



Telecommunications and Data Communications Handbook

By Ray Horak

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For an accessible and comprehensive survey of telecommunications and data communications technologies and services, consult the *Telecommunications and Data Communications Handbook*, which includes information on origins, evolution and meaningful contemporary applications. Find discussions of technologies set in context, with details on fiber optics, cellular radio, digital carrier systems, TCP/IP, and the Internet. Explore topics like Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP); 802.16 & WiMAX; Passive Optical Network (PON); 802.11g & Multiple Input Multiple Output (MIMO) in this easily accessible guide without the burden of technical jargon.

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Editorial Review

Review

"I found the book to be a well written wealth of knowledge." (*ACUTA Journal of Communications Technology in Higher Education*, Summer 2008)

I recently had the pleasure of reviewing Ray Horak's book, *Telecommunications and Data Communications Handbook*. The book's 791 pages, divided into 15 chapters, cover everything from legacy technology such as basic telephone switching to leading edge technologies such as DWDM optical networks, 3G wireless networks, and IPTV converged video. I have read other Horak books in the past, but this one is the most comprehensive one that he has done to date.

The book appears to be best suited as either a text book for a telecommunications class or a reference book. Using Texas terminology, the book is a mile wide but not very deep. You would be hard pressed to find a topic that was not discussed in the almost 800 pages of the book, but most topics are covered in less than one page. It is an encyclopedic work, not the reference that you would use if you needed a comprehensive understanding of any specific technology. On the other hand, if one of your peers brings up a new technology during the course of a conversation (for example MMS), and you want to know what he or she is talking about to avoid appearing uninformed, this book could prove to be invaluable. In other words, it doesn't paint the whole picture in high resolution, but it provides a lot more than a snapshot.

A few of the topics that I found of the most interest included the sections on Broadband over Power Line (BPL), HiperLAN, VDSL, IEEE 802.16 WiMAX and IPTV. There are a few topics that I would like to have seen covered that were not, but this leaves open the opportunity for the next edition.

Overall, I found the book to be a well written wealth of knowledge. I plan to use it as the text for my undergraduate course in telecommunications in the spring.

—Reviewed by Walt Magnussen, Director of Telecommunications, Texas A&M University (*ACUTA: Journal of Communications Technology in Higher Education*, Summer 2008)

"If you can have one book on voice and data communications, this is the book to have." (*The Prepaid Press*, May 14th, 2008)

"The book is very well written and accessible to the average reader." (*Computing Reviews*, May 6, 2008)

"Readers wanting to gain insight into the terminology of the field would be advised to consult this outstanding reference book." (*American Reference Books Annual*, March 2008)

"A must-have acquisition for both beginners and practitioners...highly recommended." (*CHOICE*, February 2008)

From the Back Cover

A practical, accessible survey of telecommunications and data communications services and technologies

Finally, there is a commonsense guide to telecommunications and data communications that non-engineers can understand. Popular author Ray Horak provides comprehensive, up-to-date information in plain English, instead of confusing technotalk. Recent developments covered include:

- 802.16 and WiMAX
- Passive Optical Network (PON)
- 802.11g/n
- Multiple Input Multiple Output (MIMO)
- Broadband over Power Line (BPL)
- Instant Messaging
- ZigBee

In addition, *Telecommunications and Data Communications Handbook* expands on topics of increasing interest, including:

- Fiber Optics
- Storage Area Networks (SANs)
- Digital Subscriber Line (DSL)
- CATV Networks
- Wireless, including Bluetooth
- Cellular, including 2.5G and 3G, photos, video, and ring tones and ring-back tones
- Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP), including IP PBX and IP Centrex
- Session Initiation Protocol (SIP) vs. H.323

Complete with a discussion of the current regulatory and business environments, including divestiture and revestment as well as mergers and acquisitions, this is the ideal reference for non-engineering professionals in the end-user, carrier, content or service provider, manufacturing, regulatory, or financial communities.

About the Author

Ray Horak held management and executive management positions with Southwestern Bell, Continental Telephone Company (CONTEL), and Communications Group Inc. An independent consultant and popular speaker, trainer, author, columnist, and writer, he is the author of the bestselling *Communications Systems and Networks*, published most recently by Wiley and now in its third edition. Mr. Horak teaches seminars around the world on a variety of telecommunications subjects. He also has considerable experience as a consulting technical expert and expert witness in litigation involving patents, copyrights, trademarks, and other intellectual property matters.

Users Review

From reader reviews:

Guadalupe Winn:

Now a day people who Living in the era wherever everything reachable by connect to the internet and the resources inside can be true or not need people to be aware of each info they get. How a lot more to be smart in acquiring any information nowadays? Of course the correct answer is reading a book. Studying a book can help folks out of this uncertainty Information specifically this *Telecommunications and Data Communications Handbook* book because book offers you rich details and knowledge. Of course the knowledge in this book hundred percent guarantees there is no doubt in it you probably know this.

Phyllis Peters:

This Telecommunications and Data Communications Handbook tend to be reliable for you who want to become a successful person, why. The main reason of this Telecommunications and Data Communications Handbook can be among the great books you must have is usually giving you more than just simple reading food but feed anyone with information that possibly will shock your earlier knowledge. This book is usually handy, you can bring it all over the place and whenever your conditions both in e-book and printed people. Beside that this Telecommunications and Data Communications Handbook forcing you to have an enormous of experience such as rich vocabulary, giving you trial run of critical thinking that could it useful in your day activity. So , let's have it appreciate reading.

Harvey Hobbs:

Telecommunications and Data Communications Handbook can be one of your beginning books that are good idea. We recommend that straight away because this reserve has good vocabulary that will increase your knowledge in vocabulary, easy to understand, bit entertaining but still delivering the information. The writer giving his/her effort to get every word into pleasure arrangement in writing Telecommunications and Data Communications Handbook nevertheless doesn't forget the main point, giving the reader the hottest in addition to based confirm resource details that maybe you can be among it. This great information could drawn you into fresh stage of crucial pondering.

James Ames:

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