

# MESSENGER

Summer 2018



## “I o T”

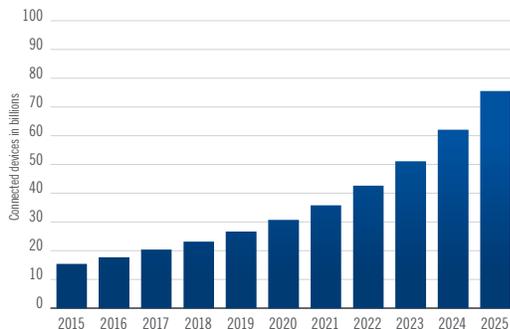
By Jens Laipenieks CEO/General Manager



The telecommunications industry is chock full of acronyms and confusing phrases; in fact, we have our own dictionary just to keep them all straight. The industry has evolved so much that the Newton's Telecom dictionary has been updated 31 times since it was first introduced in 1984. Some of the more common ones you will hear around the ASTAC offices these days are FTTH (Fiber to the Home), LTE (Long Term Evolution) and GPON (Gigabit Passive Optical Network).

In my opinion, the one that we all need to learn is IoT (Internet of Things). In its simplest form, IoT is the evolution of connections. Our technology began with human-to-human connections (traditional telephone service), which over time matured into human-to-computer-to-human (voicemail, email, websites, texting) and now IoT, which in many ways eliminates humans from the equation. IoT is many things, but generally, it's about interconnected devices or machines using arrays of intelligent sensors gathering and processing data to be used by other computers and ultimately, humans. Once these connected ecosystems are developed and proven out; they are ordained with the title of “smart”.

In the coming years we will all get smart... smart homes, smart buildings, smart cars, smart cities, smart grids, smart stores, smart farms, smart factories, smart oilfields, and smart schools, just to name a few. This list will



“I o T”, CONTINUED ON PAGE 03

Faster, cheaper and better than the rest.  
**What are you waiting for?**

## Home Internet<sup>10</sup>

- Stream up to 18 times faster for half the cost of other carriers
- Start an online business
- FaceTime with your doctor
- Take classes online



## CUSTOMER REFERRAL PROGRAM

Earn ASTAC cash telling friends and family about your great ASTAC service! Once your referral has signed up for new service and your eligibility has been verified, ASTAC will add a \$50 bill credit to your account for **every** new customer you refer. Referral Cash program cards were included with our April bills and more can be picked up from our Utqiagvik retail store.



## 4G WIRELESS SERVICE NOW IN KOTZEBUE

ASTAC and OTZ Telephone jointly turned up a new fiber-fed 4G wireless site in Kotzebue on March 29, vastly improving mobile data speeds. ASTAC customers traveling through Kotzebue will now enjoy the same quality service they experience everywhere else throughout the North Slope.

## 2018 ASTAC SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS SELECTED

Melanie Tikluk is a honor roll student, recipient of the UAA Scholar award and a leader within the Kaktovik Youth Ambassadors. She plans to attend the University of Alaska Anchorage to earn a degree in Finance and return to work for Kaktovik Inupiat Corporation. Melanie is an active member of the Mayor's Youth Advisory Council and participated in basketball, volleyball, band and student government throughout high school but is most proud of being a member of the Green Boat whaling crew, ensuring all the tools are ready once a whale has been landed. She enjoys learning from others at the Elders and Youth Conference and competes in the Stick Pull each year during the Native Youth Olympics.



*Melanie Tikluk*

Calvin Miller is a high honor roll student at Barrow High School and plans to attend the University of Alaska Anchorage to earn a double major in English and Business. His goal is to have a positive impact on the youth of Utqiagvik and ensure the educational and cultural future of rural Alaska. Calvin participated in football, basketball, wrestling and band throughout high school, serving as Captain for both football and wrestling. He was recognized as one of the finest tuba players in Alaska, after changing from baritone just one month prior to their trip to Hawaii to perform at the Pearl Harbor Memorial and Polynesian Cultural Center. Additionally, he has demonstrated his leadership skills in student government, newspaper, drama club, yearbook, Science Olympiad, Battle of the Books and has devoted his time to coaching and fundraising for the Special Olympics.



*Calvin Miller*

# Swoosh WINNER TRAVELED TO THE FINAL FOUR

ASTAC's Grand Prize Swoosh Winner, Teri Ferreira of Point Lay, had a blast taking her first trip out of Alaska to the 2018 NCAA's Final Four Tournament in San Antonio, Texas March 31-April 2. The Villanova Wildcats defeated the Michigan Wolverines by 79 to 62.

Teri didn't expect to win ASTAC's Swoosh contest due to the high number of high school students & adults who competed alongside her. She loves to play basketball as it keeps her & her teammates in good shape and their grades up. Teri's favorite player to watch is Stephen Curry because he goes beyond his limits, has good shooting form, makes good passes and is good at making 3-pointers.

"The coach that inspired me to play was my Aunt Sophie Tracy because she made me feel that I could get better." Sophie joined Teri on her trip to watch the Final Four. Between games they enjoyed touring downtown San Antonio, visiting the Alamo, seeing horse carriage rides and attending a (free) Maroon 5 concert.



## 2018 ASTAC EVENTS

**July 9-13**

Annual Meetings, all communities

**TBD**

Home Internet<sup>10</sup> Service Trainings\*

\*Stay tuned to Facebook and our Sales Events web page for updates



SmartHub is a safe, secure way to view your ASTAC account and monitor your data usage. Pay you bill, report service troubles and set bill reminder notifications – all from one place.

Log in from your desktop <https://astac.smarthub.coop/login.html> or download the free app from iTunes or Google Play.

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surely grow; you can count on that. For most of us, these smart things will funnel all their usefulness and droves of insightful data to you through one device...that's right, you guessed it...your smart phone.

In the IoT infancy of today, you can monitor your sleep patterns, unlock the front door, and even locate your kids, all from the screen of your smart phone. This is really just the beginning; the baby steps towards what many think will be the next high tech industrial revolution. Some

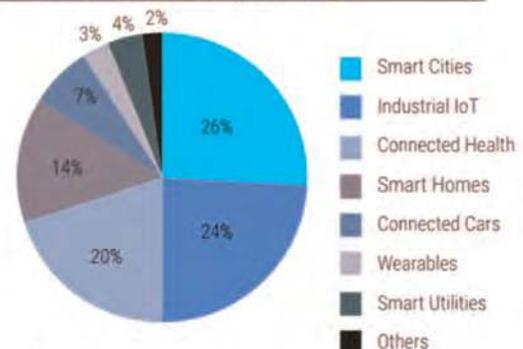
projections of this growth are shown below, and yes, those are billions.

The networks that will enable this future and connect all these devices will be wireless, both Wi-Fi and cellular. They will also rely on high-speed fiber optic networks to connect them. At ASTAC, we are busy preparing our networks for this "smart" future, which will ensure that you, the rest of our membership and the future generations of ASTAC members will have a part in it.



[Sources: GrowthEnabler Analysis/MarketsandMarkets]

### Global IoT Market Share by Sub-Sector



[Source: GrowthEnabler Analysis]



## YOUR COOPERATIVE. YOUR VOTE.

This year ASTAC members have a new way to vote for their board of directors during the 2018 election. In addition to voting in person at your community's scheduled annual meeting, or mailing in your ballot, members can now vote online. Voting electronically will be done through a member's SmartHub account. If you do not have a SmartHub account, any of our Customer Service representatives can create one for you.

Official ballots will be mailed on June 11 and all votes must be received by Friday, June 29. If a member inadvertently votes in more than one form, the first vote received will be counted as a member's first and final vote.



## TOP OF THE WORLD GOLF TOURNAMENT

The Top of the World Golf Tournament was a great success with 33 golfers coming out to the Middle Lagoon in Utqiaġvik during the 35th Annual Piuraaġiaqta Festival. Everyone enjoyed a sunny, mildly windy Arctic spring day. To break a three-way tie for 2nd place officials had to do a blind hole draw on three holes. This year's top three teams are as follows:



- 1st place** **Qaaqulaaqs** Frank Akpik, Jr., Tony Kaleak & Will Stevens  
*Prize: Samsung Gear 360 Cameras*
- 2nd place** **Tree Slashers** Scott Barr, David Brower & Moses Barr  
*Prize: Amazon Echo Plus*
- 3rd place** **Dude, Where's My Par** Scott Danner, Bertrand Britt & Christopher Danner  
*Prize: \$100 cash*

A special thank you to the companies that donated some wonderful raffle prizes: AC Store, Northern Powerline Constructors, U-Line, Graybar & Beartooth.

### DATA USAGE - DID YOU KNOW?

Manage your data by monitoring your usage and controlling which apps and programs use your data. Social media, streaming music/shows and online gaming/device updates all require data. Watch for ASTAC's Tech Tuesday social media posts, or refer to a tips list on our web site under the red 24/7 Support link.

### 911 EMERGENCY NUMBERS, ALL LOCATIONS

For police and fire, call 911.

Notice: The 911 emergency number has been developed to quickly respond to crisis situations. Call 911 only when human life or property is in jeopardy.

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