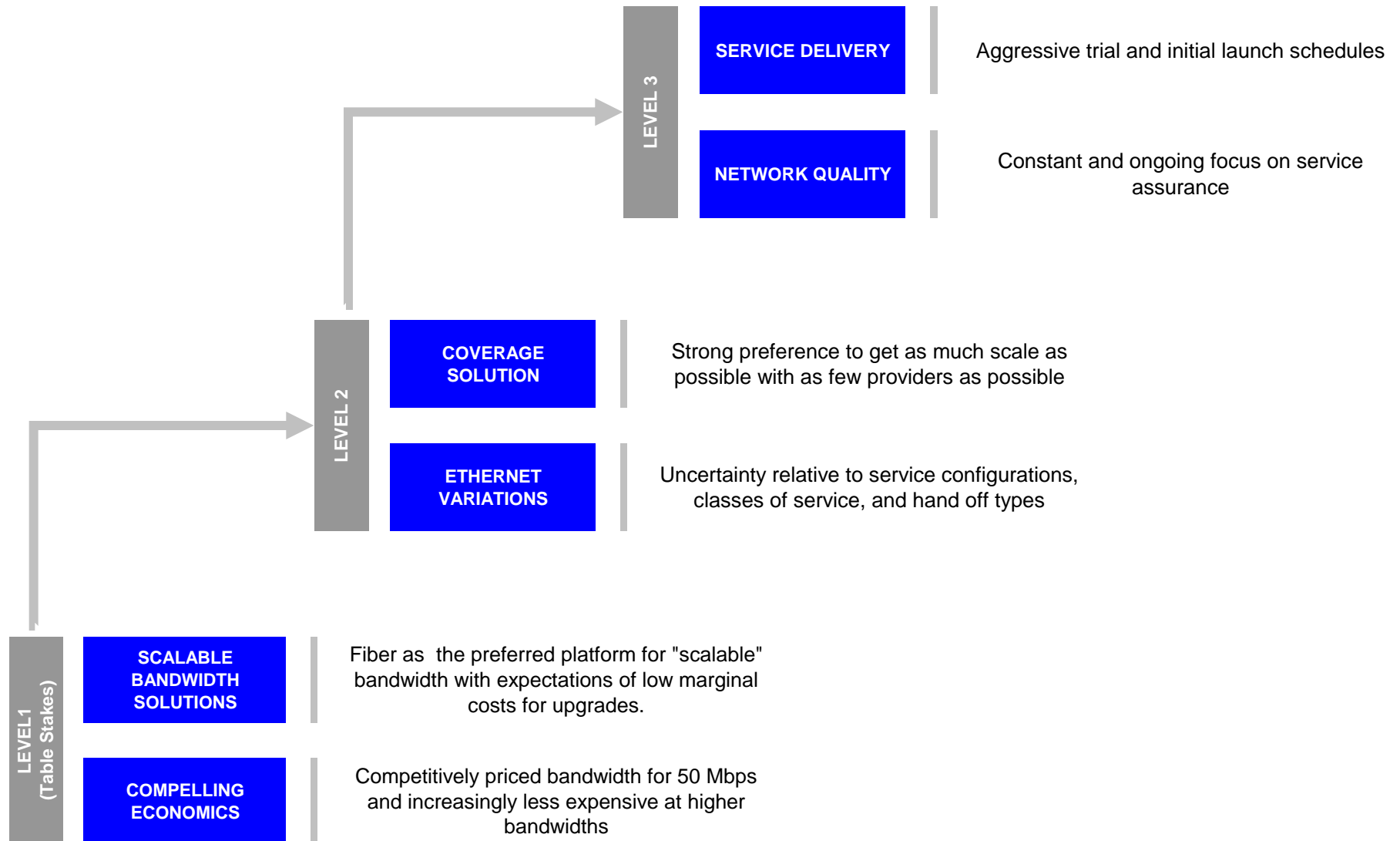
4G Network Transition and Impact on Backhaul



- ▶ 4G technology is driving tremendous change in wireless networks, and for the first time in the backhaul infrastructure
- ▶ Each carrier is at a different stage of this transition (2G → 3G → 4G), and it will take several years to complete
- ▶ 4G networks will require much more backhaul capacity (20 to 100 Mbps or more)
- ▶ Ethernet is the most efficient and scalable transport technology for such bandwidths and for data-intensive applications



What does it take to be a backhaul player?



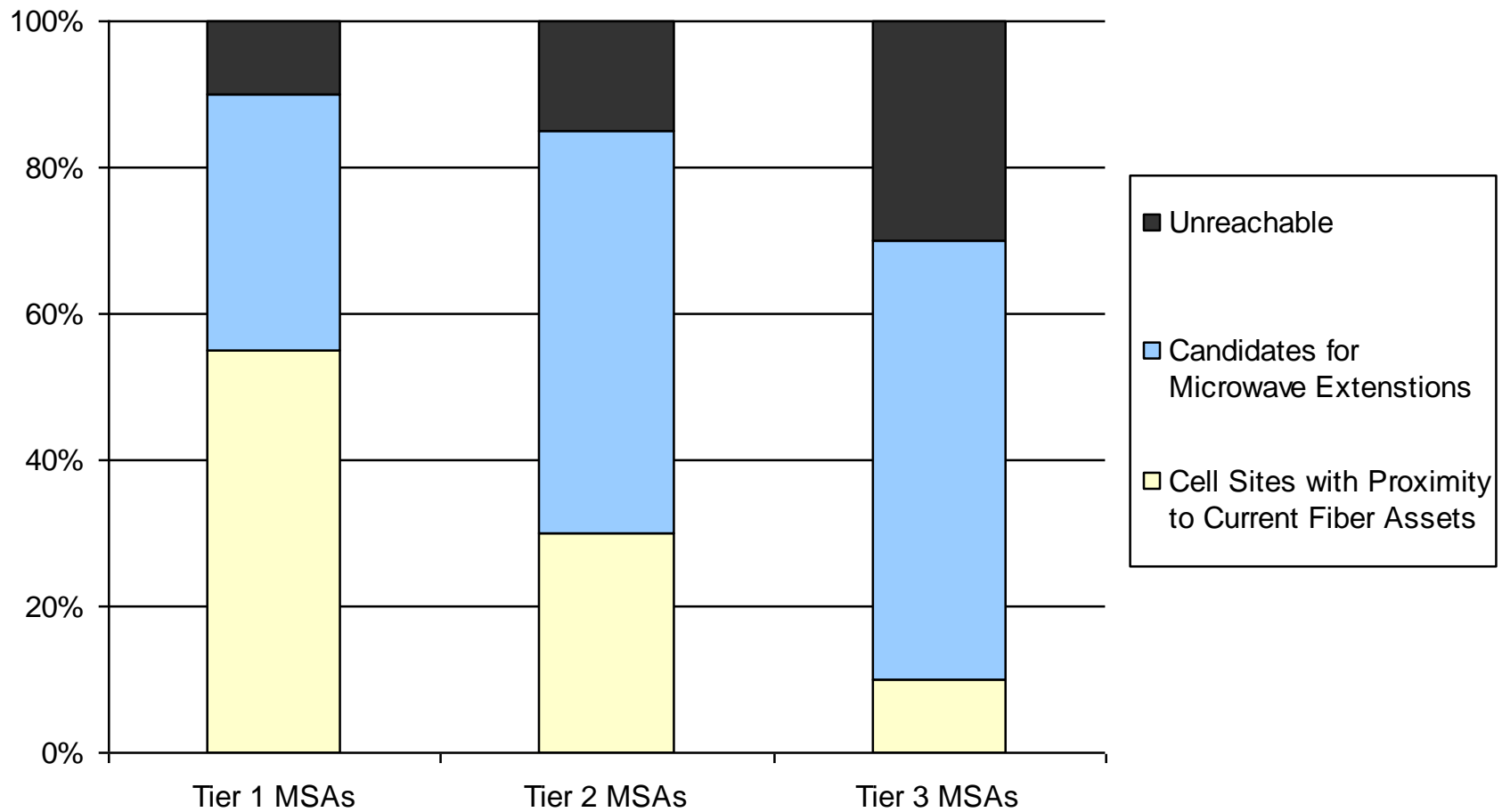
FiberTower Positioning

	<u>KEY REQUIREMENT</u>	<u>FIBERTOWER POSITION</u>
LEVEL 1 (Table Stakes)	SCALABLE BANDWIDTH SOLUTIONS	HIGH CAPACITY FIBER NETWORK & MICROWAVE EXTENSIONS
	COMPELLING ECONOMICS	HISTORY OF PROVEN ECONOMICS OVER SEVERAL YEARS
LEVEL 2	COVERAGE SOLUTION	HYBRID FIBER/MICROWAVE SOLUTIONS MAXIMIZE COVERAGE
	ETHERNET VARIATIONS	LEADER IN INNOVATION WITH FIRST MOVER ADVANTAGE
LEVEL 3	SERVICE DELIVERY	COMMITMENT TO ON TIME DELIVERY
	NETWORK QUALITY	TRACK RECORD OF SUCCESS



Opportunity across various MSAs

% of Cell Sites Served by Different Platforms



Dave Jones - Network and Technology Initiatives



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Network Architecture Evolution

Key Requirements

- Very high capacity per site (100 – 300 Mbps or more)
- Max-coverage solution with a significant % of sites served by fiber
- Native Ethernet traffic support
- Support a variety of Ethernet configurations
- End-to-end solution offering carrier-class availability and performance specs

Network Architecture – Existing Network

- Push fiber deeper into the network – strong dark fiber preference
- Convert existing microwave-fed sites to fiber and “split” radio chains to create capacity
- Native Ethernet overlay for high-capacity Ethernet services

Network Architecture – New Networks

- Establish extensive fiber backbones thru leased fiber or IRUs
- Expand portfolio of fiber partners to extend reach
- Shorter radio chains to support much higher capacity at microwave-fed sites
- Native Ethernet architecture with ability to support T1s using circuit emulation

Microwave Radio Technology

- Next-generation, high-capacity Ethernet radios
- All-outdoor radios with integrated switching functionality to reduce footprint and thus cost
- Radio development to extract maximum capacity from FiberTower’s 24 GHz spectrum (up to 400 MHz in top markets)

Patrick Coughlin – Customer Feedback



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Industry Trends

- ▶ Carriers are offering new devices, like the iPhone and DROID
- ▶ Carriers are deploying 4G and LTE networks in Tier I markets and are accelerating Tier II and Tier III planning efforts in 2010
- ▶ Carriers are migrating from TDM to Ethernet, but TDM is not going away anytime soon
- ▶ Cell site coverage and aggregation is becoming more critical
- ▶ Carriers are ordering high capacity bandwidth (20 Mbps+) under long term contracts

Industry drivers enable FiberTower to leverage its hybrid networks



Sales Activity

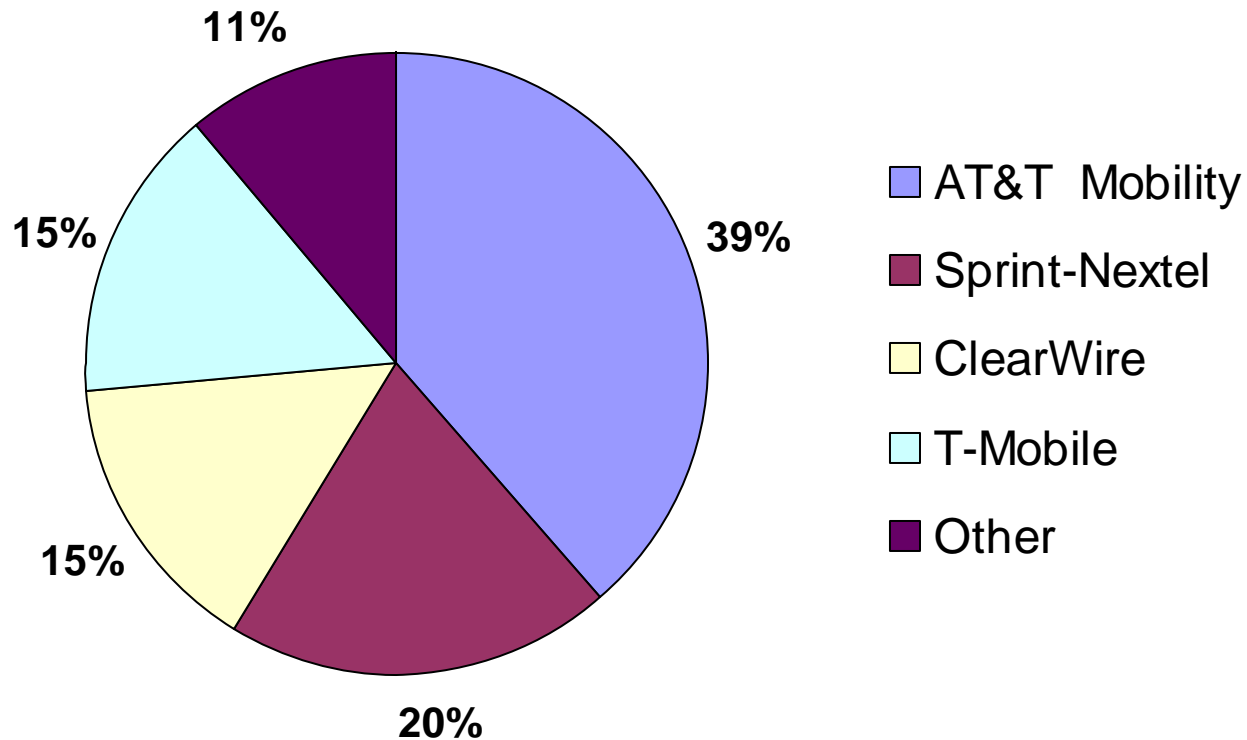
- ▶ FiberTower has made recent sales progress with many wireless customers
- ▶ Sales funnel remains healthy with a broad mix of attractive opportunities
- ▶ Large scale Ethernet opportunities are active with national wireless carriers
- ▶ Major proposals for new locations and new markets typically include > 50% penetration of fiber to the cell site
- ▶ FiberTower continues to capture organic growth from our embedded base
- ▶ Veteran sales team assembled to enhance focus on core business

Most promising sales position for the Company in recent history



Revenue Contribution by Customer

Full Year 2009 Revenue Contribution by Customer



- ▶ FiberTower grew business with all of its major wireless customers in 2009
- ▶ Business growth largely from selling additional capacity on existing sites



Thomas Scott - Financial Review



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Financial Overview

- ▶ Backhaul market activity providing opening to accelerate expansion
- ▶ Existing network starting to produce meaningful market-level margins
- ▶ New network construction will provide opportunity to reach enhanced scale
- ▶ Achieving 2010 financial metrics will give business enhanced flexibility



Key Operating Drivers for FiberTower

Revenue less Operating Expenses*:

Direct Site Costs

- ▶ Costs consist of site rental expense, fiber transport, power, property taxes, vehicles and maintenance.

Field Tech Costs

- ▶ Costs consist of compensation and benefits for employees operating and maintaining network across 13 markets.

Indirect Network Costs

- ▶ Costs consist of compensation and benefits for employees in engineering and NOC responsible for designing and monitoring the network.

S&M and G&A Costs

- ▶ Costs consist of centralized corporate expenses such as finance/accounting, sales, marketing and other public company costs.

Cost of Service

= Adjusted EBITDA

**Operating Expenses deducted to calculated Adjusted EBITDA exclude Stock-based Compensation, Restructuring Expenses, Debt Transaction Expenses and Depreciation & Amortization.*



Q4 2009 Site Level Performance*

	Three Months Ended	
	Dec 31, 2009	Monthly Per Depl. Site**
Revenue	\$ 16,734	\$ 1,789
Direct Site Costs	10,222	1,093
Field Tech Costs	1,525	163
Market Level EBITDA ("Field EBITDA")	\$ 4,987	\$ 533
Indirect Network Costs	2,170	232
Stock-Based Compensation	1,333	143
Gross Profit (GAAP)	\$ 1,484	\$ 159
Sales & Marketing***	1,204	129
General & Administrative***	11,030	1,180
Restructuring Expenses	82	9
Depreciation & Amortization	6,800	727
Loss from Operations (GAAP)	\$ (17,632)	\$ (1,886)
Total Other Income/(Expense)	(10,325)	(1,104)
Loss before Income Taxes	(27,958)	(2,990)
Income Tax Benefit	160	17
Net Loss (GAAP)	\$ (27,798)	\$ (2,973)
Net Adjustments to EBITDA*	25,587	2,736
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ (2,210)	\$ (236)

- ▶ New revenue growth on existing network has produced high incremental margins given fixed cost nature of the network
- ▶ Market-Level EBITDA margins approaching 30%
- ▶ Ability to continue to leverage existing network to drive incremental EBITDA and improve Return on Invested Capital

*See Appendix for full reconciliation back to GAAP-based financials.

** Per site results calculated by dividing consolidated results by 3,117 Deployed Sites and dividing by three months

*** S&M and G&A include non-cash stock-based compensation and G&A includes \$4.2 million in transaction fees. Both of these amounts are added back to Adjusted EBITDA.



2010 New Investment Objectives

Sales Growth Opportunities	Targets
Existing Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Grow revenue/site through new sales on existing sites▶ Capture additional high incremental margins offering short paybacks on capital
New Network Construction	<ul style="list-style-type: none">▶ Invest in EBITDA+ sites from Day 0 by pursuing adequate revenue/site▶ Identify path to >25% ROI

- ▶ 2010 Capital Spending Plan includes mix of investments in existing markets, such as collocation additions and dark fiber plus allocations for new site construction
- ▶ Maintenance capital spending currently represents <\$10 million per year



Quarterly 2009 Cash Flow

\$ in Millions	Q1 '09	Q209	Q309	Q409	FY 2009
Net cash used in operating activities:	\$ (5.2)	\$ (2.7)	\$ (2.4)	\$ (8.3)	\$ (18.5)
Net cash used in investing activities:	\$ (2.5)	\$ (2.2)	\$ (2.3)	\$ (13.3)	\$ (20.3)
Net cash used in financing activities:	\$ (21.4)	\$ (30.8)	\$ (0.0)	\$ (12.7)	\$ (64.9)
Net increase (decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	\$ (29.1)	\$ (35.6)	\$ (4.7)	\$ (34.3)	\$ (103.7)
Debt-Related Expenditures:					
Cash Paid to Repurchase Debt	\$ 21.4	\$ 30.8	-	-	\$ 52.2
Cash Paid for Accrued Interest on Repurchase	\$ 1.9	\$ 0.1	-	-	\$ 2.0
Cash Paid to Executives Pursuant to Retention Agreements	-	-	-	\$ 2.0	\$ 2.0
Cash Paid for Transaction Related Expenses	-	-	-	\$ 3.8	\$ 3.8
Cash Paid upon Redemption	-	-	-	\$ 12.7	\$ 12.7
Cash Escrowed for Future Interest Payments	-	-	-	\$ 11.0	\$ 11.0
Total	\$ 23.3	\$ 30.9	\$ -	\$ 29.5	\$ 83.7
Recurring Cash Flow Consumption	\$ (5.8)	\$ (4.7)	\$ (4.7)	\$ (4.8)	\$ (20.0)

- ▶ Company continued to improve operating cash flow performance in 2009
 - Increase in Q409 was completely driven by \$5.8 million in debt-related cash payments

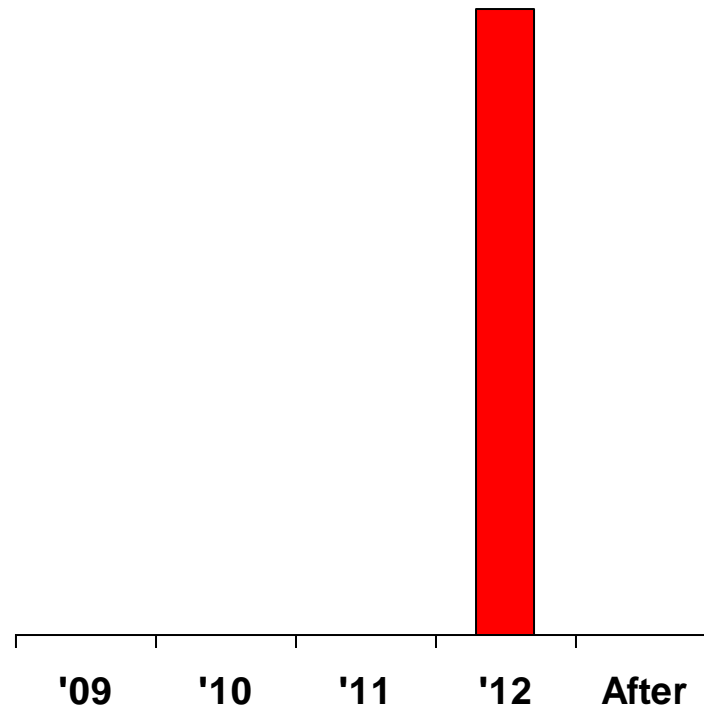


Enhanced Liquidity due to Maturity Extension

Debt Maturity Schedule at Q4 '08*

\$ in millions

\$625

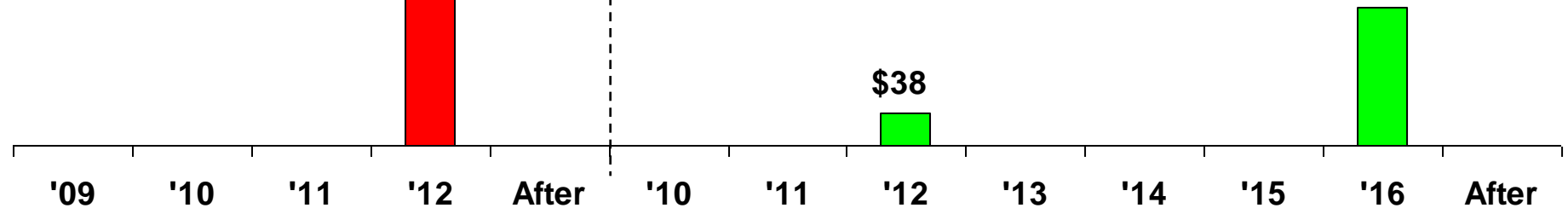


Debt Maturity Schedule Today*

\$ in millions

\$38

\$162



- ▶ 2009 debt reduction activities have decreased expected cash interest payments that would have begun in May 2011 by over 86%
- ▶ Fourth quarter debt exchange has significantly extended maturity

*Chart assumes all pay-in-kind ("PIK") options exercised and the Notes due 2012 mature at 125.4% of par.



Kurt Van Wagenen – Conclusion



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2010 Corporate Objectives

- ▶ Accelerate Revenue Growth
 - Sell additional capacity on existing sites
 - Invest in customer led new deployments
 - Gain traction with wholesale and government initiatives

- ▶ Achieve Adjusted EBITDA Positive No Later Than Q3 2010

- ▶ Evolve Network To Support New Products And Higher Standards
 - Expand Ethernet capabilities
 - Deploy a higher percentage of fiber-fed sites
 - Advance radio technologies
 - Enhance network availability and performance



Question & Answer Period



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Appendix



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Non-GAAP Financial Measures

- ▶ **We use Adjusted EBITDA, which is a non-GAAP (Generally Accepted Accounting Principles) financial measure, to monitor the financial performance of our operations. This measurement, together with GAAP measures such as revenue and loss from operations, assists management in its decision-making processes relating to the operation of our business. Adjusted EBITDA is defined as net income (loss) from operations before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization, impairment and restructuring charges, stock-based compensation, gain on early extinguishment of debt, debt exchange expenses and other income (expense). Adjusted EBITDA is not a substitute for operating income, net income (loss), or cash flow used in operating activities as determined in accordance with GAAP, as a measure of performance or liquidity. In addition, our presentation of Adjusted EBITDA may not be comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies. This non-GAAP financial measure should be viewed in addition to, and not as an alternative for, our reported financial results as determined in accordance with GAAP.**
- ▶ **Other companies in our industry may calculate Adjusted EBITDA differently than we do. Adjusted EBITDA is not a measure of performance under GAAP and should not be considered as a substitute for net income (loss) prepared in accordance with GAAP. Adjusted EBITDA has significant limitations as an analytical tool, and you should not consider it in isolation or as a substitute for analysis of our results as reported under GAAP.**



Adjusted EBITDA to GAAP Reconciliation

RECONCILIATION TO ADJUSTED EBITDA	Unaudited Quarterly Financials					Annual Financials	
	\$ in millions						
	Q408	Q109	Q209	Q309	Q409	2008	2009
Net income (loss)	\$ (62,690)	\$ 26,712	\$ 20,791	\$ (21,843)	\$ (27,798)	\$ (249,829)	\$ (2,138)
Depreciation and amortization	\$ 6,989	\$ 7,023	\$ 7,004	\$ 7,013	\$ 6,800	\$ 24,897	\$ 27,840
Stock-based compensation	\$ 1,548	\$ 1,401	\$ 873	\$ 1,280	\$ 4,462	\$ 6,274	\$ 8,016
Exchange offer and redemption of debt expenses	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 254	\$ 4,222	\$ -	\$ 4,476
Impairment of FCC licenses	\$ 54,505	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 54,505	\$ -
Impairment of goodwill	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 86,093	\$ -
Interest income	\$ (559)	\$ (154)	\$ (73)	\$ (32)	\$ (36)	\$ (5,316)	\$ (295)
Interest expense	\$ 13,436	\$ 15,115	\$ 12,280	\$ 10,060	\$ 10,150	\$ 47,742	\$ 47,605
Gain on early extinguishment of debt, net	\$ -	\$ (53,671)	\$ (44,577)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (98,248)
Impairment of long-lived assets and other charges and credits	\$ 2,030	\$ 92	\$ 102	\$ 337	\$ 150	\$ 22,262	\$ 681
Income tax provision (benefit)	\$ (20,189)	\$ (1,468)	\$ 381	\$ -	\$ (160)	\$ (20,189)	\$ (1,247)
Adjusted EBITDA	\$ (4,930)	\$ (4,950)	\$ (3,219)	\$ (2,931)	\$ (2,210)	\$ (33,561)	\$ (13,310)



Operating Expenses Reconciliation

Cost of Service Components	3 Months Ended Dec 31, 2009
Direct Site Costs	\$ 10,222
Field Tech Costs	1,525
Indirect Network Costs	2,170
Stock-Based Compensation	1,333
Cost of Service	\$ 15,250

