

What I find interesting is that companies are attempting to charge more for faster access to websites who pay their protection money, when internet service providers in the USA are still woefully behind other countries in terms of speed overall. Americans are paying high prices to access ANY and ALL websites at slower speeds than citizens of Japan or the EU for example. Technology is still progressing. With larger hard drives, more powerful processors, and stronger graphics cards, everything is getting better. Everything, that is, except internet access in the USA. I am paying almost \$70 a month for an 8 Megabits-per-Second bandwidth connection while at the same time someone in Japan can pay half that cost for more than ten times as much bandwidth. As companies and individuals utilize the power of newer and better technology, the transmission of information has already become a bottleneck against progress. When the internet was young, the standard amount of transmission was "Hello, how are you today?" As time went on, it became entire letters, then hundreds of pages of documents, a photograph which takes up as much data space, a sound or video which is 100 times as large as the image or more. The speed of the internet connections that supported these transfers has grown to meet the need for speedy transmission - until recently.

Standard internet access has grown by leaps and bounds from figures like 2400 bits-per-second to 9600bps to 28.8 kilobits-per-second(28.8kbps), 33.6kbps, and 56kbps which is the limit of telephone modems. DSL connections can reach much higher speeds, and cable modems even higher. Here is my perspective on the matter:

As a subscriber through Comcast cable internet, my downloads from the internet can run as high as 8 Megabits-per-second (8Mbps, NOT 8 MEGAbytes/s or 8MBps). However my uploads to the internet is only 1/8 that speed or less. When people in some other countries can get 50-100Mbps service, why shouldn't I just move to Japan? I use computers at work, at school, and at home. It is inexcusable, but woefully lacking. That is like always having food available in front of you, but only being able to consume one spoonful an hour. You will get fed but you will have to spend all day eating just to keep back your hunger.

It is ludicrous to have internet service providers extort MORE fees

when the service they are providing now is paltry at best and sedative at worst. All the while this is the BEST internet service and the most expensive. Creating another internet without these companies is not feasible either, as it has taken them decades of uninhibited profits to come to this current state.

This has been my two cents.