

Thursday, August 6, 2020

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## Sparklight Invests \$75 Million In Boise, Western Idaho To Support Next Generation Technology

**Boise, Id.** – Sparklight is connecting customers to what matters most with investments of \$75.6 million in Western Idaho over the past five years in order to bring the fastest and most reliable Internet to Idaho residents and businesses.

“Connectivity is the core of everything our customers and communities need to be successful today and in the future,” said Julie Laulis, President & CEO. “A fast and reliable Internet connection is critical, especially in unprecedented times like these when our communities are accessing work, education, and entertainment from home, as well as staying connected to loved ones due to the COVID-19 pandemic.”



Sparklight began launching Gigabit service across its fiber-rich network in 2016, making more than 200 communities in 21 states Gig cities. In 2019, Sparklight joined the NCTA –The Internet & Television Association, CableLabs and other industry partners in announcing plans to expand beyond current Gigabit offerings to a more powerful 10G (10 Gigabit) technology platform. 10G will combine greater capacity and lower latency with symmetrical 10 gigabit per second speeds, as well as provide greater reliability and increased security.

“We continue to make significant investment in deploying fiber deeper and closer to our customers to not only enhance reliability, speed and performance for our customers, but lay the groundwork for up to 10 Gbps speeds in the future,” Laulis said. “The digital needs of our residential and business customers are advancing rapidly, and we are actively working to stay ahead of those needs by creating a fast and reliable network that will support next generation technology.” [Read more.](#)

Source: Press Release | July 20, 2020

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## Ritter Communications Completes \$16 Million Investment To Provide 100% Fiber Internet Service To Businesses In Texarkana, Arkansas and Texarkana, Texas

Jonesboro, Ark. – Ritter Communications, a leading

regional broadband provider headquartered in Jonesboro, Arkansas, announced it has made a \$16 million investment to bring state-of-the-art communications technology and advanced business solutions to Texarkana, Arkansas and Texarkana, Texas.



The company invested \$12 million in a transport route along I-30 to get fiber service to Texarkana and another \$4 million to build out the business service in the market. Ritter's advanced suite of telecommunications services now gives Texarkana businesses access to high-speed, 100 percent fiber Internet, voice, cloud solutions, networking and television services.

Ritter Communications is the first provider in the Texarkana market to offer XGS-PON service, which delivers up to 10 gigabits per second of 100% fiber connectivity to users. Additionally, Ritter Communications is offering custom cloud solutions, empowering businesses to back up and store assets securely. All Ritter services are supported by the company's own specialized customer care team, eliminating the need for third-party technical support.

"We are excited to bring the most robust and affordable Internet solutions to the Texarkana market. Ritter Communications is known for having the fastest speeds, greatest capacity and reliability, with secure connections, and we will be delivering that to Texarkana with our signature exceptional customer experience," said Alan Morse, Ritter Communications CEO. "With fiber services utilizing signals that travel at the speed of light, Ritter Communications is redefining high-speed connectivity for businesses in the Texarkana region. We are a local company, and our Right by You pledge translates into superior service and solutions in every community we serve, giving our customers and their businesses a competitive edge." [Read more.](#)

Source: Press Release | June 11, 2020

## MEMBERS ON TWITTER



**Brad Moline**  
@ALLO\_Brad

I am beyond thrilled to share the news that our ALLO for Education program is back. Giving back is important to me, and I hope you will help spread the word. When new customers sign up for ALLO service, @Allofiber will give \$50 to a local school!



ALLO for Education | ALLO  
[allocalcommunications.com](http://allocalcommunications.com)

**ALLO Communications**



**Senator Lisa Boscola** ✓  
@SenLisaBoscola

Thank you to @sectv for stepping in & saving @Musikfest closing-night fireworks! They will take place at their traditional time of 10p on the last night of the 'Fest, August 9. The grand display will ALSO be broadcast LIVE on @sectv Channel 2.

📷 credit: Ted Colegrove



**Service Electric**

# Cedar Falls Utilities Says It's First In Iowa To Make 10 Gig Available Citywide

Internet service with speeds up to 10 gigabits per second is now available across Cedar Falls. Business and residential customers can upgrade to Internet speeds that rank among the fastest in the world.



"We are the first city in Iowa to have 10 gigabit Internet service available city-wide," said Steve Bernard, Cedar Falls Utilities General Manager. "The upgrade is a community asset that supports innovation in business, education and government in Cedar Falls."

If a customer orders 10 gigabit Internet service, CFU will complete a simple equipment swap to upgrade their speed.

In addition to updating the top Internet tier to 10 gigabit, CFU has increased the capacity on all Internet service tiers. CFU's standard home and business Internet speed is now 250 megabits per second. Most residential customers pay \$45.50 per month for that service.

PCMag recently recognized Cedar Falls Utilities as [the fastest Internet service provider in the country](#). PCMag measures Internet download and upload speeds with their PCMag online Speed Test. In 2020, CFU ranks first among providers measured, beating out large internet providers across the country.

Cedar Falls families are adding Internet enabled devices to their homes quickly. More connected devices means that ultra-fast Internet speeds will become increasingly important. CFU has designed the network for a community in which everything is connected and Internet users expect to have access to the best of all experiences instantly. [Read more](#).

*Source: Press Release | June 15, 2020*

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## Atlantic Broadband Partners With State Of Connecticut To Provide High-Speed Broadband Internet To School Families

Atlantic Broadband, the nation's eighth-largest cable operator, announced its participation in a statewide initiative to bring Internet connectivity to households in Connecticut with school-aged children to support remote learning solutions.

Through the program, the state will access federal CARES Act funding to obtain Internet services and other remote learning tools for students living in households that currently lack connectivity. The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) was passed by Congress in March to help the public and the business sector to manage through the health and economic impacts of the COVID-19 outbreak.



"We are committed to bringing reliable, high-performance broadband Internet to homes that need it most, as work-from-home and online learning has become necessary in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic," said Juan Dominguez, Vice President of Sales for Atlantic Broadband.

"We are pleased to help make this initiative possible and will work closely with state officials

and our local school districts to ensure that serviceable households with students currently lacking connectivity will have great Internet backed with local customer care and professional technical support.”

Local school districts will identify those families that live in serviceable areas but have not subscribed to Internet. The districts will then work with local Internet providers to provide those families with Internet service to support remote learning solutions during the new school year. [Read more.](#)

Source: Press Release | July 28, 2020

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## TDS' Fiber Network Builds In Oregon And McFarland, Wisconsin, Are Complete

TDS Telecom announced its fiber network builds in the village of Oregon and the city of McFarland, Wisconsin, are now complete. Combined, the two projects connect more than 5,000 Oregon and 5,700 McFarland residential and business addresses to up to 1 gigabit Internet speeds, TV, and phone service.



“We appreciate the support we’ve received from both Oregon and McFarland as we worked diligently to complete these fiber network builds,” says Julie Maiers, vice president of Marketing and Product Development at TDS. “We’ve enjoyed becoming part of the fabric of these communities and couldn’t be more excited to deliver the speed and bandwidth residents and businesses have been looking for.”

The company’s expansion into these communities was announced in April 2018. The first customers were connected to the fiber-optic network last year. Now, both networks are complete and available to all addresses included as part of the project.

The build effort, which included both buried cable and aerial components, required installing more than 140 miles of fiber. The company is actively working on two other Dane County fiber builds in the communities of Monona and Stoughton. [Read more.](#)

Source: Press Release | July 16, 2020

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## Mediacom & Waterloo, Iowa, Schools Help More Than 350 Families Gain Internet Access

**Waterloo, Iowa** -- With the help of Mediacom Communications, more than 350 families in Waterloo Community Schools have gained access to high-speed Internet for their children’s educational needs since April 7.

Last week, broadband installation was completed for the final set of families, five weeks after district leaders put in motion a plan to ensure that its students would have the technology to access online learning following the state-mandated closure of schools in March due to the coronavirus pandemic.

District officials distributed school Chromebooks to students in second through fifth grades. Waterloo Schools’ technology team developed a plan to work with local broadband providers to fill gaps for students without Internet access at home. Secondary students already had school-issued Chromebook computers through an existing technology initiative.

Mediacom adapted its Connect2Compete program, a low-cost Internet service for students who are eligible for free or reduced-priced school meals, to assist the district. Internet service was installed in the homes of more than 175 families through the program. [Read more.](#)

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AMERICA'S COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION

