From: Matthew Spurrier
Sent: Friday, 21 March 2008 2:04 AM
To: National Broadband Network Taskforce
Subject: Contribution

Good Morning/Afternoon/Evening,

I think that for Australia's new broadband network to succeed, and push Australia into the 'real world' in regards to internet connectivity,
For future proofing reasons, i believe that the best option for the broadband network, and telecommunications in general in Australia, FTTN would not be adequate technology when better technologies are available, such as FTTP/FTTH (Fiber to the premises/home),
Enabling one medium to connect to the premises and carry Television, Telephony, Internet Access, and other technologies such as Movies on Demand,
and other future products that have yet to be invented.

While FTTN is a good step in the process of creating extended connectivity, there's no point having to support multiple media that have different life spans,
maintenance costs, purchase costs, depreciation, and hardware down-stepping from fiber to copper.
Not to mention the fact, that with FTTP, you can run a 5 km line, without requiring repeaters, whereas from the exchange with copper line, you see depreciation
in bandwidth after the 100m point.

I also firmly believe in a government separated ownership of the back-end network, with other service providers paying the same amount for access to the network,
so real competition can occur, instead of networks such as Telstra, whom quite a lot of knowledgeable people do not trust, nor support, due to unethical business practices, absurd prices both to the consumer, business, and wholesale, and poor performance of all their general departments,
at least what i, and many others i know have experienced from their services.

While this is not a 'bitch' about Telstra's general lack of affordable service, i do believe that for the Australian broadband market
to be as competitive as other countries around the world, and making access to all general services cheaper and easier, would be better off done without
having a private, money driven company letting everyone down.

There are still quite a large amount of dial-up users in Australia, due to the excessive costs of services, and more importantly, the value for money.
With dial-up users still being around, companies still have to put funds into those radius systems and analogue connectivity systems, which could be better used to offer better services to the Australian people, the same goes with support of primitive technologies,
such as ISDN, SDSL, SHDSL, and ADSL, which is frankly antiquated for the needs of most users.

There are even educational systems that are sharing connections as little as 1.5mbit between 100 to more than 1000 computers, leaving under dial-up
comparable speeds, and those schools are generally limited by absurd bandwidth caps, with fees of around $150 per gig thereafter,
so having 1000 students using a computer system, at one time, the fees add up.
My old school was a private school here in Adelaide, and their monthly bandwidth bill was around $3,000, and that was after imposing quotas of 150-300mb,
and charging around $15 for another 150-300mb, essentially charging students $51.20 per gig, extra, for students to use the internet.
For classes that are teaching multimedia, 300mb quota won't get you past a week, while this was four years ago, i believe harder restrictions have been
imposed.

On top of both Educational and Private connectivity, businesses (those selling internet services, and those using internet services, which is a very large amount,
if not almost all) may be under strain due to the increasing costs of not only the telecommunications market, but the internet access market as well.

With services such as Voice over IP becoming easier and cheaper for all parties to make calls around the world, these calls also cost bandwidth,
which at 30mb per hour for most phone calls using SIP with a ALAW codec (64kbit), it can begin to add up.

With other emerging technologies such as IPTV (Internet Protocol Television) and Movies On Demand, bandwidth requirements will become even more
significant, with movies at around 700MB to 25GB each.
A high definition television show running 45 minutes long, can add up to 1.5GB, and a standard definition, at around 350MB.

By enabling a managed government network, with FTTP connectivity, at least national bandwidth costs will go down, especially over time,
not to mention with more demand for international capacity, buying higher amounts of connectivity can lower our international bandwidth costs,
and increase our national network redundancy.

Thank you for your time,

Kind Regards,

Matthew Spurrier