

# *Keeping Telecom Competition on Track*

AN ISSUE FORUM HOSTED BY THE  
COMPETITION POLICY INSTITUTE

WASHINGTON HILTON AND TOWERS  
SEPTEMBER 13-14, 2001

Five and a half years after passage of the Telecommunications Act of 1996, how should we assess progress toward competitive telecom markets? Is the transition taking longer than expected? Is it taking a different course than predicted?

In this policy forum, we will investigate the status of U.S. telecom competition. We'll look at how changes in technology affect its progress and explore the policies needed to keep progress toward competition on track. We will hear from leading policy makers, senior industry officials, consumer leaders and some of the country's best thinkers on telecom policy.



## Thursday, September 13

12:00 - 1:30 Opening Luncheon

Address: United States Senator Conrad Burns (R-MT)\*

1:45 - 3:15 Session 1: ***What's the Status of Competition in Telecom Markets?***

The Telecommunications Act of 1996 offered a new vision for the telecom industry. How well is that vision being realized? What is the status of competition in the various telecom markets? Does weakness in the CLEC sector mean the competitive model is in trouble? What can we learn from those states where RBOCs have entered the in-region long distance market?

Discussants: The Honorable Thomas J. Dunleavy, New York Public Service Commission  
Robert C. Atkinson, Executive Director, Columbia Institute for Tele-Information  
Kenneth Hoexter, Telecom Analyst, Merrill Lynch  
Representative, The Yankee Group\*

3:30 - 5:00 Session 2: ***Are Local Telecom Markets Open?***

Industry players disagree about how "open" local markets really are. CLECs claim the incumbents haven't complied with the Telecom Act by fully opening their markets; the ILECs say their markets are open, that CLECs are balking because of defective business plans. What's needed to promote local competition? Is a second divestiture (structural separation) required? Should Congress re-enter the debate by amending the 1996 Act?

Discussants: James W. Cicconi, General Counsel and Executive Vice President, AT&T  
Thomas J. Tauke, Senior Vice President, Verizon  
R. Steven Davis, Senior Vice President and Deputy General Counsel, Qwest  
Senior CLEC Executive - TBA

## Friday, September 14

7:30 - 9:00 Breakfast

Address: Commissioner Kathleen Q. Abernathy  
Federal Communications Commission

9:00 - 10:15 Session 3: ***Will Technology Come to the Rescue?***

Technological advance enters the telecom picture by enabling new services, lowering costs, disrupting patterns of investment and rearranging the hierarchy of players. What are the most promising developments in communications technology? Will emerging technologies (or new applications of existing technologies) spur competition? Do today's telecom policies sufficiently promote technological progress?

Discussants: Professor David J. Farber, University of Pennsylvania  
Dr. Robert Pepper, Chief, FCC Office of Plans and Policy  
Representatives, Cable, Wireless and Satellite Industries - TBA

10:30 - 12:00 Session 4: ***Where Do We Go from Here?***

A fully competitive telecom industry is a national goal. What should be the shared vision of that future? What adjustments to our policy course are needed to promote this vision? What barriers to competition remain and how can they be removed? Which regulatory policies appear to be successful in stimulating competition?

Discussants: The Honorable Joan H. Smith, Oregon Public Utility Commission  
Billy Jack Gregg, Director, West Virginia Consumer Advocate Division  
Professor Michael L. Katz, University of California Berkeley\*  
Dr. Robert W. Crandall, Senior Fellow, The Brookings Institution

12:00 Conference Adjournment

*\*Invited*

## Hotel Accommodations

**Keeping Telecom Competition on Track** will be held in the Washington Hilton and Towers in downtown Washington, D.C. The hotel is just a few blocks from the Dupont Circle stop on the Washington Metro Red Line, and is near restaurants, shops and galleries. The Hilton features a health club, outdoor tennis courts and swimming pool.

Washington Hilton and Towers  
1919 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20009

202-483-3000  
800-321-3232 (Hilton National Reservations)  
<http://www.hilton.com>

Hotel reservations are now being accepted. The cut-off date for reservations is Monday, August 20 and rates depend on availability within the CPI room block. A limited number of rooms are reserved for the CPI conference at the following special rates:

Single: \$119; Double: \$139 (plus applicable taxes)

Cancellation Policy: Hotel reservations must be guaranteed with a check or credit card for one night's room and tax. Cancellations must be made 72 hours prior to date of arrival to avoid a penalty equal to one night's room and tax. There is a \$50 early departure fee.

## Conference Registration

Fax or mail this registration form. Space is limited—we recommend early registration. Payment must be included in mail registration or follow fax registration promptly. You will receive confirmation upon receipt of registration payment.

**Registration by Mail:**  
Competition Policy Institute  
888 17th Street, NW, Suite 908  
Washington, DC 20006

**Registration by Fax:**  
202-835-1132

**Questions about Registration?**  
Call 202-835-0202 or email [slarson@cpio.org](mailto:slarson@cpio.org)

## Registration Information

Name \_\_\_\_\_ First Name for Badge \_\_\_\_\_  
Organization \_\_\_\_\_  
Mailing Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

### Registration Fees

- Government or Consumer Organization - **FREE** (Note: advance registration is required for conference admission)
- Industry, law firms and other - \$150 (include payment with registration)

### Payment

- Make checks payable to "CPI" and mail to CPI, 888 17th Street, NW, Suite 908, Washington, DC, 20006
- Cancellation Policy: No refunds after **September 6, 2001**; a paid registration is transferable.
- Travel Scholarships: CPI can offer a limited number of travel scholarships to consumer and government attendees. For details contact Debra Berlyn at 202-835-0202 or [dberlyn@cpio.org](mailto:dberlyn@cpio.org).

**Check our website for the latest program information: [www.cpio.org](http://www.cpio.org)**