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Forbes
Six Tricks To Claim That Americans Lack Access To Broadband

New York Times
Parking lots have become a digital lifeline

Ars Technica
Google Meet, Google's Zoom competitor, gets wider Gmail integration

CNN
Americans are getting fewer robocalls because of the pandemic

New York Times

Pay TV providers (and consumers) are clear: Since there is no live sports programming, they should **pay less** when it comes to their carriage fees. However, getting more involved in programming may not be the way to go. Upside? Yes. But plenty of risk, as well.

For example, the thinking is **ESPN shouldn't charge** nearly $9 a month per subscriber to pay TV distributors -- the highest price of any TV network, cable or broadcast -- when it hasn't aired a live NBA or Major League Baseball game in two months. ESPN might counter: There is no live sports, but it does run sports programming content -- highlights, many past big NBA and Major League Baseball games, e-sports video games and cornhole throwing.

So does specific language, with regard to the types of programming, appear in carriage contracts with TV content producers? If so, then those pay TV providers indeed have a say. Now, broaden this beyond sports.

In the coming months, there will be an ever-decreasing number of scripted TV shows on the air -- broadcast and cable. What does this mean for the fall -- the typical launching ground for new TV content on CBS, NBC, Fox, ABC, dozens of cable networks and new streaming services? If all types of TV networks are not running a specific volume of new programming, what happens to deals with their traditional and virtual TV distributors?

Previous to COVID-19, Dish, DirectTV, Comcast, Charter could count on a certain level of viewership from content -- which can be tracked historically. TV viewing has gone higher in the last two months. But now it is starting to level

Disney Takes a Pandemic Hit, and There's Worse to Come

Easton Express-Times
Pennsylvania's coronavirus death toll is more than tripled in new projection

Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
After 554 new Pa. deaths and revised mortality model, Levine cautions against early re-opening

Philadelphia Inquirer
Renee Amoore, deputy chairperson of Pa. Republican Party, dies at 67

Reuters
Judge reinstates New York presidential primary canceled by state

The Hill
Op-ed by U.S. Reps. Joe Kennedy (D-MA) and Mark Pocan (D-WI): Congress, state leaders must move to implement vote by mail for the remainder of 2020 election cycle

off. In a couple of weeks or months, it could sink -- dramatically. So airing content value could be lower, affecting not just pay TV distributors, but consumers who want to pay less.

One might also figure any local cable advertising revenues are taking a hit as well. Traditional pay TV providers, cable, satellite, and telco providers typically get two minutes an hour of ad time to sell. Do pay TV providers now want more of a say -- in the time of COVID-19 -- in what types of programming they get to sell, perhaps linking content deals to distribution and viewership?

TV content and development is a double-edged sword. Having a shared partnership in TV content performance is a risk. Which will be the first pay TV provider to step up and want a carriage deal tied specifically to program ratings? Sorry, I can't hear you. -- ***MediaPost***

T-Mobile today turned on its newly integrated 2.5 GHz spectrum in New York City, making it the first city to offer the operator's full "layer cake" for 5G with a mix of low-, mid-, and high-band spectrum. Since **closing** its Sprint merger on April 1, T-Mobile has been moving rapidly on network integration work and just two week ago lit up 2.5 GHz for 5G in Philadelphia.

Unlike Philadelphia, Sprint had **already launched** 5G using 2.5 GHz in NYC last summer, meaning the latest activation required a different type of transition, T-Mobile's Karri Kuoppamaki previously told FierceWireless. In addition to the 2.5 GHz, making up T-Mobile's 5G layer cake in NYC is low-band 600 MHz and millimeter wave 28 GHz spectrum. AT&T, meanwhile, has its low-band and mmWave "5G+" service live in New York and competitor Verizon **launched** mmWave 5G using 28 GHz in the city in September 2019.

The first users who can tap into all three layers are those with a Samsung Galaxy S20+ or Ultra. The devices became available in March and are the first two 5G handsets in the U.S. with support for both sub-6 GHz and millimeter wave bands. In just over a month since the long-awaited close of its merger, T-Mobile is following through on plans to immediately begin deploying more mid-band spectrum, even in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic. T-Mobile had additional time to prepare for integration though, while its Sprint merger deal dragged out for about two years. T-Mobile, in arguing for its Sprint deal, repeatedly touted capabilities the combined company could deliver with a "transformational nationwide 5G network."

The mix of spectrum bands promise to deliver a combination of enhanced speed, capacity, and coverage. The carrier has said average 5G speeds on T-Mobile's new network will be up to **eight times faster** than current LTE in a few years and 15 times faster within six years. Samsung devices that can tap T-Mobile's integrated network in NYC also support both non-standalone and standalone (SA) 5G mode capabilities. While T-Mobile is still operating in non-standalone (NSA) 5G, it's working to launch SA 5G later this year and earlier this week announced a handful of **SA 5G milestones** achieved using a multi-vendor production core on its commercial 5G network. – Fierce Wireless

Stay safe

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