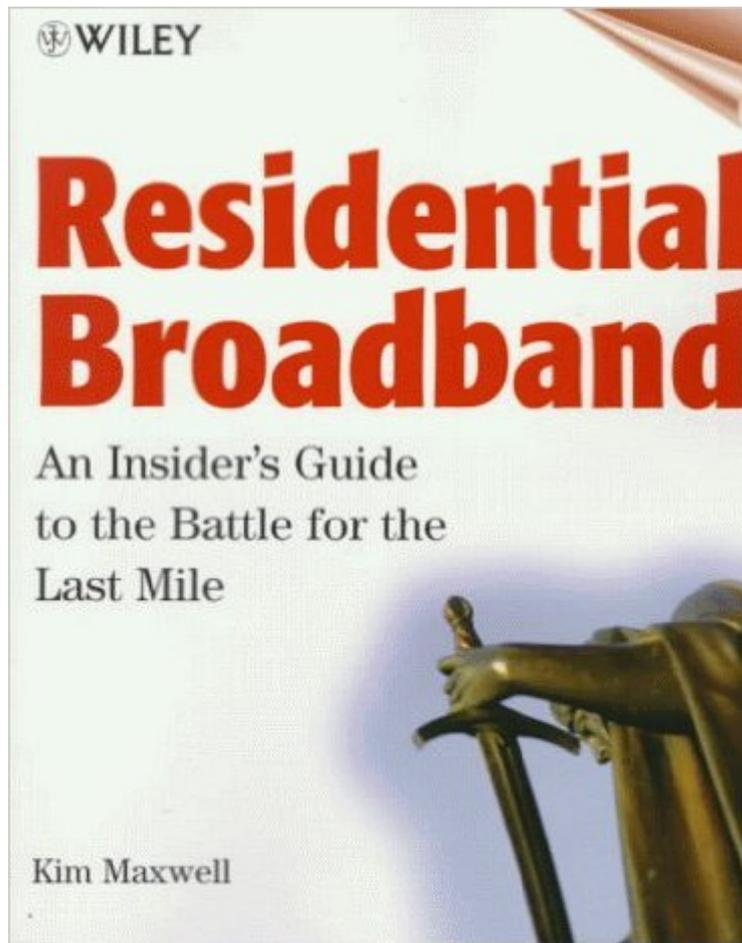


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Residential Broadband: An Insider's Guide To The Battle For The Last Mile



Synopsis

Integrated analysis of the technologies, markets, and business of Residential Broadband In thirty years, the worldwide market for high-speed information services to the home will reach \$1 trillion. This book explains how and why. Beginning with tutorials and a few touches of history to position residential broadband today, this essential guide examines how competing technologies will struggle for supremacy in a chaotic market. It stakes out the battles between ADSL and cable modems, IP and ATM, telephone companies and CATV companies, televisions and personal computers, and professional applications and consumer applications. It does so with reverence for none-some will win and some will lose as the market emerges over the next decade or so. Our guide is Kim Maxwell, an entrepreneur and executive who has spent twenty-five years inventing ways to make communications technologies and markets fit together. His analysis takes some surprising turns: * The Internet will not be the dominant network for residential broadband. * Despite its current power, IP may over time give way to ATM for residential broadband. * Cable modems have the early lead, but the DSL tortoise will catch up. * Fiber to the Home and the Information Superhighway are at least fifteen years away and depend upon HDTV. * Despite regulatory intentions, residential networking will return to a monopoly within thirty years. * Computers and televisions will not converge. * Ethernet will dominate home networking. * Video-on-demand will not be a viable market for at least five years. * In the long run, consumer applications such as shopping and entertainment will dominate the more near-term applications for Internet access and telecommuting. * But, the market can only begin with the personal computer and its natural applications-Internet access and telecommuting.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

Unfortunately, I have to disagree with all the above written customer reviews. The book is the typically product of a cut and paste job trying to fill the 300 + pages. For example, I don't really understand why K.M. (in chapter 3) has to start his 'introduction to networks' with the ancient greeks, where he weaves in all this unexplained vocabulary, such as header, circuit switched, etc. Then, he simply gives a very sloppy overview of any concept remotely connected to network technology. The description of the OSI model is simply false. His attempt to describe the ATM concept (in chapter 4) is confusing. I doubt if anybody, who does not know ATM could make sense out of this. The chapter itself is called 'The networking protocol war' and he tries to sell the reader a showdown between IP vs. ATM. However, he forgets that IP is a protocol and ATM is a switching technology. Above, all he tells the history of the internet (from A-Z) twice. (In Chapter 2 and 3) Most of the information given simply has historic character and is in no way beneficial to understand residential broadband. Here are further highlights: "... the original allocation segmented the address space into three classes- large networks, medium networks and small networks- which precludes sequential address assignment. Thus, we are running out of IP addresses. ..." p.86 So why are we running out of addresses, when there is something like NAT (Network Address Translation) Or this: "Two special cases of network nodes neither route nor switch. ..." p.73 This are just some of the annoying points.

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