

TECHNOLOGY IN OUR LIVES

Internet By Satellite

(NAPSA)—As more Americans look to hang up their dial-up connections and switch to faster broadband services, a new high-tech dilemma has emerged: The Information Superhighway does not stretch as far as some might think. Forty-seven percent of residential Internet users do not have access to cable-provided broadband.

The problem is that many of these 67 million people live in areas that cannot be reached by cable providers. That's one reason a number of people have turned to satellite broadband. In contrast to cable-provided broadband, satellite broadband can reach any user within the contiguous U.S. with a clear view of the southern sky. This feature makes it particularly attractive to rural customers who may not have other options for high-speed access. Here's a breakdown of the technology:

How does satellite broadband work?

Unlike terrestrial broadband options, satellite service does not rely on cables or wires. This means that satellite is not hindered by geography or topology or by how much a broadband provider will invest in infrastructure. Instead, satellite service uses a small dish and a modem to provide the broadband connection. The service provides coverage over all of the United States.

How fast is it?

Satellite broadband is available in a variety of service pack-

Satellite Broadband

- Is not constrained by geography and can reach places that DSL cannot
- Download files in minutes, not hours
- Instant Internet access—it's always on
- Does not rely on cables or wires



ages that offer a range of speeds. Broadband by satellite services offer download speeds up to 10 times faster than dial-up services. This satellite high-speed service is perfect for home users looking to surf the Internet and enjoy fast downloads of files or pictures. Higher speeds are available for business users, who may choose satellite service plans that offer download speeds up to 20 times faster than dial-up services. However, faster download speeds are not the only way users can save time with satellite. Because satellite broadband is always on, people do not need to spend time dialing in and waiting to log on.

What equipment is needed?

You will need a satellite dish mounted outside your home or business by a certified installer. You will also need a satellite modem that will link your computer to the satellite dish. No phone line is needed. You will be connected via satellite directly to the Internet.

For more information, visit www.direcway.com.