

Demonstrated Experience

West Liberty Telephone Co. d/b/a Liberty Communications is a closely held, Subchapter S, Iowa Corporation founded in 1899 and incorporated in its current structure in 1920. The company provides broadband, telephone and cable TV services to over 2700 customers in and around its ILEC exchanges of West Branch and West Liberty. Liberty created its own in-house ISP, Lcom.net, in 2002. Liberty deployed fiber optics in its transport network in 1994, and undertook a 2-year construction project to build FTTH networks within the city limits of West Branch and West Liberty, IA in 2008. Liberty is a registered ETC provider with the IUB and FCC, and a shareholder in Aureon and a 100 year plus member of the Iowa Communication Alliance. Liberty employs 33 full time employees and has in house expertise in IP network design and transport, FTTH staking and construction, along with fiber splicing and restoration. Consultants used by Liberty for outside experience, planning and services required to design, operate and market FTTH networks include Finley Engineering, Vantage Point Solutions, BKD CPA & Advisors and Pivot Group. Liberty has grown their broadband subscribers on its buried FTTH networks to over 2700 customers, and provides enterprise broadband connections to businesses and other telcos from their regional 80 Gigabit fiber ring. Additionally, Liberty is the majority owner of Cloudburst9 LLC, a fixed wireless broadband provider serving over 1100 customers in southeast Iowa since 2006. Cloudburst9 LLC was a successful applicant in the NOFA #003 grant program in 2020. In 2022, West Liberty Telephone Co. acquired Natel Communications. A high-speed broadband and wireless internet provider. Natel was a successful applicant in the NOFA #007 grant program in 2023 being awarded in two areas.