

SUPERIOR SERVICE, REMARKABLE REACH.

Broadband | Fiber to the Home (FTTH) | Hosted Solutions | Voice Services

A few UniTel Highlights

Fiber, fiber, fiber ...







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Becoming a Smart Rural Community

Recipient of the NTCA 2016 Smart Rural Community Award

National recognition for UniTel and communities we serve





Who is UniTel?

- Incorporated in 1902
- Privately Owned
- Corporate & Affiliates
- Service Area
- Employee Base & Culture
- Sincere Community Involvement







Our Smart Rural Community Initiative

- ConnectME Authority—Grant Award
- Four major FTTH projects
- 125 miles of fiber construction in 7 communities within 3 exchanges









Our Smart Rural Community Initiative

- 125 miles of fiber construction in 7 communities within 3 exchanges (Over 300 miles of Fiber within UniTel service area!!!)
- 4 major FTTH (Gigabit) Initiative/ Deployment projects







Collaborative Partnerships & Alliances

- UniTel
- Unity Foundation
- Partners & Alliances
 - Sewall
 - Axiom Technologies
 - ConnectME
 - RSU #3 Adult ED
 - Local Contractors
 - ✓ Tel Power / OnTarget
 - ✓ Tim Clewley
 - ✓ Moonshine Gardens
 - ✓ System One aka Mountain Ltd Rick, Scott, Steve







Lessons Learned

Taking the Risk for our Customers

- Competitive threats, regardless of company sizelearning to compete with the giants
- Decision to do FTTH initiative
- Risks of bringing 1GB speeds to Rural areas

Two-Prong Approach:

- Help non-adopters to find the value of the Internet
- Help adopters to see the need to increase their need for the Internet
- Increase business use of the internet to help grow the local economy







Lessons Learned

- Advance telemedicine use to help the aging Maine population to maintain their independence in home and access to telemedicine resources
- Seek the opportunities to partner with other groups/organizations –i.e./ ConnectME, Adult Education
- Recognize the value of high performing non-traditional partnerships such as nonprofits —i.e./ UF
- Take advantage of close personal contact i.e./ Digital literacy – customers coming to us
- "Pick & Shovel" trying to find the killer app "Get Lit" sm
- Being prepared for Change and Success





