

Net Neutrality and Open EM Spectrum

Net Neutrality and Open EM Spectrum are absolutely essential to bringing about a revolution in the world of communications.

As it stands the EM spectrum is partitioned up for radio, TV, HDTV, cellphone networks, satellite radio, satellite phones, satellite television and sold in segments to the highest bidder.

This made sense in the past when the internet was non-existent and in its infancy but now it is a relic.

The entire EM spectrum should be reallocated and used as one giant broadband data access pipe.

Company licensing of spectrum is not indefinite, it is for a time period. It would not take much effort to refund these companies for the time they have remaining on their licensing contracts.

Portions of the EM spectrum should then be licensed to various wireless broadband providers who are mandated to follow net neutrality guidelines and not give any preferential treatment to one form of communication over another.

Standards and protocols would be developed like the W3C protocols on web design standards to ensure compatibility of services like voice, radio, and HDTV.

Then in car devices like radios would connect to the broadband network and stream the radio station a user wanted to listen to. Consumer choice would increase exponentially.

This is where the future of communications will be moving to, it gives the consumer the flexibility to decide for themselves what they want to do rather than be restricted to using what the government or company has decided to provide us with. Net neutrality is essential to this because it prevents the communications company providing broadband internet access from restricting how the data pipe is used.

Broadband companies today would like to use the fact that they provide broadband to lock out competitors providing movie and music download services, VoIP, home shopping, and any other services that they themselves could provide and charge money for. This should not be allowed.

It is the people's EM spectrum and it should be used to provide a communications system that truly meets the people's needs. Our current system does not do that. It favors those voices with the most money when in fact a communications platform could be created that favors the consumers choice above all while allowing all those who want to provide a voice the ability to be heard by others.

An Open EM Spectrum and Net Neutral communications platform would most greatly favor the consumers choice above all others and it is what this country needs.