



## **WOW! Wholesale and iFiber Networks Team to Deliver High-Speed Internet Service in Chicago-Area Community**

*WOW! Wholesale Fiber Backbone to Enable iFiber Networks to Provide up to 1 Gbps Internet Service to Government, Commercial and Residential Customers in Gilberts*

**CHICAGO** – (April 1, 2015) – [WOW! Wholesale](#), a division of WOW! Business, and iFiber Networks, LLC have reached an agreement that will allow government, commercial and residential customers in the Village of Gilberts, Illinois to receive up to 1 Gbps Internet service. Located approximately nine miles northwest of Elgin and 45 miles from Chicago, the Village of Gilberts has a population of about 10,000 residents.

Under the terms of the agreement, WOW! Wholesale is building a redundant and upgradeable, five-mile fiber-optic network segment that will connect to a high speed hub location in Gilberts. Construction of the first section of the fiber backbone is complete, with the additional segments scheduled to be finished this summer.

Once the fiber backbone is operational, iFiber Networks plans to connect its Gilberts 1G fiber network, which is currently under construction, to the Internet via the WOW! Wholesale fiber backbone. Initially, iFiber Networks expects to purchase up to a 10 Gbps Ethernet connection from WOW! Wholesale with the ability to upgrade as needed. WOW! does not provide services to businesses and residences in Gilberts today.

“We’re pleased that iFiber Networks has been licensed by the Village of Gilberts to construct and operate the Gilberts fiber to the home (FTTH) network,” said Troy Mertz, President of iFiber Networks. “This partnership with WOW! Wholesale allows us to provide ultra-fast Internet access to The Conservancy, a new 985-home residential development as well as schools, police and fire stations, municipal buildings, businesses and other residential areas.”

The new iFiber Networks broadband network will interconnect to the Internet in one of the world’s largest data centers and carrier hotels at 350 E. Cermak in Chicago. WOW!’s Network Operating Center (NOC) will monitor and support the Gilberts 1G fiber network with the power of a Tier I Internet service provider agreement secured by iFiber Networks.

Serving Chicago and the surrounding area since 1999, WOW! provides IP-based network, data, voice and cloud services for small and mid-sized business, enterprise, government as well as wholesale customers such as iFiber. The company owns and operates more than 40,000 miles of local fiber-optic and coaxial networks in the Southeast, Mid-Atlantic and Midwest which, along with its data centers, provide customers with scalable, low-latency access to national carrier backbones.

“This partnership with iFiber Networks is a natural extension of our continued growth and expanded presence in and around Chicago,” said Brad Cheedle, senior vice president of WOW! “As a provider of fiber backhaul for multiple wireless operators and building to more than 1,000 cell towers in the area, including one in the Village of Gilberts, we’re able to leverage our existing network assets and expansion plans to help iFiber Networks deliver high-speed Internet access to the Gilberts community.”

For more information about WOW! Wholesale services please visit [www.wowforwholesale.com/company/wholesale](http://www.wowforwholesale.com/company/wholesale) for additional information about iFiber Networks, or to inquire about Gilberts 1G Internet service availability, please contact Molly Dannacher at (630) 834-0722.

### **About WOW!**

WOW! provides data, Internet, voice and cloud services to business and wholesale customers in Illinois, Michigan, Indiana, Ohio, Kansas, Maryland and the Southeast. The company is dedicated to delighting customers with friendly, quality service at affordable prices. WOW! is privately held and controlled by Avista Capital Partners. For more information, please visit [www.wowforbusiness.com](http://www.wowforbusiness.com).

### **About iFiber Networks**

iFiber Networks is building 1G fiber networks in northwest suburban Chicagoland. iFiber Networks offers customers up to 1000 Mbps download speeds capable of delivering streaming video on demand services such as Netflix and Amazon Instant Video in Ultimate High Definition 4K HD Television without lags or breaks. Our networks are built to offer the ultimate bandwidth to download in a flash or for gamers looking to network in ultra-competitive environments and it allows many electronic devices to be connected at the same time. Get up close to the action with a system that supports the newest television technology that no other broadcast providers can offer. Graphics and colors explode onto the screen in crystal clear clarity so vivid you can see the whiskers on a face. Price plans offer customers a super smooth Internet experience at a very competitive market rate.

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