Meet Me in Cleveland

An ongoing series examining carrier interconnection options in major North American markets

If you are looking to roll out a network in the home of the Rock & Roll Hall of Fame, there are a couple of stones to overturn when searching for interconnection satisfaction.

For carriers looking for opportunities or enterprises looking to relocate, Cleveland has a diverse base of network users to tap. Aside from several major bank headquarters, hospitals and research centers, there is a non-profit organization called OneCleveland, whose underlying mission is to provide broadband access to Ohio's academic, research, cultural, health care and government organizations through a major 1-10G Ethernet network build-out project that's currently underway. Case Western University is a participant in this project and in the next phase will offer free public wireless access from its 1,200-plus wireless access points. There are sure to be substantial network opportunities and interconnection needs in to the future as a result of this initiative. For more information visit www.onecleveland.org.

So, where do you go in this town to get a network connected?

The FiberMedia meet me room at the Higbee Building and FONE-MMR at the T-Rex Technology Center are two of the hottest gigs in town when it comes to network interconnection. Cleveland is an interesting market from the long-haul perspective, as it is situated almost directly in the middle of New York and Chicago, making it an interconnection and regeneration point for several major networks. This gives the surrounding Cleveland market easy access to other major interconnection sites through these local facilities.

The Higbee Building ownership, along with FiberMedia, has created a top-notch carrier hotel located in the center of downtown

Attributes of Carrier Hotel

	T-Rex Tech Center 1525 Rockwell Ave.	The Higbee Bldg. 200 W. Prospect Rd.
Building size	277,286 sq. ft.	500,000 sq. ft.
Union building	No	Yes
Building generator	Available	850 kva
Generator rooms for tenants	Yes	Yes
Roof access	Yes	Yes
Tenant conduit rights	Available	With leased space
Is there a meet me room?	Yes	Yes
Is this MMR the featured site?	Yes	Yes

Interconnection Guidelines

	FONE-MMR	FiberMedia
Can customers order cross connects to any other meet area customer?	Yes	Yes
Is the average turnaround time for cross connects 48 hours or less?	Yes	Yes
Is on-site technical support available 24/7/365?	No	Yes
Can customers access the site 24/7/365?	Yes	Yes
Can the technicians test and turn up circuits?	Yes	Yes
Does the meet area operator perform the cross connect?	No	Yes
Can the customer perform the cross connect?	Yes	No
Are all cross connects tagged and inventoried?	Yes	Yes
Is there a shared fiber panel (MDF, CFDP)?	No	Yes
Can the customer bring and install its own fiber distribution panels?	Yes	Yes
Is there a shared COAX or copper panel?	No	Yes
Can the customer bring and install its own COAX or copper panel?	Yes	Yes
Are there monthly recurring charges to cross connect in the meet area?	Yes	Not for customers

For carriers not in the meet area, interconnect options include:

FONE	Carriers can lease access to the MMR via MMR deployed and managed conduit that provides direct access to the MMR from the buildings multiple riser access points.
FiberMedia	The building has diverse risers connected to the city fiber loop. They can come from almost any point in downtown Cleveland directly to the MMR.

The costs and availability are determined by:

FONE	A standardized, published pricing structure set by the MMR management
FiberMedia	Volume of space and services required

Carrier Lists

FONE

AFS
Allegiance Telecom
CityNet
ICG Communications
Level (3) Communications
McLeod
Qwest Communications
SBC
XO Communications

FiberMedia

AFS
Elantic
MCI
SBC
Verizon
XO Communications

Attributes of the Interconnect Facility

	FONE-MMR	FiberMedia
Facility Size	1,200 sq. ft.	10,000 sq. ft
Suite	300	710
AC Power Feed	1,600 amps @ 480v	800 amp expandable
Generator	N/A	900 kva and roll up box
Control System	N/A	Mir3 Remote BMS
UPS	Building supplied	Two-225kva Leibert
DC Plant	Building supplied	Available
HVAC	None	120-tons glycol system at N+1
Fire Suppression	Pre-action	Double interlock pre-action

Cleveland. There's tremendous redundancy, a high level of security, 40-meg electrical design, capacity for 22 two-megawatt generators with a 120,000-gallon capacity fuel farm and 68 diverse shafts with intermittent steel and grating on every floor. The building provides redundant shafts and points of entry for all infrastructure systems and local loop connectivity to almost all area carriers in diverse routes. The staff is well trained and available 24/7, 365 days a year. FiberMedia is the meet me room operator, building designer and technology consultants for the building. Its broad technology expertise includes the design, engineering, construction, connectivity, equipment provisioning and management in flexible affordable packages.

The FONE-MMR at the T-Rex Technology Center is a joint venture between these two companies, designed specifically to provide direct carrier-to-carrier interconnections via existing conduit runs within the building. Network operators wishing to interconnect within the building have the ability to directly connect within the FONE meet me room. This is done through a series of FONE-MMR-owned and managed in-building conduits that tie back into its facility. The connections in this MMR are passive only.

The FONE-MMR management team has a unique understanding of network infrastructure and services provided through carriers located in Cleveland and servicing the Ohio Valley. This knowledge provides FONE-MMR with the ability to help carriers design interconnection relationships that best service carrier expansion needs. All prospective carriers looking to interconnect to other carriers within the T-Rex Technology Center are required to use this meet me facility as the access point for services.

You can't always get what you want, but if you try looking at these sites, you might get what you need, at least in terms of interconnection in Cleveland.

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