# THE INDUSTRY

How have technological changes affected the telecommunications industry, including entities that want to make automated calls?

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**PANELISTS:** 

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# The Transition from POTS to Broadband

Kevin G. Rupy
Senior Director, Policy Development
USTelecom



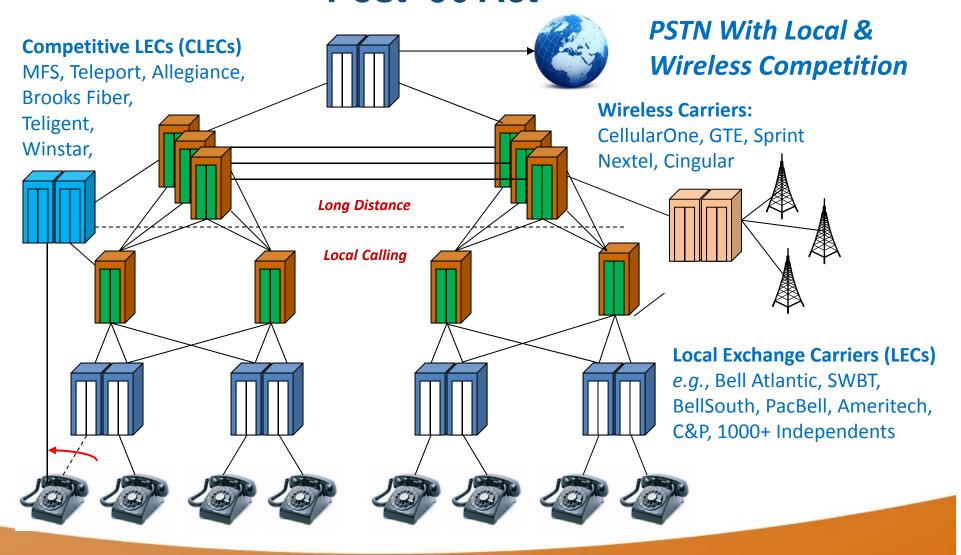


# Introduction

- How the network has changed
- What robocalls are
- What carriers are doing

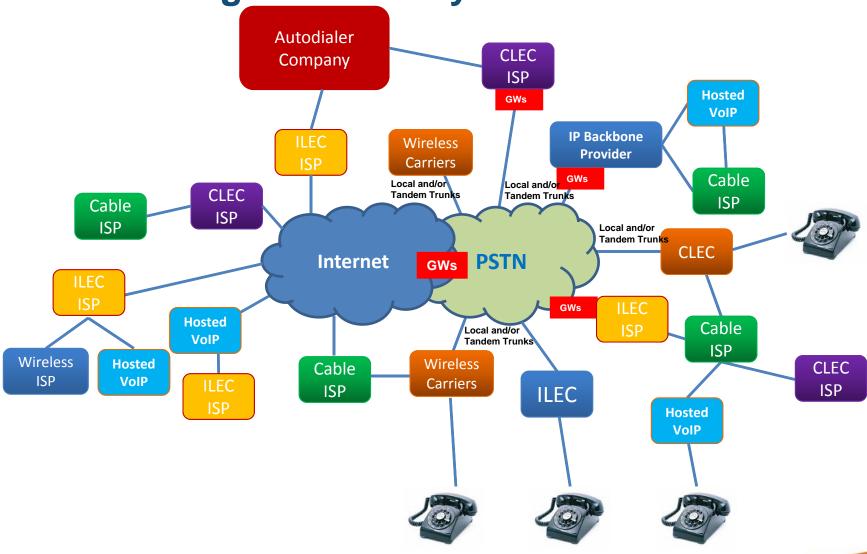


# Traditional Circuit Switched Network Post '96 Act





The Evolving Voice Ecosystem.





## Stakeholders in the Robocall Environment

#### **Voice Over Internet Protocol Providers (VOIPs):**

- Over the Top VOIP: Skype, Google Voice, Magic Jack, Ooma.
- Interconnected VOIP: Vonage, Cable VOIP.

#### **Local Exchange Carriers (LECs):**

ILECs: AT&T, Verizon, CenturyLink, Independents (x100s)

CLECs: Level 3, XO
 Communications,
 Cablevision/LightPath,
 Independents (x100s).

• Wireless: T-Mobile, AT&T, Verizon Wireless, Independents (~100).

# Internet GWs PSTN

#### **Autodialer Companies:**

- **Software:** VanillaSoft, SpitFire, AutoDialerPlus,
- **Services:** Call Em All, CallFire, Database Systems Corp, Impact Dialing.
- Equipment: PowerVoice, PhoneTree, BigmOuth, Goldmine.

#### **Internet Service Providers (ISPs):**

- Telcos: AT&T, Verizon, CenturyLink, Independents (x100s)
- Cable: Comcast, Cablevision, Time Warner, Independents (x100s)
- Wireless: Sprint, T-Mobile, ClearWire, WISPs (x100s)

#### **Robocall Customers:**

- Government: Public Safety, Schools, Local Governments.
- **Politicians:** Elected officials, political candidates.
- Business: Any business from Auto Shops to Zoos.



## The Full Spectrum of Mass-Calling Events

All Mass-Calling & Robo-Call Events

- Emergency Notifications
- Weather Alerts
- K-12/College Alerts Closings
- Political Messages
- Surveys
- Utility Service Calls

- Phishing Calls
- Focused Nuisance Attack
- Call Flooding / DoS Attack

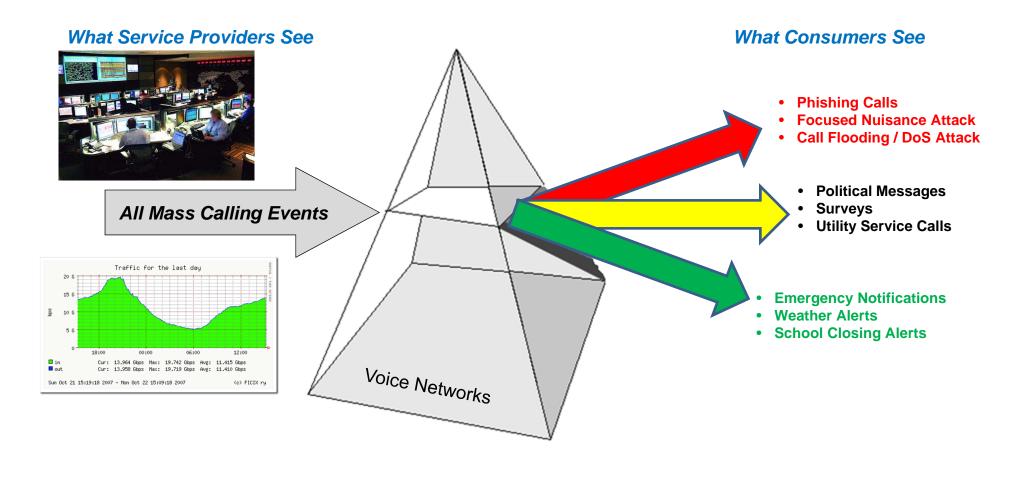
Important and Legal

Practical and Legal

Malicious and Illegal



## **Different Perspectives of Mass-Calling Events**





#### **Current Activities**

- Network Operations Centers
  - Security Desks
  - Traffic data forensics
  - Mass calling investigations
  - Blocking specific numbers
- Legal Actions
  - State court actions
  - Law enforcement coordination
- Working/Standards Group Frameworks
  - Alliance for Telecommunications Industry Solutions (ATIS)
  - Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers
- Consumer Education

#### **Legal/Practical Limitations**

- Legal Limitations
  - Privacy Laws
  - Common Carrier Obligations
- Technological arms race

# **David Diggs**

Vice President
Wireless Internet Development
CTIA – The Wireless Association





## Wireless is Different

- Landline vs. mobile pricing regimes differ
- TCPA prohibits all robocalls except:
  - Emergency purposes
  - Prior express consent of called party
- No exemption for political, charitable

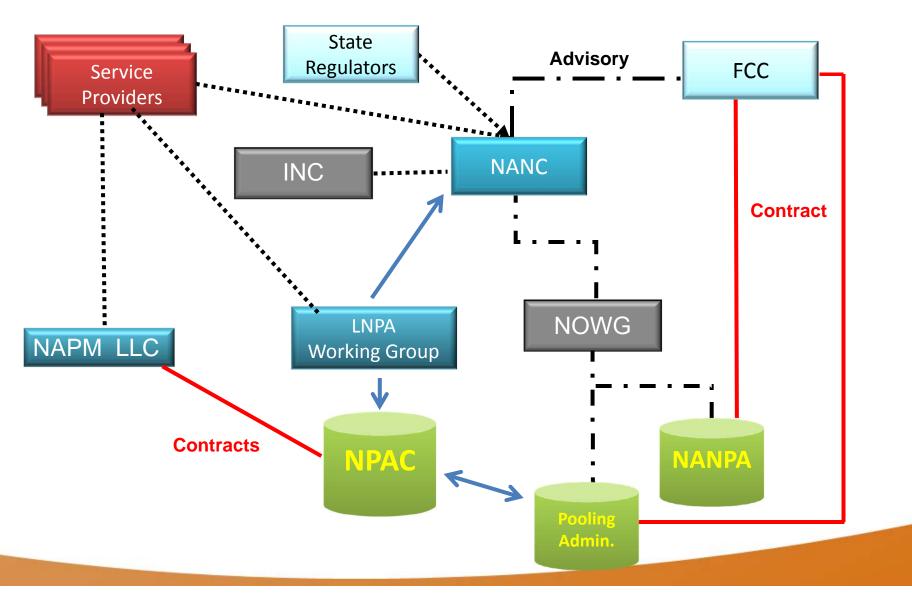


# **Challenges of IP-based**

- Telco vs. internet "culture"
- Identifying origin of traffic
  - Resellers of TNs
  - Competing solutions for identifying "owner" of TN
- Blocking less effective
  - Volatility
  - Spoofing



## **Telephone Numbering Resources: Who's In Charge?**



# **Brad Herrmann**

Founder and President Call-Em-All





# **Robocalling Evolution**

## "Old School" Robocalling

- Capital Intensive (specialized equipment and lines/ports)
- Specialized programming skills
- Lead Time: 60-90 days

### **VOIP** Robocalling

- No special equipment
- Requires large bandwidth connection
- Easier software development
- Lead Time: Days

## **Cloud Services Robocalling**

- Basic internet connection
- Immediate & simple call initiation (via web or API/web services)
- Lead Time: Hours



## Stopping Unwanted Calls – One example

- 1) Message review by empowered employees
  - Listen to message and approve/reject
  - Call client & ask questions
  - Call the CallerID number
- 2) Maintain client-specific DNC list
- 3) Monitor opt-outs