

## A New "Era" for In-Building Wireless?

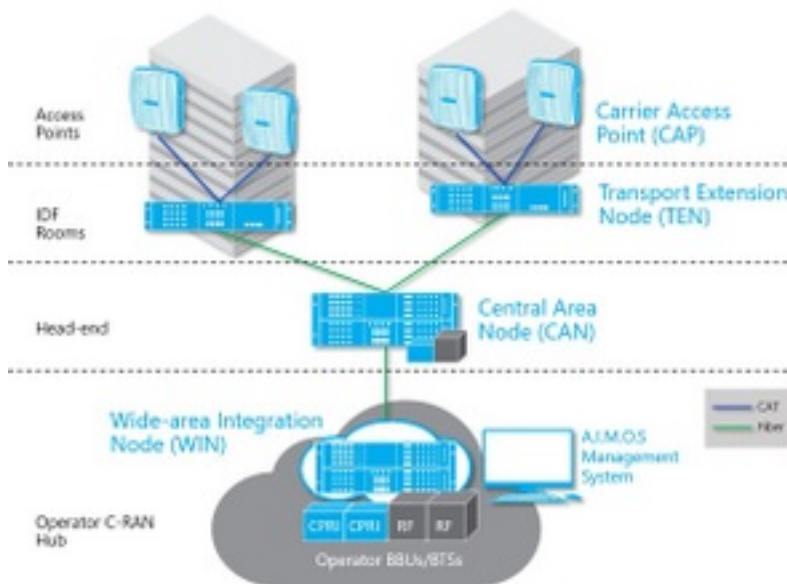
Written by Bob Snyder  
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In a world of 5G, the vision for future wireless network architectures is built on centralized baseband processing and virtualized network functions for more efficient and flexible operation.

At *Mobile World Congress 2018*, CommScope will make that future vision a reality for in-building wireless by introducing a next generation platform, **ommScope Era™**

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CommScope Era is **an all-digital C-RAN antenna system** that leverages wireless operators' initiatives to centralize and virtualize baseband radio assets, a foundational design concept for 5G networks.

Era enables operators to deploy a centralized headend that serves multiple buildings, or even to tap capacity from the operator's existing centralized radio access network (C-RAN) hubs.

"We have invested heavily to create an all-digital platform architecture that upends the economics of in-building wireless and ushers in a new era and standard for distributed antenna

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systems," notes Matt Melester, Senior VP, Distributed Coverage and Capacity Solutions, CommScope.

Era's **Wide-area Integration Node (WIN)** resides in the C-RAN hub and routes baseband capacity to a distribution point within the served building or campus. Era allocates baseband capacity where it is needed while reducing the amount of onsite head-end equipment and the amount of fiber needed for signal transport by up to 90 percent.

Era features a new family of access points that are available in a range of power levels, with copper and fiber connectivity and outdoor and plenum ratings, to serve a wide variety of venue types. It supports interleaved MIMO (multiple input/multiple output) using patented technology that can offer up to 80% of collocated MIMO speeds over a SISO (single input/single output) infrastructure.

**Era uses IT-standard copper and fiber-optic infrastructure--** and allows for the sharing of existing fiber networks, significantly reducing fiber costs.

CommScope holds 164 patent families for the technological innovations incorporated in Era:

- CommScope Era's all-digital architecture enables capabilities that analog DAS simply cannot.
- Capacity re-allocation, soft re-sectorization, system setup and diagnostics are all software functions in Era, capable of being changed with a few clicks of a mouse.
- Era also transports Gigabit Ethernet backhaul to each remote node, which can be used for separate Wi-Fi networks, IP security systems or to support a small cell overlay needed for future network expansion.

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