Utilities Telecom Council

- **UTC is a global trade association dedicated to Telecomm and IT interests of critical infrastructure companies**

- **Through its core members and affiliated trade associations – including APPA – UTC represents virtually every electric, gas, and water utility and energy pipeline company in the country on issues affecting their communications networks and infrastructure**

- **Members represent all types of companies, from large IOU's serving millions of customers to small, rural electric cooperatives and water districts that service only a few hundred customers each**

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Utilities Telecom Council (contd.)

- Primary focus has been protecting and promoting the PRIVATE INTERNAL communications networks that are used for routine dispatch and emergency restoration to remote monitoring and control of valves and switches – in short, every facet of energy and water production, generation, transmission, and distribution here and around the world

- Associate members include the nation's largest equipment manufacturers and engineering companies supporting critical infrastructure services

- Serving the industry since 1948, UTC enjoys the unique position as a market leader for utility telecommunication advocacy and education

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What Services Do We Provide?

- Information exchange/networking opportunities for those in this specialized field
- Updates on equipment/technology advancements and the evolution of CI communications needs
- Studies on industry trends/advancements – such as Smart Grid and the State of Utility Fiber
- Advocacy on issues effecting private internal communications networks which support core critical infrastructure functions

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Why Invest in Fiber?

- **Recent study by UTC on the state of utility fiber revealed two major drivers for fiber investment**

- **Primary driver for the majority of utilities:**
  - To support current internal operational and data requirements
  - To meet future informational demands of the Smart Grid, substation and distribution automation, AMI and enhanced security
  - To improve security and safety

- **Second – but equally important – drivers for municipals:**
  - To support economic development, retention of existing businesses and attraction of new ones
  - To expand employment opportunities
  - To make government services more efficient and citizen-responsive
  - To enhance law enforcement capabilities
  - To improve educational and medical resources for citizens
  - To improve the quality of life
  - To transition from a resource-based economy to the new information-based economy

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Municipals Who Have Met the Challenge

- **Annual UTC APEX award**

  Recognizes utilities and their telecom teams who have used their utility communications networks and infrastructure for the betterment of the communities they serve

- **Municipal projects recognized included:**
  - Jackson Energy Authority – TN
  - Douglas County PUC - WA
  - Loma Linda Municipal Water Utility - CA

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Jackson Energy Authority

- Multi-service municipal utility in West Tennessee serving 34,000 homes and businesses
- JEA need to set itself apart from the competition to renew economic development
- To meet future bandwidth needs of business, JEA built a fiber optic network to bring cable, telephone & broadband services to the community
- JEA operated the local cable; partnered with local CLEC/ISP to provide high speed broadband and telephone services

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Jackson Energy Authority (contd.)

- Major marketing tool: One stop shop for utility services plus access to high speed fiber network increased Jackson's attractiveness to business prospects and contributed to economic expansion of existing businesses

- Contracts with local government improved law enforcement & traffic management and educational system, linked schools with a cost-saving telephone system and enabled video-conferencing to consolidate and share specialized instruction among its five high schools

- In 2 years, more than 13,500 homes and businesses have switched to the JEA competitive telecom network; savings of $5.5 million in reduced rates for better service has remained in the local economy

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Douglas County PUD

- Electric utility operating in rural area of Central Washington State
- Broadband internet access either not available or cable and phone cos. not interested in providing services
- Utility needed to upgrade its old microwave based communications system that was used by its substations, generation facilities and offices and for control of the electrical system

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Douglas County PUD (contd.)

- Best available technology for its needs: ethernet standards over a fiber optic backbone

- By using its excess fiber capacity in combination with a wireless canopy system, integration of water production and delivery systems was achieved and high speed broadband was provided to end users miles from the nearest town.

- Made possible local business market access, increased market competitiveness, medical data transfer, improved education system

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Loma Linda Municipal Water Utility

- Manages water and sewer system for City of Loma Linda in California
- Needed to increase capacity for controlling and enabling safety, conservation and water services
- Built fiber optic network in combination with Wi-Fi mesh to connect water production, storage and pump stations in and outside the city
- Improved real-time security monitoring through IP-enabled cameras

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Loma Linda Municipal Water Utility (contd.)

- Enabled water conservation and usage monitoring through smart metering
- Added benefit: an environmental program for the distribution of solar energy to augment electric grid
- Bottom line – A comprehensive broadband communications infrastructure that works hand in hand with city goals of cost-effective, secure, environmentally conscious and highly reliable customer-focused utility management and broadband availability for all city residents and businesses

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Municipal Are Vital Participants in the Advanced Telecommunications Industry

- **UTC supports the concepts in Title II of the discussion sponsored by Reps. Markey, Boucher and Upton:**
  - Prohibits state or local laws/regulations which prohibit government provision of advanced telecommunications services
  - Prohibits regulatory preference for state providers vs. private industry

- **Need for a "level playing field"**
  - Address the tax and capital formation aspects of different providers
  - Allow flexibility – that it is not a "one size fits all" solution – either in terms of technology or number/types of broadband service providers

- **Municipals have become advanced telecom providers for a reason:**
  - To fill the need created by limited choices or no choices for their citizens
  - To step up to the challenge of spur economic development
  - To leverage public assets invested in upgraded utility services to improve overall quality of life for their citizens

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Let's keep our eye on the goal: a national broadband policy to promote prompt, affordable, and ubiquitous access to advanced communications networks

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