

# SCTE® PRESENTS: RURAL FIBRE & THE LAST MILE

## MARCH 18, ONE GREAT GEORGE STREET, LONDON

Our newly relaunched networking event with a brand-new title certainly attracted attention and the theme, rural broadband couldn't have been more topical. How do we know that? It was a sell-out event, that's why! We were delighted to see so many of our good friends in the industry there to network, learn about the latest trends and cutting-edge technology from some of the best experts in the business. We were also very happy to meet so many new people and make some new friends.

Sponsored by Technetix, Corning and Abloy, the day began with an overview of the broadband landscape, introduced by our President Dr Anthon Basham, who handed over to our moderator, James Saunby who guided our panelists through the bad weather, wayleaves, inaccessible rocks and remote outposts that are still yet to be connected to broadband of any notable speed, acknowledging the substantial achievements this industry has made in such a short space of time and during lockdown, no less. The next panel looked more closely at the obstacles, from economic viability to sheer competition

in the marketplace, examining the likely outcomes of consolidation and lack of subscribers.

Finally, we looked to the future and welcomed Mark Waddell from the BBC and Malcolm Brew from Strathclyde University, Izzy Taylor and Dominic O'Reirdan who all offered workarounds to conventional fibre optic broadband and a vision for a future of 100% homes connected - it certainly seemed within reach that day. The final Open Session, where we invited all the speakers back for a free and open discussion with the audience, was – in our view – the best bit. All the sessions are available to watch on our YouTube channel, <https://www.youtube.com/@thescte>.

Thanks to all who attended, we really enjoyed hosting you. Don't forget our next event, SCTE® Presents: Across The Pond, a focus on North America, takes place at One Great George Street again on June 25. Register today!

[www.theSCTE.eu](http://www.theSCTE.eu)



SCTE® PRESENTS:

### RURAL BROADBAND & THE LAST MILE

TUESDAY 18 MARCH,  
ONE GREAT GEORGE STREET,  
LONDON SW1

SPONSORED BY  
CORNING

[WWW.THESCTE.EU](http://WWW.THESCTE.EU)

## FTTH – Melissa moderating panel

The FTTH Show took place in Amsterdam in March this year and was a slick event as always, well attended and certainly buzzy on the trade show floor, with some interesting topics and sessions. Expanding beyond the technicalities was a subject close to the heart of Roshene McCool, President of the FTTH Council Europe. Our editor Melissa Cogavin moderated a DE&I Workshop, featuring Roshene, Alessandro Pirri of Prysmian in Milan, Giada Cosentino of ZET Rome and Thomas Miller of Hamburg Commercial Bank.





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# SCTE® PRESENTS: ACROSS THE POND

WEDNESDAY 25 JUNE, 2025

INSTITUTE OF CIVIL ENGINEERS

ONE GREAT GEORGE STREET, LONDON SW1P 3AA



Our membership is diverse and we have a rare opportunity to make the most of our North American friends joining us to celebrate our birthday at the Tower of London, so we have invited them to participate in a unique event, focusing on the broadband and telecoms landscape in North America for the first time.

Featuring speakers from Technetix, Openvault, Witbe, WICT, Rincon, The Learning Alliance, Olive Street Media and The Syndeo Institute at the Cable Center, we'll be examining the challenges, achievements, obstacles and opportunities from this most varied of continents, and will enjoy spending a great day with our friends Across The Pond. Come and join us – free to members, a nominal fee for non members. Register here!

[www.theSCTE.eu](http://www.theSCTE.eu)

Kindly sponsored by Technetix and Openvault – thank you for your support!

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# SCTE

## 80TH ANNUAL GALA DINNER & AWARDS 2025



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# Interra Systems at ANGA COM 2025:

## HELPING YOU DELIVER OTT STREAMS WITH BETTER QUALITY AND MORE EFFICIENCY

OTT streaming involves complex delivery chains with diverse devices, platforms, formats, and geographies, making consistent performance, compliance, and accessibility difficult to achieve. Similarly, in today's market, competition and viewer expectations have never been higher. Poor quality of experience (QoE) can easily affect a video service provider's brand, leading to customer churn, loss of ad revenue and lower ARPU — which is why flawless delivery is a must.

At ANGA COM 2025, in Hall 7 Hub 5, Interra Systems will demonstrate its commitment to helping media professionals tackle these challenges and deliver the best possible quality of experience to their customers. The company offers integrated QC and monitoring to catch and resolve issues early; centralised analytics for root-cause diagnosis; real-time and client-side metrics to ensure playback integrity; and ad monitoring and low-latency support to protect monetisation and user trust.

On display at Interra Systems' stand will be the ORION Content Monitoring Suite for real-time and VOD monitoring of IP and OTT streams. The suite's latest capabilities include a state-of-the-art multiviewer feature for visualising multiple video and audio streams in real time. With ORION, operators can quickly verify alerts and resolve issues, thereby maintaining high broadcast integrity with greater

accuracy and efficiency. ORION includes end-to-end ad insertion monitoring and supports Dolby Atmos, IPv6 and all-frame decoding.

Attendees will also see the ORION Content Manager (OCM), which gives a centralised view of the streaming environment and performs quality tracing across the entire video workflow. New features at ANGA COM 2025 will include advanced probe management and improved user permission control, ensuring both efficient and secure video operations.

Another Interra Systems highlight will be BATON, the company's AI-driven, automated QC tool which ensures quality, compliance and workflow efficiency for diverse media formats and standards. The latest edition contains enhanced autoscaling, advanced 4K video quality checks, expanded format support, improved algorithms and usability upgrades.

BATON Captions, the company's multilingual captioning tool, will also be on display. This has been updated to include scene-aware caption placement and a host of QC and correction features — helping media professionals meet their customers' high viewing standards. All updates use machine learning, automatic speech recognition, and natural language processing technologies, while a new UI

layout has features like integrated relay workflows and intelligent segmentation.

Rounding out Interra Systems' display will be the VEGA Media Analyzer (VMA) for standards compliance, debugging and stream interoperability assurance. VMA now supports an extensive range of compression standards for broad compatibility, including the latest in VVC, AV1, HEVC, MV-HEVC, AVS3, HDR, Dolby Vision, Dolby Atmos and ATSC 3.0.

Finally, in a presentation titled ORION and the Strategic Benefits of Precise Video Quality Monitoring, Interra Systems' VP of Product Management, Anupama Anantharaman will explain how ORION enhances video quality by monitoring key workflow stages — and why ORION is a must-have tool for media professionals. Attendees will learn about the solution's role in detecting, analysing and troubleshooting quality issues in real time, ensuring all audiences receive an exceptional viewing experience — no matter the platform. This session will take place as part of the 'IP Video, Monitoring and Monetization' series of talks, and will be held on June 4 from 12:15-13:35pm on the Innovation Stage.

[www.interrasystems.com](http://www.interrasystems.com)

# Metrics

## FOR THE UK INDEPENDENT NETWORK SECTOR REPORT 2025

The UK's independent network operators – altnets – are not just building networks, they're building the foundation of a fairer, faster and more resilient digital United Kingdom. This year's report, my first as INCA CEO, shows the continued growth of altnets from niche innovators to national competitors.

In just a few years, altnets have grown to reach over a third of UK premises and often provide the only fibre connection in rural and hard-to-reach areas as well as previous urban not spots. From our towns and cities to our farms and homes, altnets have led the way in delivering faster, more affordable broadband with outstanding customer service and satisfaction.

As we approach OFCOM's Telecoms Access Review 2026 (TAR26), the decisions that are made now will shape the future of competition in UK Telecoms. We cannot allow dominance by legacy operators under the guise of market maturity. To allow for fair competition, altnets need the space to grow, regulatory certainty and above all a level playing field on pricing and access.

The UK's digital future will be won or lost in the next regulatory cycle. INCA is fighting to guarantee the altnets and their investors get a fair bet. INCA envisions a future where infrastructure competition thrives, and consumer choice is real. We call on the policymakers, the regulators and the investors to recognise the transformative impact of altnets and to provide a regulatory framework that empowers them.

This report is more than a set of statistics – it's a call to action. We must ensure that the positive change and impressive gains of the last decade are not lost through policy or regulatory missteps but instead are accelerated. The UK's digital future and economic growth depend upon it.

**Paddy Paddison**  
CEO, INCA



### HIGHLIGHTS

- The UK's independent (Altnet) operators remained resilient during the year, increasing their full network coverage by 27% year-on-year to reach 16.4 million premises at the end-2024.
- Despite challenging market conditions, high global inflation, soaring energy and resource costs, combined altnet full fibre footprints covering cities, towns, and villages across the UK are keeping pace with Openreach's 17.1 million premises at the close of 2024.
- Almost three quarters of a million customers decided to switch to an altnet during 2024 leading to 2.7 million live connections (35% growth year-on-year) to independent fixed networks provided by full fibre gigabit capable connections.
- With economic turbulence causing private investment into the sector to scale back, altnets will require the Government's continued support to attract investment and reach the network coverage targets they have set for 2030. We expect the regulator to deliver a fair competitive marketplace, delivered via its Telecoms Access Review 2026 (TAR26).
- Strategic mergers and acquisitions may become crucial for smaller players due to the economic climate, but Ofcom sees this almost as a regulatory necessity. In its TAR26 Consultation Document the regulator views smaller altnet consolidation into larger independent players as key to its regulatory framework for them to provide the necessary level of competition to rival that of Openreach.
- For the second consecutive year, access to finance—combined with the broader economic outlook—remains the leading concern among altnet operators. With rising interest rates and ongoing inflationary pressures, many providers are finding it harder to secure the capital they need to scale networks and maintain operations.
- Unsurprisingly, Ofcom's upcoming Telecoms Access Review (TAR26) has surged up the list of concerns, rising five places to take the second spot. With 70% of respondents highlighting potential risks from the review's outcome, there is a risk that the resulting framework could introduce further challenges to altnet sustainability—particularly if it weakens competitive protections or entrenches incumbent advantages.

For more information and to download the report in full visit

<https://inca.coop/>