

BOULDER COUNTY BUSINESS REPORT

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10/5/2011 - 2:01:58 PM

Zayo expanding fiber network in Ohio

By Doug Storum

LOUISVILLE - The Zayo Group in Louisville said on Wednesday it will participate in the construction of a new fiber-optic network across Western Ohio.

The network connects Toledo and Columbus, Ohio and service currently underserved towns throughout Western Ohio.

The project will add nearly 366 new miles of fiber to Zayo's existing Ohio network and will expand existing broadband services to schools, state and local governments, public safety entities, libraries and community support organizations. The project also enables local service providers to connect to the open network to serve additional customers.

Zayo is a sub-recipient of a \$30 million contract awarded to Com Net Inc. from the federal Recovery Act Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Com Net established the GigE Plus Availability Coalition consisting of Zayo, OARnet and an initial group of 33 broadband service providers to deploy broadband to 28 western Ohio counties.

"The construction of this fiber network represents a significant milestone in the economic development of western Ohio communities," said Matt Erickson, president of Zayo Fiber Solutions. "Partnering with GigE Pac, led by Com Net, Zayo can support the delivery of high-speed bandwidth to the underserved businesses and organizations in western Ohio."