Global culture on steroids

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The world is at turning point. New networks that are "broadband", "everything over IP" and "IP over optics" will reach out and touch everything.

Dense wave division multiplexing (DWDM) is already erasing long haul bottlenecks. In the last mile, DWDM & wavelength networks may offer similar gains. The key to realizing maximum benefit is to enable integration with the new services. A modular, layered model, providing separation between applications, service profiles and specific technologies, will enable provisioning across multiple technologies and multiple vendors, allowing each service provider along the provisioning path to offer consistent services.

Virtual resource management, caching and multicast will be increasingly employed to combat the server capacity bottleneck that emerges as network capacity increases. To the end user, all this means a plethora of new and far reaching applications and services. These include, among others, virtual private networks (VPNs) – allowing companies to set up entirely virtual business units; networked applications/application service providers (ASPs) – forcing/enabling businesses to rethink their business models; and global digital broadcasting – creating a seamless mass medium that will combine the reach, quality and emotion of broadcasting with the smarts of the internet with global reach.