

improvements to Wi-Fi technology, most of them will also be candidates to upgrade their Wi-Fi gear every few years. Telcos, cablecos and others, such as **Google**, that want to sell their Wi-Fi services commercially will be candidates to buy Ruckus's Wi-Fi gear and other network equipment in large quantities.

The CEOs of each company lauded the joint strengths and opportunities of the combined companies.

Ruckus' Lo said, "We operate in adjacent segments of the larger networking market with a number of common customers for our complementary products, and have a successful track record of working together."

Brocade's Carney said, "This strategic combination will position us to expand our addressable market and technology leadership with Ruckus' fast-growing wireless LAN products, and supports our vision to deliver market-leading new IP solutions that enable the network to become a platform for innovation. We believe that combining our portfolios will provide significant benefits to our customers and will enable us to accelerate our growth and value creation."

That is unless a bigger fish has a different idea and decides it wants to gobble up Ruckus Wireless!

[Return to headlines](#)

## HomeGrid Forum Prez to Talk about Guaranteed Interoperability & Speeds at CTA Event

We'd rather see new reports of wins at service providers and makers of network equipment.

**The HomeGrid Forum** (HGF) president Donna Yasay will be at the **CTA Technology & Standards Forum** in San Diego this week to discuss how best to develop industry standards and shape the future of consumer technology. HomeGrid Forum is the industry group set up to achieve these objectives for G.hn and all its members are developing G.hn technologies.

Yasay will speak about how G.hn devices certified by HomeGrid Forum offer significant improvements to customers such as:

- Guaranteed interoperability between products that have G.hn chipsets from different G.hn chipmakers
- Guaranteed speeds between different devices

Yasay said most standards bodies do not address those matters.

Yasay said, "Our goal is to bring the benefits of the carrier influence on G.hn to the retail market."

The Forum said that with US shipments of 4K TV sets having reached four million by the end of 2015, more than 200% up on the previous year according to the **Consumer Electronics Association**, the need for cohesive industry

standards for wireless video delivery is strong.

Yasay said, “G.hn has become the backbone technology that allows reliable, high-speed video delivery throughout the home, coupled with the convenience of consumer-friendly wireless attachment.” She added, “G.hn was originally targeted at the carrier market where consistent, reliable performance is key. Our goal now is to bring the benefits of this carrier influence to the retail market. We are very pleased to be attending CTA for the first time and I am excited to give my report on the excellent work HomeGrid Forum has been doing on G.hn technology. HomeGrid Forum certification will ensure high quality video and wireless communications for the consumer technology sector.”

### Change of Strategy?

It sounds as if HomeGrid Forum members have reduced their expectations of landing deals with multiple service providers, a market where MoCA’s coax technology is king except for many telcos who have increasingly looked like they are planning to use Wi-Fi to stream TV channels from a whole home DVR to multiple TVs around the home. Instead it appears that HGF members have decided to focus on the retail market where HomePlug powerline dominates. However, we haven’t seen much G.hn activity there although G.hn can enable network adapters to use either the home’s coax or powerline wires.

As we have repeatedly reported, homes increasingly have a Wi-Fi problem – caused by more mobile devices and more video streams, especially 4K streams. The Wi-Fi problem could be fixed in many cases by newer, better Wi-Fi routers but it’s likely that over 50% of standalone homes that are larger than 1,500 square feet will need one or more wireline-to-Wi-Fi adapters. Powerline adapters are the easiest to use because every room, even the bathroom, in every home has an AC outlet. G.hn adapters can do that. They can also use the coax outlet in homes that have a telco’s pay TV service. So, what’s the holdup?

[Return to headlines](#)

## SET- & NET-TOP BOXES

### AirTies to Offer Future-Proof STB in the States

Turkey-based **AirTies**, already a successful STB maker in many parts of the world, now has its sights set on North America. It has an AirTies 7405 IP video set-top that it has been selling to European cablecos as a future proof IPTV/OTT solution that it may soon start offering in the States, as shown by a recent **FCC** test report. The STB supports HEVC and has a Zigbee chip from **Green Peak Technologies**. AirTies got its first US order from Sioux Falls, SD-based **Midcontinent Communications** for the AirTies 4920 box.

[Return to headlines](#)