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January 5, 2016

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Time Warner Cable made good on promises that it would finish the year in the black with video customers, adding 32,000 pay-TV subscribers for the year. In all, the operator said 2015 was its best year ever for customer growth, with broadband subscription additions pushing total customer growth to 618,000 for the year. This comes after TWC gained 30,000 residential video subscribers in the first quarter and lost 45,000 in the second quarter and 7,000 in the third quarter.

"Ordinarily we wouldn't announce subscriber results until our earnings release, but given our results, I couldn't wait to thank the team for its outstanding performance," said TWC Chairman and CEO Rob Marcus. "We're especially pleased that we were able to add residential video customers for the first time in nine years – a real milestone for our company and the industry," he added.

Marcus has been touting the full-year growth in video subs milestone in recent appearances with investors. He said the growth is the result of operational and technology improvements made by TWC -- upgrades, he added, that are trumping the impact of cord cutting. – **Fierce Cable**

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Regulators pushed back by two weeks their informal deadline to complete a review of Charter Communications Inc.'s purchase of Time Warner Cable Inc.

U.S. officials need more time to examine recent filings on the deal's potential impact to the distribution of Time Warner Cable's regional sports networks and Charter's residential pricing and packaging methods, among other things, the Federal Communications Commission [said in a letter Monday](#) to the companies posted on its website.

The 15-day pause, which will conclude on Jan. 20, "will contribute to a more efficient and expeditious review of the proposed transaction," the commission said. The FCC and the Justice Department are vetting the deal for its effect on competition and consumers. The informal 180-day clock used by the FCC to complete merger reviews will have 65 days remaining when the pause ends, implying a deadline of late March. "We are working well with the FCC on its review of our deal and continue to look forward to a timely approval," Charter spokesman Justin Venech said in a statement.

Charter agreed in May to acquire Time Warner Cable and Bright House Networks LLC for \$55.1 billion and \$10.4 billion, respectively. The deals would make Charter the second-largest cable and broadband provider in the U.S, with 23.9 million customers in 41 states. A representative from Time Warner Cable didn't immediately respond to

**Philadelphia  
Inquirer  
New Year's  
resolution? Not  
for Pa. budget**

a request for comment. – **Bloomberg**

Shenandoah Telecommunications Company (Shentel) has entered an agreement to purchase West Virginia's Colane Cable TV for \$2.4 million. Colane serves 3,680 customers and passes 8,660 homes in the areas of Omar, Crawley Creek, Low Gap, Delbarton and Boone -- areas that are adjacent to existing Shentel systems in McDowell and Wyoming counties.

Shentel said it will make significant upgrades to Colane systems, deploying faster Internet speeds and more HD video. The Edinburg, Va.-based operator expects the deal to close in the first quarter. "We are pleased to be able to expand our cable business in West Virginia," said Earle MacKenzie, COO at Shentel. "Our planned multi-million dollar investment will allow Shentel to offer a robust triple play including 101 Mbps of Internet to the residents and businesses in the Colane communities."

The announcement follows Shentel's August purchase of nTelos for approximately \$640 million in a move the company said will improve its fiber and cable holdings. Shentel's deal for nTelos doubled its retail wireless customer base to more than 1 million and expanded its wholesale wireless relationship with Sprint. In addition to gaining nTelos' retail wireless assets in the Mid-Atlantic and Southeast regions, Shentel is receiving payments from Sprint over the next five to six years totaling up to \$252 million under new affiliate terms with the carrier. Sprint and Shentel have extended their terms by five years, to 2029. – **Fierce Cable**



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