

TITAN Conference Broadband Access to the PAB

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Patrice d'Oultremont

1. Available Technologies
2. Scope for « convergence » in infrastructure and services
3. Competitive landscape :
 - Access to contents
 - Delivery of contents
4. The regulatory « hot potato »
5. Conclusions

a) Fixed networks

- Coaxial Cable (EURO DOC.SYS)
- Over the air TV (analog and digital)
- Over the air TNT (DVB-T)
- « Copper » pair (DSL)

b) Mobile networks

- 2G/3G networks media capabilities including DVB-H

2. Scope for convergence in infrastructures and services

- a) Short term perspective. Infrastructure competition is raging.
- Infrastructures : too soon or too late
 - Services :
 1. Both cable and « copper » pair fight for survival
 2. TV over 2G/3G, an « add up » to voice/data services
- b) Longer term perspective. Which infrastructure competition ?
- The netco/servco model ?
 - Will content providers be the arbitrators ?

a) Access to contents

- The current « business case » of the network operators
- Will contents (media) prices go up ?
- « Direct » access to content via Internet

b) Delivery of contents through xDSL

- Technical constraints
- Return on investments

4. The regulatory « hot potato »

- a) The three-layer regulatory model in Belgium
- b) The Belgian conundrum
 - Constitutional issues
 - Industry structure
- c) Re-unite or divide further ?

- a) « Convergence » is ultimately a consumer issue/choice
- b) « Converged » service offering is a complex issue
 - Technologies (hard, soft)
 - Regulation
- c) DSL and DOC.SYS networks are neck to neck in convergence
- d) Price wars and unsecured ROIs are real threats
- e) Belgium is a « unique » laboratory