

Picture it this way the Internet is a highway and your computer and other electronic devices (including mobile devices) whether they be smartphones, tablets etc are cars and trucks that can communicate with each other over a vast digital global network. With your computers (whether desktop or notebook computers) you are free to use the computer of your choice. No Comcast computers required for Comcast Internet or TWC computers for TWC Internet. Nevertheless, wireless is a different story. While there is no Verizon Wireless manufactured devices that are mandatory there has been device carrier exclusivity (think back to original iPhone only working on AT&T).

The Internet is a vast network of computer networks enabling two or more computers to talk to each other even if they are not physically connected to the same computer network (even if they aren't on the same wireless network) they can network with each other. Now in the past users could just pay for an Internet connection to get online and then freely travel anywhere they want online to access legal content and services. The ISPs had no right to pick and choose, which websites load fast or slow. Now they say they want to also charge content providers suggesting with toll free data plans users won't have to worry about data caps any longer. Each user can consume as much data as they want as long as its from a service paying the ISP. So you can exceed your data cap and not be dinged, but the reality is they are still charging both the user and the content provider hefty fees for using the Internet.

These artificial data caps are creating an artificial scarcity that need not exist. Time and again broadband providers have proven these data caps are not about protecting their network from congestion (despite claims to the contrary to the public) their Wall St. press releases reveal the truth that it's about squeezing the consumer and content providers for every last cent they have. These companies do not want to invest at all in improving their network and would rather force users to pay substantially more plus make content providers pay for the ISPs to update their infrastructure, if they (the ISPs) do so at all.

Furthermore, by letting content providers paying them to get around the caps and often exempting their own services from such caps this shows they are really trying to protect outdated business models from competition (Comcast protecting it's cable TV service from cord cutters who might use Netflix) and they have even started offering more data for consumers and businesses paying more for their Internet. Case in point: if you have a 6 GB data cap you can increase your limit to 8 GB by paying an extra \$10 a month or for 10 GB pay an extra \$20 a month. Currently, Time Warner Cable has no mandatory data caps although it has experimented with them each time it has trialed this as an offering it was met with so much consumer anger it backed off. However, Comcast, which intends to merge with TWC does currently institute data caps and for better or worse has somehow managed to get away with so far. I implore the Commission and DOJ to consider this fact in their review of the proposed Comcast TWC merger and require Comcast dump data caps (especially if they buy TWC) that is allow their new customers to

continue with unlimited Internet – if any users are fine with caps they can sign up for capped Internet (it's doubtful anyone would willingly accept such a plan though) but let the rest of us whether our service is thru Time Warner or Comcast continue having unlimited Internet.