U.S. Appeals Okays Law Enforcement Use of Stingrays Without Warrants

Police departments will not need search warrants before using Stingrays to obtain tower and cell site information while tracking a suspect’s mobile phone. That’s the 12-3 ruling yesterday from the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals. The court in Richmond, VA held that the Fourth Amendment permits law-enforcement officials access to records created by service providers that show which cell towers mobile phones connect to when they are in use, the Wall Street Journal reported.

With the full bench of the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals voting, the decision allows investigators to get the information under the legal theory that it has been disclosed to third parties — in such instances, telephone companies, Politico said. Continue Reading

Missouri Supreme Court Upholds Two Tower Laws

Local governments are trying to regulate cell towers, but the Missouri Supreme Court said no to two particular ones on May 24. The Columbia Tribune reported that the laws had to deal with capping application fees, limiting the criteria cities can consider and setting deadline for governments to make decisions on towers.

The General Assembly re-enacted the laws in 2014, with the Missouri Municipal league challenging them, but the Supreme Court upheld the law.

NATE Extends Deadline to June 3, for Regional Meeting

If you are looking to get in on the live NATE webinar entitled “Protecting Your Workplace from the Unimaginable: Developing a Prevention and Response Strategy for Workplace Violence and Catastrophic Accidents,” the registration deadline has been extended to June 3. The free, one-hour program features former Secretary of Labor for OSHA, Edwin G.
Foulke, Jr., and will examine the different types of workplace violence. 

May 31, 2016 at Close

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Deutsche Bank Rates American Tower Corp. A ‘Buy’

Deutsche Bank analyst Matthew Niknam maintained his “buy” rating on American Tower Corp. (NYSE: AMT) on May 27 and set a price target of $117. The company’s shares closed down 28 cents at $105.78 yesterday, still close to its 52-week high of $107.24.

TipRanks.com identifies Niknam as a 5-star analyst with an average return of 22.7% and a 76.7% success rate. Niknam covers the Technology sector, focusing on stocks such as Palo Alto Networks, Frontier Comms., and Proofpoint Inc.

Currently, the analyst consensus on American Tower Corp. is Strong Buy and the average price target is $117.33, representing a 10.6% upside

Zoning & Moaning

River Heights, Canada, Residents Hold Dinner Table Meeting Over Tower

Some of the best conversations can happen around a dinner table, and about a dozen residents of River Heights, Canada met to discuss construction of a tower due to be erected near an MTS switching station.

The Winnipeg Free Press reported that earlier this year, 19 residents in the area were notified that MTS planned to erect the tower near their homes. Residents raised concerns about potential health problems, declining property values and aesthetics.

Residents are concerned about the exact location of the tower, and one told the newspaper that MTS is “going against the system to build the tower.” Abigail Mickethwate told the news site: "The MTS-proposed tower goes against Winnipeg's antenna policy recommendations that were actually adopted by the city council on May 27, 2015.” Continue Reading

Lansing, NY Officials Consider Placement of 155’ Verizon Monopole

The Lansing Town Board met on May 18, to consider site options. In April, the Lansing Town Planning Board shared concerns over the tower’s proposed location and height compared to its surroundings. Michael Long, Lansing’s consulting planner, voiced the concern to the Town Board.

Lansing is located in the Finger Lake region of New York State. Verizon has determined five possible sites for the tower at Hillcrest Road, Triphammer Terrace, Auburn Road, Atwater Road, and Route 34, according to lthaca.com.

The planning board is concerned about the fall zone, in the instance the tower were to topple over. The tower may
not be located far enough away from neighboring property lines. The town is negotiating with Verizon to choose a location further from neighboring buildings, or construct a shorter tower. The town is determined to work out a way to construct the tower. Lansing officials agree the town needs another tower to keep up with cell phone and internet use.

**Carrier Coverage**

**Verizon Plans to Deliver Faster Wireless Internet via 5G, Not so Soon**

Verizon recently announced a plan to deploy Internet service using its 5G coverage provided by its cell network, reports nj.com. This plan, which will not be implemented until at least 2020, is designed to deliver Internet service to areas where the company has yet to deploy fiber. This announcement comes after the wireless titan has struggled to hit deadlines it had set to deploy FiOS service, most recently the Philadelphia area as reported by DSL Reports.

According to Verizon’s recent field tests, 5G coverage would provide data rates around 1.8 Gpbs, which is nearly four times faster than Verizon’s current fastest customer plan. Internet service via satellite is not a new concept, as several companies currently deliver Internet access wirelessly. However, Verizon’s 5G Internet service would potentially be much quicker than typical wireless service.

“If you look at 5G in a fixed wireless environment we’ve demonstrated for some of our shareholders in our Basking Ridge facility putting 1.8 gigs into the house without a wire,” Verizon CEO Lowell McAdam said during the recent JP Morgan Technology, Media and Telecom Conference.

Verizon has announced it plans to test the 5G Internet service in three towns in New Jersey, all located near the company’s headquarters.

**Spain’s Cellnex Gets 261 Dutch Towers for $121.3 Million**

Spanish infrastructure operator Cellnex Telecom has announced an agreement to acquire the 261 mobile telecommunications towers in the Netherlands managed by Protelindo Netherlands. Cellnex has signed a purchase agreement with Protelindo Luxembourg and Management Tower Europe for the acquisition of 100 percent of the share capital of Protelindo Netherlands for a total of $121.3 million, Cellnex reported last weekend, said telecompaper.com. The acquisition will provide an expected EBITDA of around $8.9 million in 2017, with a conversion ratio of EBITDA into recurrent levered free cash flow of 90 percent, said Cellnex. The transaction is expected to close within two months.

The deal comes just two weeks after Cellnex said it was considering alternative tower acquisitions in Europe in view...
of the stalled bidding for a stake in Telecom Italia’s tower unit Inwit. The Spanish operator said it entered the Dutch market because of the strong presence of independent telecom infrastructure operators as well as the profusion of networks based on small cells and DAS, according to telecompaper.com. Cellnex last month identified at least five different projects in western Europe that it was in the process of analyzing in depth.

Cellnex is a subsidiary of construction company Abertis, and reported revenues of $183.7 million in the first quarter of 2016, up 41 percent. Before the latest acquisition, Cellnex owned a total of 15,120 towers, including 7,708 in Italy and 7,412 in Spain, with Cellnex Italia contributing 35 percent of total revenues.

**Top Two Telecoms in The Philippines Team to Buy Rival Vega for $1.5 Billion**

Vega Telecom was well on its way to becoming The Philippines’ third biggest telecom operator until last weekend when its parent company, the huge food and drink company San Miguel, accepted the $1.5 billion bid by the country’s two largest telecom operators, Globe and PLDT. The buyers intend to split Vega’s assets 50-50, reported globaltelecomsbusiness.com yesterday. The move comes two and a half months after Telstra ended talks with San Miguel over a possible joint telecoms venture.

While Globe and PLDT will also take over most of the company’s 700MHz spectrum, the government will reportedly take back some of Vega’s spectrum, opening up the possibility that there will be a third rival in the future. The buyers expect to improve their overall coverage from existing cell sites with the added spectrum, the news site reported. [Continue Reading]

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![Tower Calendar]

**IIoT 5G Webinar**

Wednesday, June 1, 10 a.m.

**Smartening up the City**: New technologies promise a breakthrough for efforts to improve urban living.

As the world becomes more and more urban, mayors and municipalities are striving to make their cities smarter. In theory at least, information and communications technologies can keep traffic moving, detect and prevent crime, monitor the condition of roads, lighting, parks and other urban infrastructure and efficiently allocate public resources.

In practice, making existing cities smart is proving hard. Many different stakeholders need to be involved, while sensors, controls and connectivity can be difficult to install in dense urban environments. In response, some cities are now experimenting with low cost, low power Internet of Things technologies that could usher in a new wave of smart city applications. In the medium-term, 5G technologies are also promising to give municipalities access to ultra-reliable, low latency bandwidth. Is the smart city era finally upon us? [Register here.](#)
A monopole in Eveleth, MN contributed by Dexter Coleman

We love the view from the top and the bottom! Email your tower shots.
Don't Forget to Follow us on Instagram!