

 **Lampert & O'Connor, P.C.**

1750 K Street NW
Suite 600
Washington, DC 20006

Mark J. O'Connor
oconnor@l-olaw.com

Tel 202/887-6230
Fax 202/887-6231

How to Pursue Broadband Wireless Opportunities: Auctions and Answers

April 6, 2001 – Spring ISPCON – Baltimore, Maryland

Overview

- “Last Mile” Wireless Services Present Different Opportunities/Challenges for ISPs Than Wireline Services
- Wireless Choices: Licensed (Fixed and Mobile) and Unlicensed (Fixed and Mobile) Services
- FCC’s Auction and Regulatory Processes: Allocating the Wireless Spectrum Resources
- Current Issues: 3G Spectrum Allocations; 700 MHz Auction; Ultra-wideband.

Speakers

- Louis Sigalos, *Deputy Chief, FCC’s Auctions and Industry Analysis Division*
- Charla Rath, *Director - Spectrum and Public Policy, Verizon Wireless*
- Mark O’Connor, *Partner, Lampert & O’Connor, P.C.*

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Why FCC Wireless Auctions and Regulations Are Important to ISPs

- Wireless as an alternative to the wireline incumbent LEC services
- Wireless access rules are different than wireline: e.g., tariffs, ISP regulatory protections
- FCC auction and regulatory process controls the roll out and scope of new wireless services, including 3G/broadband services
- FCC auctions/regulations impact the costs of wireless access

Wireless Choices: Wireless presents a range of potential access choices/partners/technologies

- Licensed Services: Fixed and Mobile
- Unlicensed Services
- Multiple wireless carriers in each market
- All services licensed and/or regulated by FCC

FCC Auctions of Licensed Wireless Services

- Allocation of spectrum for a wireless service
- Auction Process -- bidding in the auctions
- Licensing of a wireless carrier
- Recent wireless auctions: results and licensees

Current Issues at FCC Impacting Wireless Broadband

- Allocation of 3G Spectrum
- 700 MHz Auctions
- CMRS Spectrum Cap
- Secondary Markets & Spectrum Subleasing
- “Open access” to Wireless Services for Competitive ISPs
- Ultra-wideband
- Software-defined radios
- Location information