



**Arizona Telecom Summit 2007**  
**Advanced Telecom and Broadband Deployment In Arizona**  
May 17, 2007 - Mesa Convention Center  
Four Online Pre-Summit Briefing Sessions

**Middle Mile \* State Telecom Plan \* Funding \* Local Community Initiatives \* Rights-of-Way**

**Press Release**

For Immediate Release

April 16, 2007

**Arizona Telecom Summit 2007**  
**Advanced Telecom and Broadband Deployment in Arizona**  
May 17, 2007 and Four Pre-Summit Online Briefing Sessions

**Executives and policy makers will explore policies and strategies to connect Arizona communities to the Internet.**

[www.arizonatele.com/atic/](http://www.arizonatele.com/atic/)

Arizona Distribution, April 16, 2007– Arizona Telecommunications and Information Council: On May 17, 2007 key public and private executives and policy makers will convene for the Arizona Telecom Summit 2007: *Advanced Telecom and Broadband Deployment in Arizona*. The purpose of the Summit is to accelerate deployment of affordable broadband Internet and advanced telecommunications services to all Arizona communities. Mike Keeling, Chair of the Arizona Telecommunications and Information Council, emphasized the importance of this event: *These services are critical for community development and the health, safety, welfare, educational advancement, and economic prosperity in Arizona communities. Unfortunately many tribal, rural and other underserved communities lack the telecommunications infrastructure to support deployment of these services. Summit participants will hear keynote presentations and engage in workshops to explore options and to reach consensus on policies and plans to overcome barriers to the deployment of this critical infrastructure.* Workshops include State Strategic Telecom Planning, Funding Mechanisms and Strategies, Rights-of-Way Access, Local Community/Tribal Planning and Policies, and Telecom Provider Requirements.

The Summit Telecom and Technology Expo will showcase telecom, Internet, or other technologies and services. The Summit Background Document, "Advanced Telecom and Broadband Deployment in Arizona", and other Pre and Post Summit Briefing Documents will be available for download from the Summit Web Site.

**Presented by:**

Arizona Telecommunications and Information Council (ATIC)

**And The**

Communications Infrastructure Advisory Committee (CIAC) of the Governor's Council on Innovation and Technology (GCIT)

**In cooperation with the:**

- Arizona Consumers Council
- Arizona Association for Economic Development
- Arizona Department of Commerce
- Arizona Government Information Technology Agency
- Arizona Small Business Association
- eLearning System For Arizona Teachers and Students
- Greater Arizona eLearning Association
- League of Arizona Cities and Towns
- County Supervisor's Association of Arizona
- Arizona Technology Council
- Arizona Telemedicine Program
- Navajo Nation Telecommunications Regulatory Commission

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**Summit Info**

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According to Steve Peters, Summit Coordinator, we expect federal, state, local, and tribal elected officials, policy advisors and Chief Information Officers, telecom service provider executives, and representatives from many interest groups including Telemedicine, Libraries, Homeland Security, Education, Indian Tribes, and Law Enforcement, will participate in these deliberations.

The Summit will include four online Pre-Summit Briefing Sessions April 9 (Issues and Overview of Arizona Initiatives), April 19 (Tribal and Local Community Issues, Policies and Best Practices), April 30 (Telecom Technologies), and May 10 (Telecom Providers Perspective). These sessions will provide background information, technology overviews, updates on Arizona issues and initiatives, best practices, etc.

The Summit will conclude with the outstanding Tech Council After5 free Showcase and Networking event hosted by the Arizona Technology Council [www.aztechcouncil.org/](http://www.aztechcouncil.org/), the largest technology association in Arizona. Summit exhibitors will be featured at this event. The showcase is free and open to the public..

The Summit is presented by the Arizona Telecommunications and Information Council (ATIC) [www.arizonatele.com/atic/](http://www.arizonatele.com/atic/) and the Communications Infrastructure Advisory Committee (CIAC) <http://gita.state.az.us/telecom/ciac/> of the Governor's Council on Innovation and Technology (GCIT) [www.gcit.az.gov/](http://www.gcit.az.gov/) ), in cooperation with other important business, government and state organizations.

The May 17 Summit will take place from 8:00 am – 5:00 pm at the Mesa Convention Center, 263 N. Center Street, Mesa Arizona. The \$50.00 early registration fee includes program, materials, meals and reception. After May 10 the fee is \$65.00. The free online sessions will take place from 2:30 – 4:00 pm. For those people that would like to network and participate in person, these Briefing Sessions session will originate in Phoenix. For those unavailable to participate on these dates, the sessions will also be available for access from the Summit web site a day or two after each presentation. See the Summit Web Site for Phoenix locations and instructions to join the audio and web conference.

## **Information and Registration**

520-321-1309, e-mail [cita@tucsonlink.org](mailto:cita@tucsonlink.org), or better yet, go online to [www.tucsonlink.org/Summit07](http://www.tucsonlink.org/Summit07)

## **Sponsors**

Thanks to our sponsors: Strategic Technology Communications [www.stlcorp.net](http://www.stlcorp.net), AT&T [www.ATT.com](http://www.ATT.com), Salt River Project Telecom, Wi-VOD, Sky Catcher Communications, SkyPilot Networks, Conterra Ultra Broadband, and Global Investment Recovery and more.

## **For Additional Information**

- [www.tucsonlink.org/Summit07](http://www.tucsonlink.org/Summit07)
- Steve Peters, Summit Coordinator (520) 321-1309 [stevepeters@tucsonlink.org](mailto:stevepeters@tucsonlink.org)
- Galen Updike, Manager - Telecom Development, Arizona, Government Information Technology Agency, 602-364-4794, [gupdike@azgita.gov](mailto:gupdike@azgita.gov)

## **Arizona Telecommunications and Information Council**

ATIC is Arizona's recognized and authoritative organization guiding technology policy development, serving as a leading source of information and expertise on telecommunications and information technology matters. Arizona's citizens, businesses, and organizations will have access to advanced telecommunications services and information technologies enabling them to participate in the global economy. ATIC develops, promotes and supports initiatives and guides adoption of effective public policies that encourages wide-scale deployment and availability of telecommunications services and information technologies to insure economic prosperity for the Arizona community, expand the region's global competitive advantage, enable continued educational advancement, and support an enhanced quality of life. ATIC's public and private partners include large and small businesses, economic development organizations, libraries, consumer organizations, local and state government agencies, educational institutions, health care, the Arizona Corporation Commission, the Arizona legislature, and information technology and telecommunications companies.

## **GCIT Communications Infrastructure Advisory Committee**

The **Communications Infrastructure Advisory Committee** (CIAC) is a committee of the Governor's Council on Innovation & Technology (GCIT). Their mission is to advise the Governor's Council on methods, processes and policies which will enable Arizona to close the Digital Divide in Arizona. CIAC, in cooperation with ATIC, is charting a long-range roadmap and strategic plan for state-wide telecommunications to assist in overcoming barriers to broadband deployment, especially in the rural areas of the State.

CIAC is under **GCIT, the Governor's Council on Innovation and Technology**, the Governor's principal advisory group for innovation and technology. They are a catalyst for developing new economic development strategies, focusing on improving Arizona's knowledge-based economy. The council is charged with: Developing the framework and vision to enable Arizona to become a global leader in innovation and technology research, development and product creation; Strengthening the innovation and technology infrastructure of Arizona; Evaluating capital formation in Arizona and developing recommendations that support Arizona's global competitiveness in the 21st century; Promoting technology transfer and inspiring partnerships between Arizona's business community and university researchers; Creating and retaining an active marketplace of quality jobs in Arizona. Telecom is one of the innovation and technology infrastructure initiatives.

## **Arizona Technology Council**

The Arizona Technology Council is the largest technology association in Arizona serving all tech sectors across the state. The Arizona Technology Council is a member-driven association. We represent the interests of technology companies, their support firms, educational institutions and state-wide economic development groups that collectively form Arizona's technology community.

The Arizona Technology Council's mission is to support our members and unify our partners to grow Arizona's economy with technology and innovation at the core. We drive partnerships, policies and programs that advance the business climate for Arizona's technology community. More ...

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