chapter 7

Wide Area Networks

CHAPTER OBJECTIVES

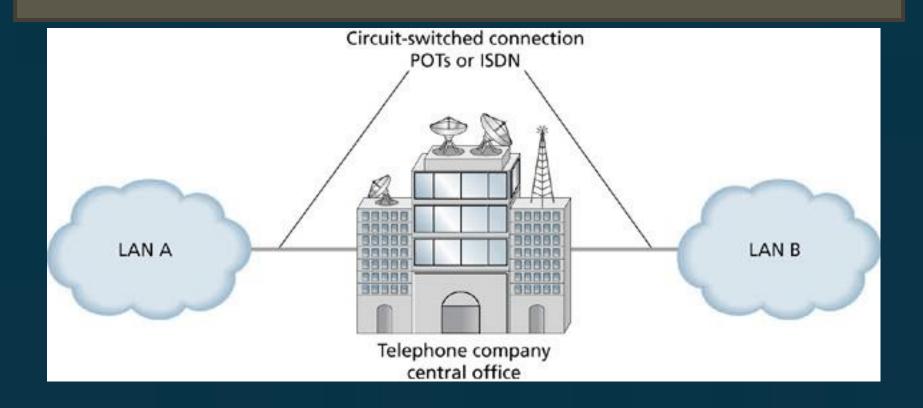
- Define circuit switching, describe circuit-switched architecture, and identify and describe different types of circuit-switched carrier services.
- Define dedicated circuit, and list and describe dedicated-circuit carrier services.
- Discuss packet-switched networks, and list and describe different types of packet-switched carrier services.
- List and describe other high-speed carrier services.
- Identify and describe different types of multiplexing.

Circuit-Switched Carrier Services

- Circuit switching is a communications method that creates a dedicated communications path between points A and B for the exclusive use of the end nodes for the duration of the connection.
- Data rates for circuit-switched carrier services range from modem dial-up speeds of 28.8 Kbps to 56 Kbps, to low-end broadband data rates of 1.544 Mbps.
- Businesses implement circuit-switched carrier services if data transmission requirements between remote locations are mostly text-based and don't require a continuous connection.

- Circuit-Switched Carrier Services (cont'd)
 - All circuit-switched services use the PSTN, which provides the carrier-service infrastructure between remote locations.
 - Circuit-switched connections provide flexibility in connecting to remote locations – you dial a number to connect to a remote computer or network, and the connection is maintained until you hang up.
 - Circuit-switched connections charge for every minute of connection time.

LAN-to-LAN Connectivity through the PSTN

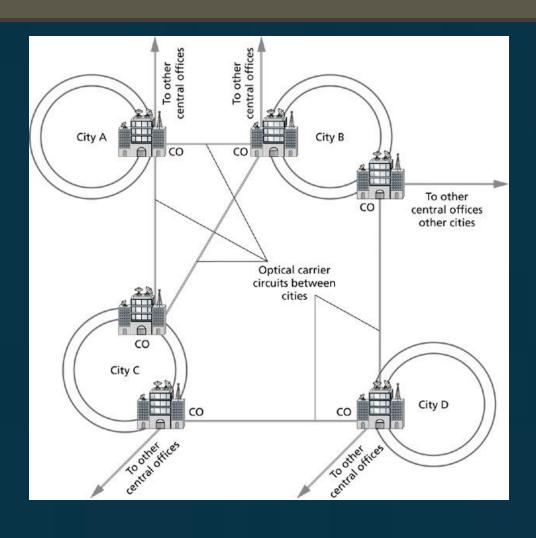


Integrated Services Digital Network

- ISDN is a digital circuit-switched service.
- Was originally developed in the 1960s as a digital replacement for analog phone lines.
- ISDN has many of the same features as regular analog phone lines.
- ISDN can accommodate voice and data traffic, graphics, video, audio, and any other data that can be converted to digital.
- It was never widely deployed because of the cost of telephone replacement at every home in the U.S. in the days when AT&T held a telephone monopoly.

- SONET (Synchronous Optical Network)
 - It's an ANSI standard for high-speed data communications over fiber-optic cables.
 - It's defined in terms of optical carrier levels (OC-x).
 - SONET is deployed as redundant rings for fault tolerance.

SONET Ring Infrastructure

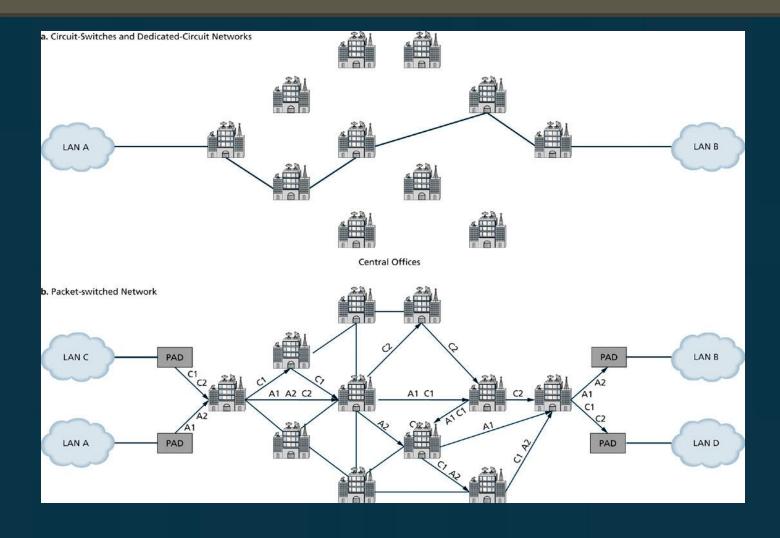


Packet-Switched Carrier Services

- Were developed as more efficient data and voice transmission services – packet switching reduced idle time on transmission circuits.
- Are always on and ready to transmit.
- There's no call setup with packet-switched services.
- There's no wasted capacity when the connection is not in use.

- Packet-Switched Carrier Services (cont'd)
 - Are represented as a cloud in diagrams.
 - Are referred to as the Public Data Network (PDN).
 - Packets must pass through a packet assembler/disassembler (PAD) to reach the PDN.

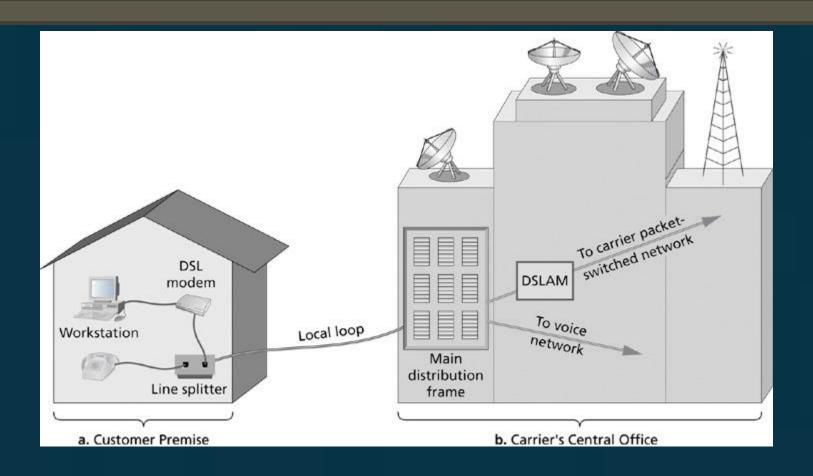
Circuit-Switched and Dedicated-Circuit Networks vs. Packet-Switched Networks



- Packet-Switched Services
 - X.25 specifies data communications across the PSTN between remote computers with a maximum data rate of 64 Kbps.
 - Frame Relay provides data rates ranging from 56 Kbps to 45 Mbps
 - Asynchronous Transfer Mode (ATM) is the widely accepted standard of cell relay technology.

- Other High-Speed Carrier Services
 - Digital Subscriber Line Technologies (DSL) use existing telephone lines for high-speed Internet access and data communications.
 - DSL requires extra equipment at both the customer location and at the carrier's central office.
 - Customers require a DSL modem and a line splitter.
 - The carrier's central office (CO) requires a main distribution frame to separate incoming voice and data traffic.
 - The carrier's CO also requires a digital subscriber line access multiplexer (DSLAM) to convert DSL data streams into ATM cells.

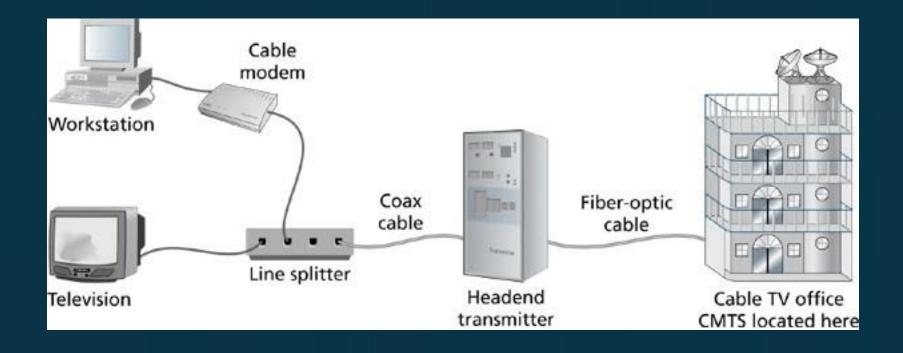
DSL Configuration



- Other High-Speed Carrier Services (cont'd)
 - VDSL is very-high-data-rate DSL.
 - Upload speeds approach 16 Mbps.
 - Download speeds approach 52 Mbps.
 - Distance between customer premise and central office must be 4,000 feet or less.
 - VDSL has competing standards that are not compatible with each other.

- Other High-Speed Carrier Services (cont'd)
 - Cable Television (CATV) is marketed toward home users, home offices, and small businesses.
 - Upload transmission rates of 3 Mbps and download rates in the 27-56 Mbps range are achievable.
 - Customer equipment includes a cable modem and an Ethernet NIC or USB port.
 - The CATV company provides the hybrid fiber coax (HFC) network, the cable headend transmitter, and the cable modem termination system (CMTS).

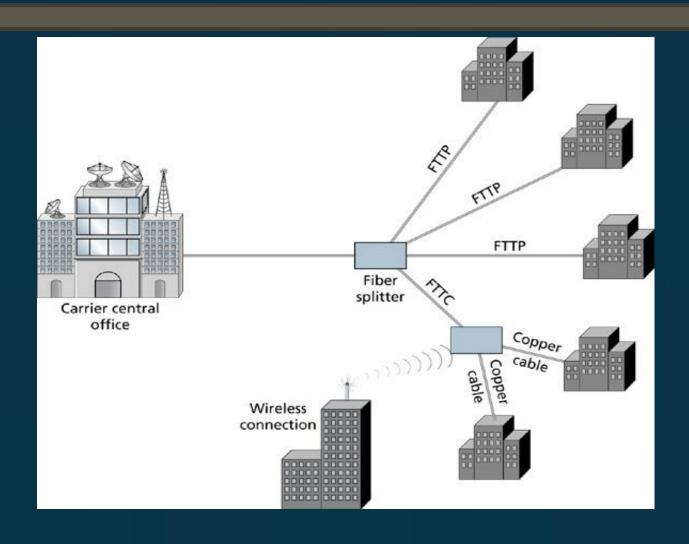
Cable TV Network for Data Transmission



- Other High-Speed Carrier Services (cont'd)
 - Metropolitan Ethernet networks (MENs) provide highspeed Ethernet connectivity beyond the physical boundaries of an organizations' campus.
 - 100 Mbps Ethernet, 1 Gbps Ethernet, or 10 Gbps Ethernet can be specified with the carrier.
 - The Metro Ethernet Forum (MEF) oversees the development of the metro Ethernet standards.

- Other High-Speed Carrier Services (cont'd)
 - A passive optical network (PON) is a fiber optic network in which all active components have been removed between the customer and the carrier's CO.
 - Optical splitters distribute optical signals to multiple customers.
 - ATM-based PONs (APONs) provide 155 Mbps or 622
 Mbps downstream and 155 Mbps upstream.
 - Ethernet PONs (EPONs) and Gigabit Ethernet PONs (GPONs) are in development.

Passive Optical Network



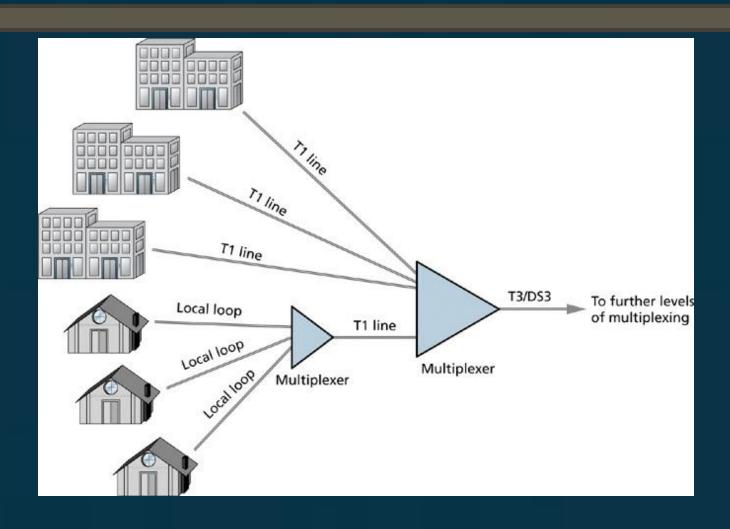
- Other High-Speed Carrier Services (cont'd)
 - Wireless MAN/WAN services provide shared bandwidth of up to 70 Mbps over a 30-mile non-line-of-sight range.
 - Wireless MAN/WAN services are commonly known as WiMAX.
 - WiMAX follows the IEEE 802.16 standards.

DATA COMMUNICATION THROUGH THE CARRIER

Multiplexing

- Multiplexing combines multiple signals from multiple sources into a single, composite signal.
- The composite signal traverses the carrier's and other carriers' networks.
- Multiplexing makes more efficient use of carriers' available infrastructure and allows delivery of high-speed WAN services at affordable rates.

Multiplexing at the Carrier

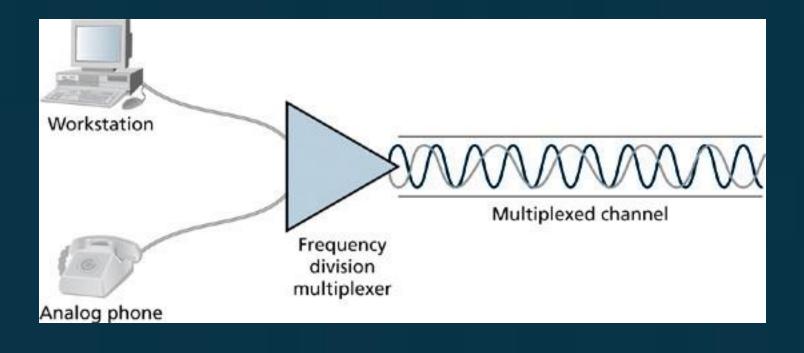


DATA COMMUNICATION THROUGH THE CARRIER (cont'd)

Multiplexing (cont'd)

- Several types of multiplexing are implemented by carriers to create these combined, complex signals:
 - Frequency division multiplexing (FDM)
 - Time-division multiplexing (TDM)
 - Statistical time-division multiplexing (STDM)
 - Wavelength division multiplexing (WDM)
 - Dense wavelength division multiplexing (DWDM)
 - Inverse multiplexing (IMUX)

Frequency Division Multiplexing



Time-Division Multiplexing

