

Comcast is the largest MSO in the United States. This cable company is seeking to sell a big chunk of their valuable AWS spectrum they acquired at an auction to Verizon Wireless as part of the SpectrumCo deal. They are also violating Network Neutrality. Contrary to speculation XFINITY traffic uses the same Internet pipe as every other service discrediting Comcast's private network defense.

They operate a national IP network over which nearly all of the services they provide are delivered. Comcast **openly admits** to prioritizing certain kinds of traffic—like their digital voice product. It's clear that some configuration is in place to do so. And their practice of rewriting DSCP values at the edge of their network is a strong indicator that those values have meaning to Comcast's routers.

What one blogger concluded is that Comcast is using separate DOCSIS service flows to prioritize the traffic to the Xfinity Xbox app (**so that he's using consistent terminology, he's going to call this traffic "Xfinity traffic" in the rest of the post**). This separation allows them to exempt that traffic from both bandwidth cap accounting and download speed limits. It's still plain-old HTTP

delivering MP4-encoded video files, just like the other streaming services use, but additional priority is granted to the Xfinity traffic at the DOCSIS level. I still believe that DSCP values I observed in the packet headers of Xfinity traffic is the method by which Comcast signals that traffic is to be prioritized, both in their backbone and regional networks and their DOCSIS network. In addition, contrary to what has been widely speculated, the Xfinity traffic is not delivered via separate, dedicated downstream channel(s) – it uses the same downstream channels as regular Internet traffic.