Broadband Forum Summer 2024 Meeting Attendance

Executive Summary:

Staying at the forefront of industry standards is paramount for companies to maintain competitiveness and innovation. Active Membership participation in The Broadband Forum is critical, as it is a leading, global Member-driven organization in which contributions shape the future of broadband technologies and drive standardization efforts that influence the global telecommunications ecosystem.

Attending Broadband Forum standards meetings in person offers the benefits of facilitating direct engagement with industry leaders, fostering collaboration, and ensuring active participation shapes the standards that underpin the next generation of broadband services. It is strategically important to attend these meetings in person.

Introduction:

The Broadband Forum is a non-profit industry organization dedicated to accelerating broadband innovation, enabling connectivity, and enhancing the user experience. It brings together the leading global service providers, technology vendors, and other stakeholders to develop open standards for broadband networks and services. With its global reach and influence, the Broadband Forum plays a pivotal role in driving the evolution of broadband technologies.

In surveys conducted after each meeting for the past year, the value of The Broadband Forum meetings has been rated as "Excellent" by over 78% of attendees.

The following are a few of the active, participating Service Provider Members in the Broadband Forum: AT&T, Bell, BT, Charter, China Mobile, China Telecom, China Unicom, Chunghwa Telecom, CityFibre, Deutsche Telekom, DISH, KPN, LUMEN, Meta, NBN, NTT, Orange, Telecom Argentina, TIM, Telekom Malaysia, Telstra, Verizon and Vodafone.

There is active participation in the Broadband Forum from the Vendor community. The following is a non-exhaustive list of regular face-to-face meeting attendees: Adtran, AVM, Axiros, Calix, Cisco, Domos, DZS, F-Secure Corp., Futurewei, Huawei Technologies, Juniper Network, KAON Broadband, MaxLinear, NEC, NOKIA, Radisys Corp., Sagemcom Broadband, Vantiva, ZTE, Zyxel Communications.

Strategic Importance:

Participating in Broadband Forum standards meetings in person provides a strategic advantage for Member companies in several key areas:

> **Access to Industry Insights:** In-person attendance facilitates direct, peer to peer interaction with industry experts and thought leaders, offering valuable insights into emerging trends, technological advancements, and developments shaping the broadband landscape. This firsthand knowledge enables ensure that our technical and

business focus and overall strategies that are aligned with Service Provider needs, industry best practices and future market demands.

Networking Opportunities: Face-to-face meetings provide networking opportunities with other Service Providers and vendor partners. These connections help us with future collaborations, partnerships, market intelligence, and an opportunity to make our needs clear for future product development.

Influence on Standards Development: By contributing to the Broadband Forum, we influence the direction of technology development, enhance interoperability, and accelerate the deployment of new broadband services and solutions. Additionally, it reinforces our brand as an innovative and technical leader in the industry.

Market Differentiation: Active participation in Broadband Forum meetings helps to ensure that our interests, priorities, and technical requirements are met and allows us to focus on differentiation.

Manage Risk: While there are costs associated with travel and accommodation, the long-term benefits of participating in person outweigh these expenses. We can avoid costly mistakes, reduce time-to-market, and minimize the risk of non-compliance by actively participating in standards development from the outset.

Summary of Work Area items being addressed at the Summer Meeting:

Access and Transport Architecture

- Broadband Service Metrics
- Quality of Experience Delivered (QED)
- IPv6 security considerations review
- Subscriber session steering
- Disaggregated BNG

Broadband User Services

- Smart home - dedicated discussions following the Town Hall
- Wi-Fi management topics
- Continued work on App Enabled Gateway (WT-492) and discussion of next generation, smart home-like gateways

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- Management at scale - how to deal with OLTs that have 100's or 1000's of ONUs and broader discussion beyond just PON.

- Network Inventory and mapping - collaboration with IETF to understand the network, from a topology and layout
- The potential of AI/automation to make changes to the network.

Fiber Access Networks

- 25GS and 50Gig High speed PONs
- Fixed Access Network Energy Power Saving Requirements, Test Plan, and Data Models

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Physical Layer Transmission

- PHYTx Architecture and updates to the requirements for Fiber-to-the-Distribution Point (FTTdp)
- MoCA Access Performance Test Plan

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SDN and NFV

- Operator Cloud Central Office (CloudCO) updates and contributions
- Bulk data collection and Automated Intelligence Management (AIM) work
- New Proposal: SDN and NFV - Virtual InCloud Router Based on IPv6

Wireless Wireline Convergence

- Multi-tenant Fixed Wireless Access will continue to be an area of activity given market drivers.
- Discussion, shaping, and alignment of plans of AGF CUPS with dBNG CUPS in ATA
- IMS for 5G-RG requirements
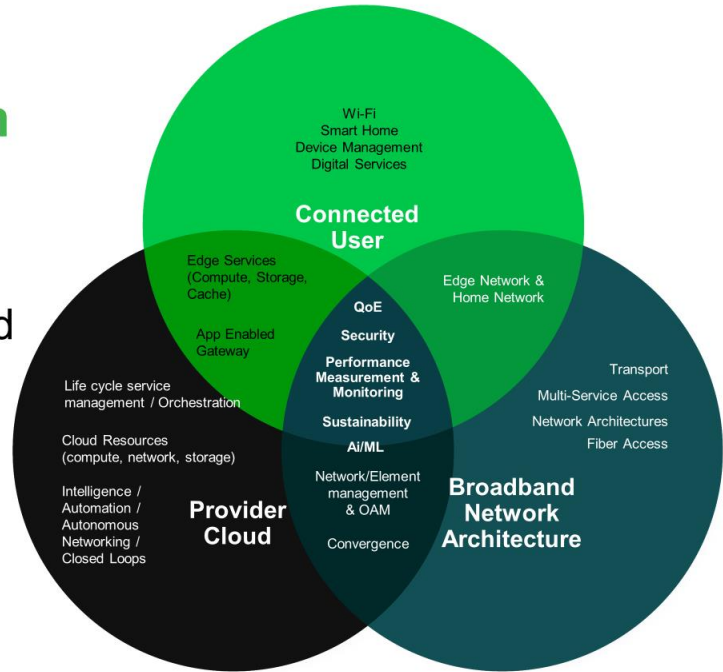
Conclusion:

Attending Broadband Forum standards meetings in person is a strategic imperative for companies seeking to maintain competitiveness and drive innovation in the broadband industry. By leveraging the networking opportunities, influencing standards development, and gaining valuable industry insights, we will continue to position ourselves as leaders in the evolving telecommunications landscape, driving long-term growth and profitability.

In summary, the benefits of in-person participation far outweigh the costs, making it a sound investment to the companies who are committed to shaping the future of broadband technologies.