



Australian Government  
Australian Trade Commission

## Innovation Series – Digital Economy

# Australian Open National Broadband Network

**Paul Budde**

**Industry Analyst and Consultant**

# Overview

---

- A** • **Global developments**
- B** • **Australia's National Broadband Network**
- C** • **The NBN and trans-sector services**
- D** • **Investment opportunities**

# Introducing myself

**International consultant:**

Broadband  
Smart Grids  
Trans-sector

**BuddeComm:**

CEO

**Smart Grid Australia:**

Founder and Executive Director

**Global Smart Grid Federation:**

Founding Board Member

**UN:**

Special advisor to the ITU/UNESCO Broadband Commission for Digital Development

**Clients:**

International investment houses  
Government  
Industry



Australian Government



[newzealand.govt.nz](http://newzealand.govt.nz)



## Global developments - Government

---

- The internet has changed the telcoms business environment and the vertical integrated model is under pressure
- Telcos slow to adjust to new digital media competition



- x40 Governments see broadband as essential infrastructure (ITU)
- Acknowledged that fast broadband enables e-health, e-learning, smart grids, smart transport, public safety, digital economy and digital media

**GOVERNMENT LEADERSHIP IS IMPERATIVE FOR TRANS-SECTOR TRANSFORMATION**

# Global Developments – Broadband social and economic benefits

- Positive correlation between broadband penetration and **GDP growth** in 120 countries
  - 1980-2006: GDP growth of 1.2% for each 10% of broadband penetration
- Positive correlation between broadband penetration and **labour productivity growth rate**

Broadband penetration	Labour productivity growth rate
1%	0.02%
5%	0.07%

- EU: Broadband job growth 2006-2015 projected at 2,112,000 new jobs
- USA: 40 million households not using broadband has a negative revenue impact of US\$55 billion per year

# Global Developments – Facilitating a Digital Economy

---

- The digital economy needs high speed infrastructure on a utilities basis
- NBN infrastructure builder does not necessarily reap the greatest reward

## **INFRASTRUCTURE NOT A TELECOMS ISSUE**

- Conflict of interest between a vertically integrated telco and the need for low cost infrastructure for the digital economy



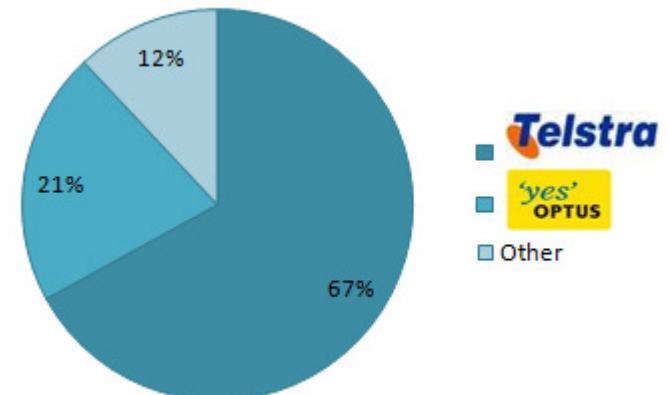
# Lead-up to the NBN in Australia

- Telstra privatisation (regional and competition issues)
- Telstra's initial FttH proposal – 50% coverage and \$85 for 512kb/s
- New Labour government elected in 2007
- Structural separation and NBN Legislation passed in 2011

## Industry profile:

- 200 competitors
- Telstra largest vertical integrated operator:  
fixed + mobile + broadband + Pay TV
- Telstra has 90% of all telco profit

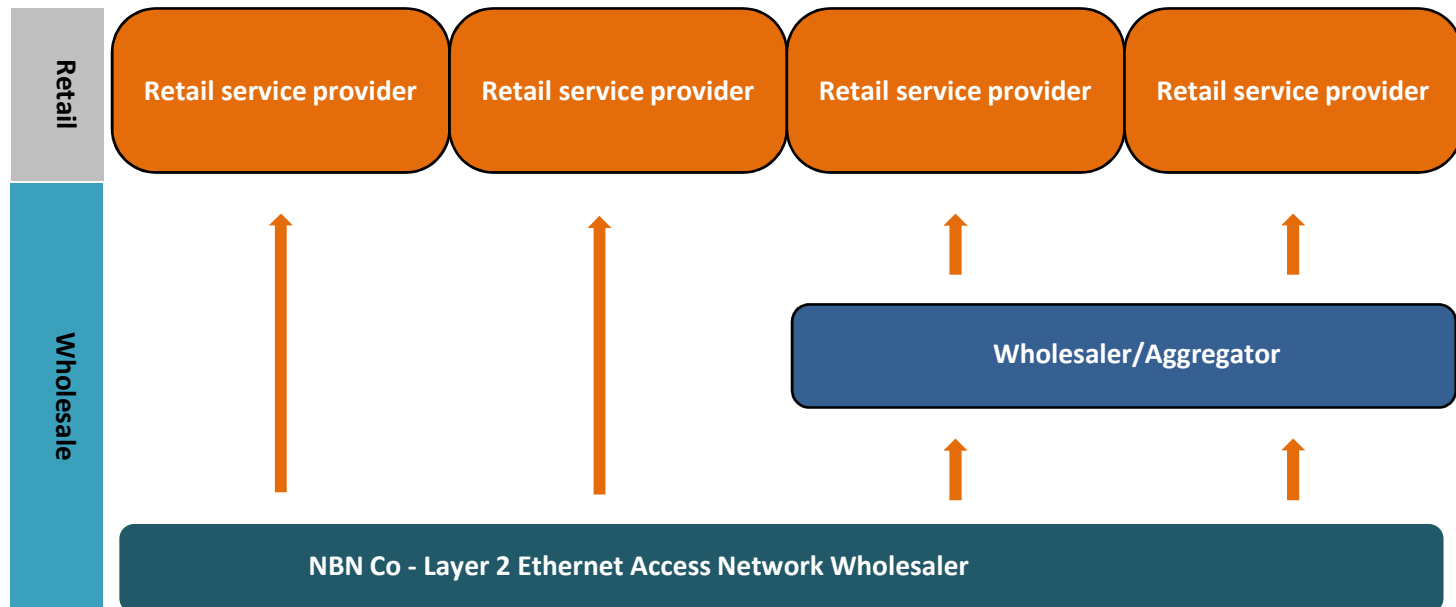
Total market share by revenue



# The Australian solution: Step 1 - NBN Co



- NBN Co established in 2009
- AU\$36 billion infrastructure plan released in December 2010
- Wholesale only with forecast IRR 7% per annum
- NBN Co is the owner of infrastructure



# NBN enables a new service and industry structure

## *Old world*

Fixed-line voice and internet

Legacy PSTN fixed-line network

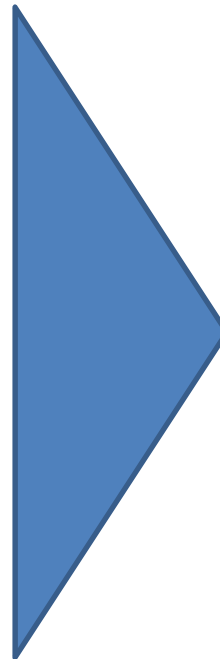
Dominant retailer and wholesaler

Digital divide

Basic telecommunications services

Pricing – high compared to overseas with legacy constructs based on geography and usage

Success factors – Network / infrastructure ownership



## *New world*

National high-speed broadband, voice and video (IPTV / VoD / Media)

Future proofed Fibre

Open up competition

Digital ubiquity

Next generation of smart / social / productivity networks & applications

Pricing – dramatic decrease driven by VoIP; affordable high bandwidth broadband for all. New models (Triple-play, content & advertising, energy, health, education & SaaS)

Success factors – Customer relationship, services, innovation & applications

# NBN Technologies and coverage

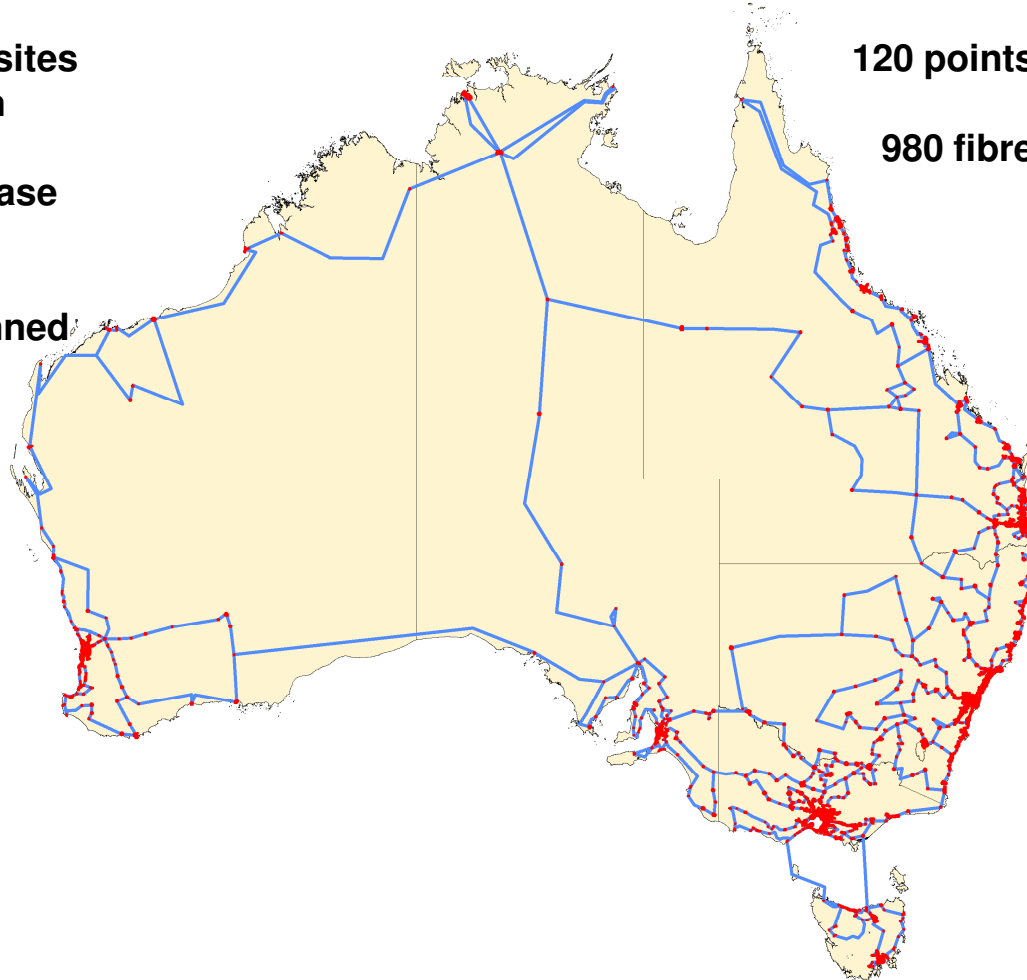
- x5 First Release sites under construction

- x19 Second Release sites announced

- x30 projects planned for 2011

120 points of interconnect

980 fibre serving areas



93% Fibre

## NBN applications: Smart Grids

- Driven by Prime Minister – AU\$100 million funding
- Consortium with Energy Australia
- Blueprint for national roll out
- The first 5 pilot roll outs of the NBN are all linked to Smart Grid rollouts
- Policy attention energy: renewables, EVs, smart meters, Grid IT



## NBN applications: e-health and e-learning

---

- Healthcare needs to move towards e-health(aged care, post-surgery)
- Savings projections up to AU\$10 billion – flow on effect to telecoms
- E-identifier facilitates e-health (AU\$470 million)
- 17,000 GPs and 22,000 retirement villages
- Top down approach from schools and hospitals
- A laptop per child (AU\$1 billion investment) – taken home after school – significant traffic flows



## Conclusions and opportunities

---

- **Business models:** Structural separation  
Whole-of-infrastructure approach  
Trans-sector approach  
Applications  
Mini telcos (healthcare, media, education, energy)
- **Investments:** National broadband (utilities – construction)  
Value added infrastructure (middleware, cloud, digital economy)  
Social and economic infrastructure investments (trans-sector new revenue streams)  
Applications (social media, IP, mobility, GIS, location) – OTT  
Submarine cable (utilities)





## BuddeComm resources and contacts

---

- **BuddeComm reports – special offer**

Australia - The National Broadband Network – 2011  
(Publishing date February 2011 approx 205 pages)

Special Offer US\$750

Single User PDF Licence

Normal Price US\$995

Please order by email [sales@budde.com.au](mailto:sales@budde.com.au)

**The largest telecommunications research site on the Internet with close to 2,000  
downloadable information documents**

*For regular updates join our free email list*