



Fidelity Communications

Fidelity Communications has been serving the telecommunications needs of Missouri for over 60 years. Services available include local telephone service, local Internet access, ISDN, CLASS services, custom calling services, voice mail, and wide band distribution.

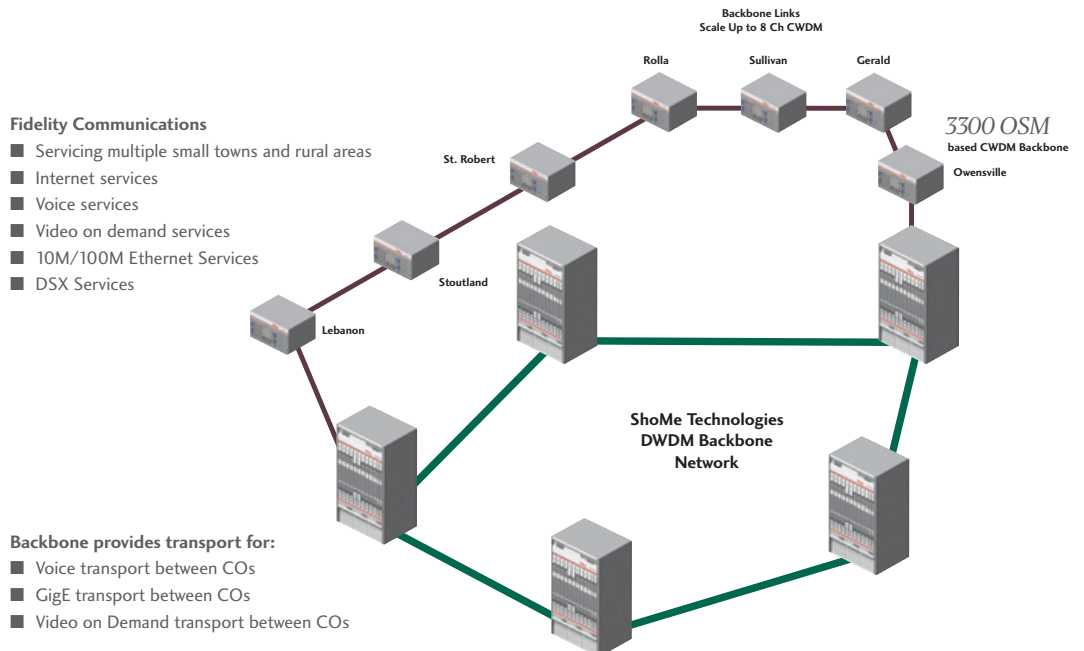
BUSINESS ISSUE

In an effort to drive new revenues, Fidelity wanted to expand its service offerings to include Video-on-Demand (VOD), a value-add service demanded by its customer base. However, adding Video-on-Demand services presented a few challenges to Fidelity. First, to accommodate the increased traffic volume, Fidelity Communications needed Gigabit Ethernet transport. This meant adding capacity to their existing OC-12 rings. To address the issue of fiber constraint, Fidelity evaluated Wavelength Division Multiplexing (WDM) solutions, in addition to various SONET offerings. Second, Fidelity needed a solution that was cost-effective, and that would scale as their customer base and service offerings expanded. Third, Fidelity wanted a solution that was flexible enough to allow it to extend to regional networks.

MERITON SOLUTION

Fidelity evaluated various Wavelength Division Multiplexing (WDM) solutions and selected the Meriton AON architecture. The Meriton solution comprised 3300 OSMs, 8600 NMS and 8300 EMS.

Figure 1: CWDM Backbone Network



Fidelity's service area lies in an area that is frequently hit by severe weather including tornados, and therefore to maintain high network availability, Fidelity protects it's backbone network using geographically diverse protection routing through the network of another Meriton customer, Sho-Me Technologies.

Utilizing the Meriton CWDM/DWDM switching functionality, the Fidelity CWDM network was directly connected to the Sho-Me Technologies DWDM Backbone network provided a significant improvement in network reliability through a geographically diverse routing through a large loop through a more southern route.

BENEFITS

- Unprecedented Scalability and Future-proofing — With Meriton's AON architecture, Fidelity has expanded the capacity potential of its existing network by several times, while creating an agile infrastructure able to support new services and protocols. The result is a network architecture that can expand to up to 320 Gb/s of capacity.
- Efficient Capacity — Unlike SONET, which either rate limits Gigabit Ethernet performance or largely consumes the expensive TDM service bandwidth, Meriton's CWDM enables the transparent transport of a full line rate Gigabit Ethernet signal, with the readiness to easily scale to additional Gigabit circuits.
- Networking Flexibility — By leveraging Meriton's complete suite of networking products, from the 3300 OSM in the metro access to the 7200 OSP in the metro core, Fidelity has a fully managed, transparent network that can easily extend to regional networks.
- DWDM/CWDM Switching — The ability to integrate with partner networks at the CWDM level instead of having to use back-to-back 1310 nm or 1550 nm trib interfaces significantly simplified implementation and reduced the cost of network protection.
- Economic Advantage — The total cost of ownership (TCO) of Meriton's complete solution proved to be the best value among the options Fidelity evaluated.

TESTIMONIAL

"We have been extremely impressed with the capabilities of the Meriton team and the AON architecture," said Mike Davis, senior vice president with Fidelity Communications. "The transparent nature of the architecture means that we can be first-to-market in our service area with innovative services such as Video-on-Demand, and be well positioned to address the future needs of our customers."



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ABOUT MERITON NETWORKS INC.

Meriton Networks Inc. has developed the industry's first unified end-to-end Agile Optical Networking (AON) architecture, a crucial element for carrier and enterprise migration to next-generation IP services networks. A flexible, scalable, future proof infrastructure capable of multi-service, multi-topology support, the Meriton AON architecture equips telecommunications networks with the capabilities needed for the Broadband Revolution, including rapid service deployment with one-time node engineering and zero-touch, automated provisioning under a unified control plane. With metro access, metro core and regional extension products, all fully managed by a best-in-class suite of network planning and management tools, Meriton Networks gives network operators a single source for the rapid, cost-effective delivery of high-speed services.

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