

# Pennsylvania Telephone Association

"The Communications  
Leader in Pennsylvania"

## The Friday Report

April 17, 2009

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### INDUSTRY NEWS

- Hard to believe that some analysts were predicting slumping IPTV deployments as recently as last fall, but things are looking up according to this week's report of the Multimedia Research Group. More than 35 new IPTV operations either deployed networks or began a trial in the last six months worldwide and MRG has increased its forecast for subscriber growth.
- Complete repeal of basic telephone service took another giant leap forward in Tennessee this week as that state's Senate voted 22-7 to pass Senate Bill 1954. While some senators objected to the lack of time to fully digest the bill's provisions, supporters of the measure noted competitive pressures and ILEC access line losses as compelling reasons for deregulation of the industry. The legislation would preserve the Tennessee Regulatory Authority's ability to resolve consumer complaints and claims of anti-competitive practices by other telcos. Similar legislation is pending in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, North Carolina, and South Carolina.
- Network management, bandwidth capping, whatever you call it, Time Warner is abandoning it. Earlier in the week the National Telecommunications and Cable Association defended the practice in response to a Free Press signature drive asking Congress to investigate. TW planned to run trials of usage-based pricing with an all-you-can eat \$150-per-month option and, according to CEO Glenn Britt, still believes that metered usage is best for consumers.

### THE DAILY NUMBER

- 131

According to market analyst comScore, microblogging site Twitter saw an increase in users of 131 percent just in the month of March (The raw number was 9.3 million bloggers). Much of the surge is apparently attributable to people who visit news websites such as CNN. That network acquired the @cnnbrkTwitter account this week and it is already the largest, edging out even Britney Spears' Twitter account.

### QUOTABLE

- *"No company is recession proof."*

Google CEO Eric Schmidt in comments this week regarding the company's earnings report. While the company experienced its first back-to-back drop in quarterly revenues

since it went public five years ago, its first quarter profit rose almost nine percent to \$1.42 billion from the first quarter of 2008.