



VIRGINIA MOUNTAIN SECTION NEWSLETTER

IEEE Region 3, Council 09, Section 65

October 2004

Thursday, October 21, Clarion Hotel Roanoke Airport

National LambdaRail, the Mid Atlantic Terascale Partnership, and VORTEX

Jeff Crowder

**Director for Strategic Initiatives in Information Technology
Virginia Tech**

Abstract

The Mid-Atlantic Terascale Partnership (MATP) is a consortium of research institutions in Virginia, Maryland, and Washington, DC formed to support research activities that require next-generation high-performance network connectivity. One project of MATP, VORTEX, will extend multi-gigabit per second, optical infrastructure throughout Virginia providing access to the National LambdaRail (NLR) and other key resources. VORTEX will lay the foundation for early deployment of advanced network infrastructure to support economic development statewide including southwest Virginia.

Virginia Tech is a founding member of NLR with responsibility to facilitate access in Virginia, Maryland and DC. Working closely with UVa Tech co-founded the Mid Atlantic Terascale Partnership and is leading VORTEX. This talk will provide an introduction to these initiatives and a status report on their progress.

Speaker Bio

Jeff Crowder is Director for Strategic Initiatives in Information Technology at Virginia Tech. Most recently, Jeff served as a mid-Atlantic regional representative for development and launch of the National LambdaRail. He is serving in a leadership role to direct development of the Mid Atlantic Terascale Partnership and the VORTEX initiative to deploy multi-gigabit research network infrastructure in Virginia. Jeff is involved with eCorridors and other university outreach initiatives particularly involving rural broadband infrastructure development. He serves as the Director for Network Virginia, the state's research and education network program providing low cost, high performance access to the Internet, to Internet2, and to distance learning programs for more than 1.4 million people statewide.

Web sites: <http://www.nlr.net>
<http://www.networkvirginia.net>
<http://www.ecorridors.vt.edu>



Date: Thursday October 21, 2004

Social: 6:30 PM

Dinner: 7:00 PM

Talk: 8:00 PM

Cost:

Member/ Guest \$15.00

Student \$ 8.00

Reserve by **5 PM Monday Oct. 18**

Cy Harbourt (540) 387-8941

<mailto:cdharbourt@ieee.org>

Please specify number of attendees.

Directions to Clarion Hotel

2727 Ferndale Drive NW
1581 Exit 3 Hershberger Rd West
1st Rt. onto Ordway Drive,
¼ mile, Rt. Into Parking Lot.

VMS Membership 10/1/04

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SEPTEMBER MEETING REPORT

On Monday September 20, 2004 IEEE-VMS participated in a joint meeting with the Virginia Blue Ridge Section of the American Chemical Society at the Roanoke Valley Governor's School. The speaker was Congressman Bob Goodlatte who, after some brief opening remarks, answered a wide range of questions dealing with issues, including drug prices and overseas drug purchases, and Internet use and misuse.

It is interesting that the two House of Representative Co-chairs of the Congressional Internet Caucus are local Congressmen Bob Goodlatte, Republican 6th District, and Rick Boucher, Democrat, 9th District. Rep. Goodlatte recently introduced the Internet Spyware (I-SPY) Prevention Act of 2004, H.R. 4661. This bipartisan legislation addresses the most egregious activities that are conducted via spyware and make those activities criminal offenses. Rep. Boucher recently introduced H.R. 4757, the Advanced Internet Communications Services Act. The legislation would stimulate investment in, and encourage the rapid deployment of, Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) and other Advanced Internet Communications Services. The legislation prohibits regulation of charges or the provision of such services, but grants the FCC the authority to ensure that appropriate 911 services are available to users, and that Advanced Services contribute to the Universal Service Fund, and that there is "just and reasonable compensation of the public switched telephone network."

REALITY TV FOR ENGINEERS

WGBH Boston is holding auditions for hosts of a new, engineering reality TV show, based in Boston, Mass. The show will feature teams of teens interested in engineering, who compete by solving problems and building machines. Hosts will provide humorous running commentary.

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