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# Cybernet Systems, IC.net and Synergy Broadband join together to offer Washtenaw County free inter-County wireless broadband services

Washtenaw Wide Open Wireless non-profit is organized to provide oversight and potential inclusion of all existing Washtenaw Country ISPs and communications providers within the system

Ann Arbor, Michigan, August 5, 2005 — Cybernet Systems Corporation, IC.net, and Synergy Broadband today announced that they have proposed to Washtenaw County the formation of a non-profit corporation named Washtenaw Wide Open Wireless to provide free and for-fee wireless Internet services covering the entire Washtenaw County area. The organization's wireless mesh networking technology will be provided by Cybernet Systems as a software routing layer than can be downloaded free of charge by each wireless network user in the county. This technology is derived from development work Cybernet has completed for the US Army to provide wireless mesh networking modules and routing software to support battlefield and training applications for the US Military.

IC.net and Synergy Broadband are the two leading independent providers of business Internet services in the Greater Ann Arbor and Washtenaw County area – both operate wireless access points of presence covering Ann Arbor, Saline, and other parts of the county.

The approach proposed by the Washtenaw Wide Open Wireless (WWW) non-profit is to cover the county with a combination of points-of-presence and low-level software-based routers to provide 100% coverage at the lowest capital cost. The WWW also proposes to solicit all operators of Internet points of presence (i.e. ISPs operating within the County area) to join as members of the Board of Trustees of WWW to provide redundant interconnection from the wireless network to the land-fixed main Internet. As full members, each ISP will have a voice in determining wireless network fee structure to its roaming clients that route traffic to outside of the County Internet. Routes within the County wireless network will be free of charge.

## About WWW (Washtenaw Wide Open Wireless)

Washtenaw Wide Open Wireless is a non-profit corporation formed to provide free and for-fee wireless Internet coverage to the County of Washtenaw in Michigan. WWW acts as network operator, wireless Internet fee-setting organization, and a wireless advocate in and for Washtenaw County. WWW provides its services through its member organizations, which are composed of any qualified Internet Service Providers operating points of presences in the County that elect to become full WWW members. For more information, see <a href="http://www.washtenawwideopenwireless.com/">http://www.washtenawwideopenwireless.com/</a>.

## **About Cybernet**

Cybernet Systems Corp. develops products and technologies that standardize and simplify networked connectivity and computing functions through Linux. The NetMAX product line is sold direct through the NetMAX web site at <a href="http://www.netmax.com/">http://www.netmax.com/</a>. For more information, see <a href="http://www.netmax.com/">www.cybernet.com</a>.

#### About IC.net

IC.net, Inc. is a full service Internet Service Provider (ISP) based in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Formed in 1993, IC.net provides DS3, T1, DSL, wireless, ISDN, Co-Location, Web Hosting, Consulting Services and more. A decade of experience, solid infrastructure and emphasis on local service provides customers with fast, reliable and cost effective solutions. For more information, see www.ic.net.

## **About Synergy Broadband**

Synergy Broadband, beginning in 2000, was the first wireless ISP operating in Washtenaw County and operates one of the largest Metro Area Networks in the County. Synergy Broadband operates and oversees Points of Presence (POPs) in Pitkin County CO, Galesburg IL, Fenton MI, Whitmore Lake MI, Brighton MI, Grand Blanc MI, Howell MI, Hartland MI and Ann Arbor, MI (from several Ann Arbor hubs). Synergy Broadband has over 30 wireless POP locations located throughout Ann Arbor, mostly residing on commercial office buildings in the metropolitan area. For more information, see <a href="https://www.synergybroadband.com">www.synergybroadband.com</a>.