

Quintillion Subsea Cable System



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Arctic Broadband Forum
Oulu, Finland
14 May 2017



Quintillion

- Headquartered in Anchorage, Alaska
- Building a multi-phase fiber optic cable network in and around Alaska with plans to connect to Asia, Canada and Europe
- Previously affiliated with Arctic Fibre – acquired Arctic Fibre assets and now lead the project
- Privately funded, private operator selling wholesale capacity to telecom service providers
- Reduced cost of wholesale service in Alaska by up to 90% from existing microwave and satellite wholesale services
- Multi-phase construction is practical given the open water constraints in the North American Arctic
 - Phase 1 – scheduled in-service Dec 1, 2017 but has been operating in test mode since Nov 2016
 - Phase 2 – to Asia, in development
 - Phase 3a – Western Canadian Arctic, in development
 - Phase 3b – final phase to Europe





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The Challenging Arctic Environment and International Cooperation

NW and NE Routes present challenges

Construction is more challenging

- Short open water season limits construction season
- Limited supply of specialty vessels and tools – you can't just break up the ice but must protect the cable during installation
- Limited logistical support in theater
- Must protect from ice damage after installation

Small geographically dispersed populations challenge traditional business cases – markets can't currently support multiple competing cables

Political interests and National security interests don't always align



Constructing in the Arctic is Challenging







NW and NE Routes Present Opportunities

Increase the diversity of critical cable systems – heavy concentration of landings driving customers to seek diverse routes

Stimulate economic growth – unleash opportunities constrained by lack of true broadband

Share costs – leverage economies of scale on the backbone

International cooperation building cables can strengthen relationships between countries and regions

Facilitate additional cooperation in the responsible development of the Arctic



Potential Meet-Me-Point for NW & NE Route Cables: St Lawrence Island



THANK YOU

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