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Westman Communications Group Delivers Next-Gen Broadband Services

Virtualized cable access in DAA to simplify operations and generate savings.

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THE GAME PLAN

Westman Communications Group (WCG), a leading communications provider in Canada, has offerings in 42 communities. WCG planned to expand its broadband capacity to offer the fastest possible broadband speeds to retain members and attract new subscribers. One of the main challenges they faced was overcoming the space, power and operational constraints of legacy hardware products.

WCG wanted to modernize its network and simplify operations. The aim was to upgrade its top broadband downstream tier from 150 Mbps to 300 Mbps and be future-ready by transitioning to DOCSIS 3.1. With a simpler licensing model for adding DOCSIS 3.1 spectrum, WCG hoped to reduce the steps in the procurement process and eliminate hidden costs that are customary with traditional CMTS architectures.

THE PLAY-BY-PLAY

WCG selected Harmonic's CableOS® virtualized cable access solution. The choice was to deploy CableOS in a distributed access architecture (DAA) with Harmonic's Remote PHY (R-PHY) nodes and using efficient node splits that simplify the headend. Since RF only exists in the outside plant, having a software-based cable access solution makes it easier to tailor an RF lineup on a per-node basis.

WCG is also using Harmonic's CableOS Central analytics-driven service to proactively identify and address technical issues and network capacity opportunities.

The entire solution was launched in under two months and Harmonic's highly skilled professional services team was onsite for testing and at launch to provide support for a smooth deployment.

THE WIN

The CableOS solution provides WCG with rich data analytics. Using data from CableOS central, they can predict and address issues before they make an impact.

Today, WCG benefits from a significantly improved outside plant performance, providing a better signal quality over the last mile of transport to the customer to enable faster and improved service quality. The result is fewer hub sites, which equates to significant energy savings. With CableOS, the optical connectivity to the node is simplified, so WCG can rely on Ethernet rather than traditional AM optics. This is especially helpful for the high number of nodes that are more than 50 km away from a hub site.

When making the shift to next-generation technology, WCG chose a field-proven, future-proof solution with a knowledgeable partner. Harmonic gave WCG the flexibility, scalability and efficiency needed to stay competitive with cost-effective solutions that offer high-end performance.

THE POWER OF CABLEOS

DAA
Transition to next-gen
architectures



Lower energy footprint



Enhanced visibility of
network performance



Streamlined operations



Future-proof solutions



"We want to deliver enhanced next-generation services to our members over the best network in the most cost-effective way possible."

Graham Johnston

Chief Technology Officer at Westman Communications Group