Cellular as a Local Loop

William Flanagan

Flanagan Consulting
Sterling, VA
www.flanagan-consulting.com





Agenda

- Vanishing wireline services
- Orphaned applications
- Cellular Data Services
- Connectivity anywhere (almost)
- Legacy protocols on new networks
- Backup for voice
- Word of Caution





Disappearing Landline Services

So Far:

- Telegraphy (Morse Code)
- SMDS (ATM on DQDB)
- D-Channel ISDN Data (based on Datakit)

• Next?

- X.25
- Leased Analog Pt-Pt and Multidrop Lines
- Frame Relay
- Shared pools of dialup modems for Internet access





What's Killing Services

- Discontinued Equipment
- Loss of skilled technicians
- Economics
- Appeal of 'Everything Over IP'





Legacy Application Orphaned

Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition

- Remote locations
- Huge installed base

Lottery

- Many ticket machines require X.25 or similar
- Sales sites often not easily accessible to data

Automatic Teller Machines

- Some still on Bisync over analog line
- Point of Sale Credit Card Verification
 - Switched data on ISDN D Channel





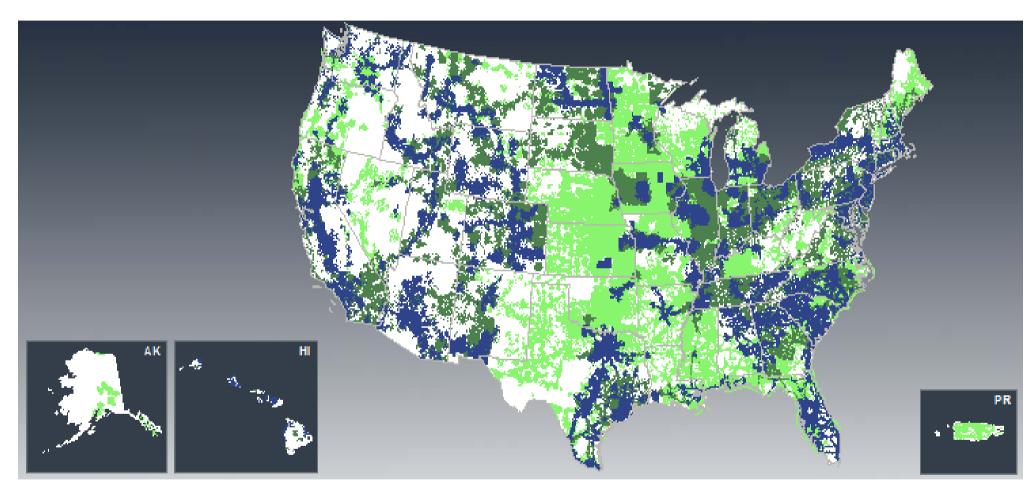
Cellular's Many Attractions

- Broadband 3G has adequate bandwidth for orphaned applications
- Reasonable geographic coverage
 - EVDO Most of the US
 - HSDPA 185 carriers in 85 countries
 - HSUPA 26 carriers in 22 countries
 - WiMAX Coming
- Enhanced Service always on
- Affordable prices





Connectivity Anywhere (Almost)

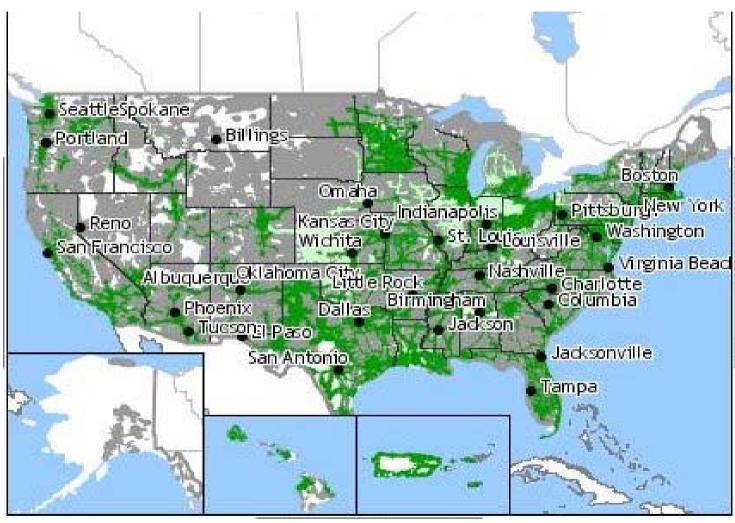


Verizon Broadband Coverage





Connectivity Anywhere (Almost)



Sprint Coverage Green = On Net; Grey = Roaming





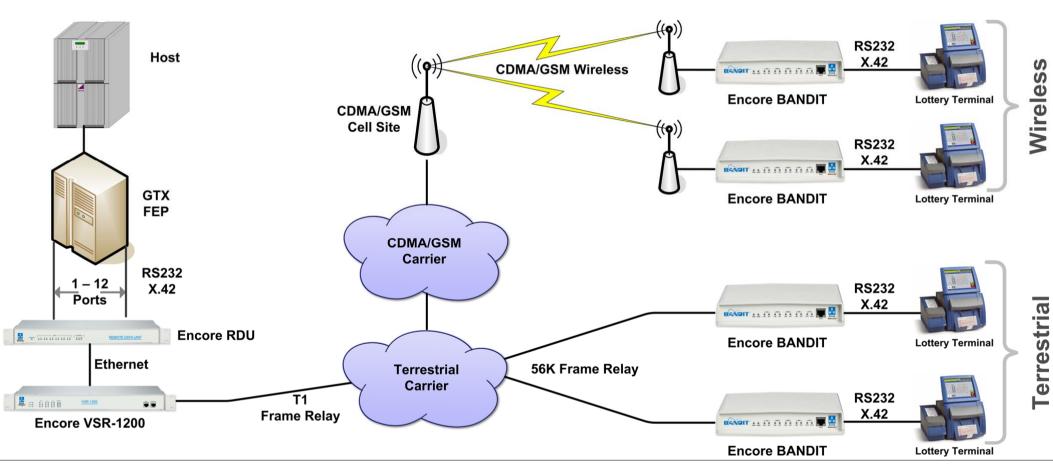
Cellular Data Pricing

- Telemetry: very low data volume
 - As little as \$15/month
- Basic Internet Access: capped usage
 - \$35 to \$60 per month
 - Recent standard data plan is \$49/month
- Unlimited Broadband
 - \$99-\$150/month offered in 2008





Lottery Terminal



Drawing courtesy of Encore Networks





Lottery or SCADA Terminal



Hardware courtesy of Encore Networks





Compact Cellular Antenna

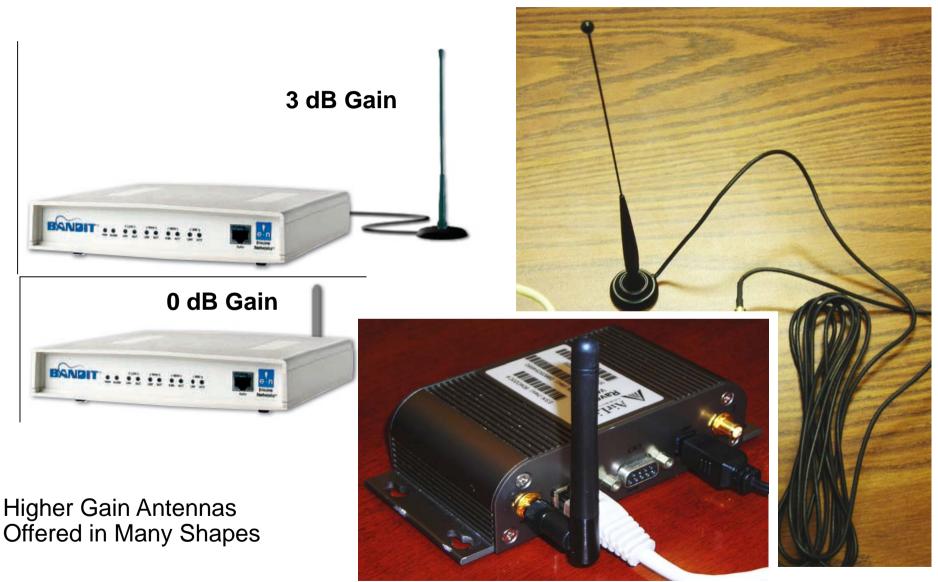


Hardware courtesy of NSG Datacom





Choice of Antennas







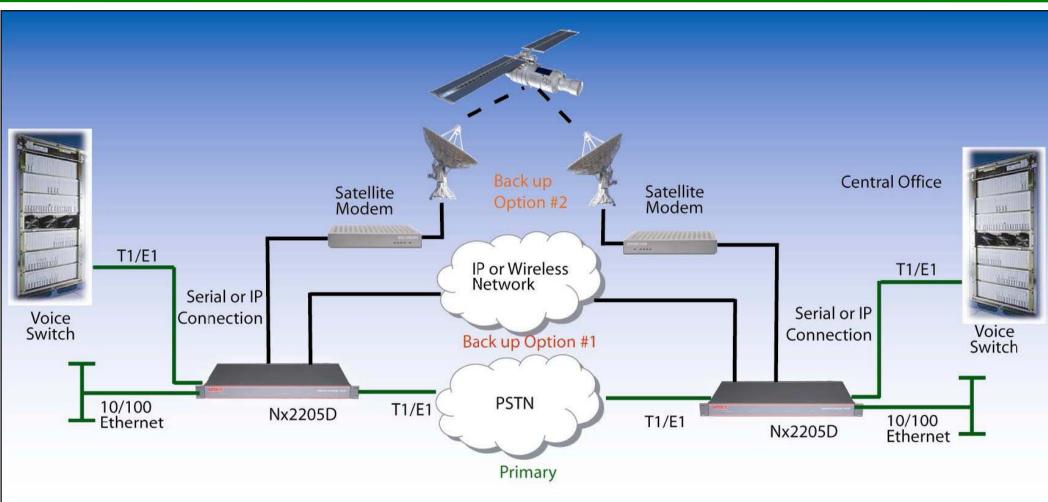
Don't Forget Voice

- VoIP on Cellular Data
 - Not a normal cellular call; can't dial anywhere
 - Pt-Pt on the data circuit
- Branch to HQ 'talkativity'
- May do Facsimile
 - Not universally supported





Branch Office Backup



Drawing courtesy of NSG Datacom





Cautions and Concerns

- Acceptable Use Policies
 - Pages of fine print
- Outright prohibitions on certain uses
 - Replace leased line
 - Voice
- High cost for exceeding data quota
 - \$.50 per MB
- Potential for summary disconnection



