AT&T Innovations

AirGig Closer to Initial Commercial Deployment

In order to take the next step towards commercial deployment, we've initiated discussions with technology suppliers to start testing and building commercial-grade Project AirGig equipment. We're also exploring another field trial in which we'll focus on aspects of surface-wave systems, which could provide an important ingredient in a future 5G world.

This is an important next step to scale Project AirGig and bring this technology to many more people and businesses across the country. With 5G around the corner, timing couldn't be better. We think Project AirGig and 5G have a lot of natural synergies, and we plan to test 5G paired with AirGig in the future.

While we don't have a date for commercial deployment of AirGig just yet, we're moving closer to that moment every day. This year, we'll look to expand field trials with our technology supplier with a goal of eventually making gigabit-speed internet as widespread as electricity.

"Three years ago, AT&T revealed breakthroughs by researchers at AT&T Labs that became what we now call Project AirGig. It uses the power grid, which reaches almost every American, to deliver broadband internet," said Andre Fuetsch, President, AT&T Labs and Chief Technology Offer. "We've applied for more than 500 patents for AirGig and conducted field trials both in and outside the United States. And today, we're confident that we're on the cusp of a technology that could potentially help to solve the digital divide in this country."

In 2017, we launched a trial of Project AirGig technology in Georgia with Georgia Power and have been encouraged by the results. In that trial, we provided a fixed wireless application to a number of participating homes. It used a combination of mmWave and LTE spectrum.

These initial results are encouraging for our AirGig R&D team and showed us how this technology can potentially be deployed in suburban and rural neighborhoods on a commercial scale.

Learn more about the [deployment of Project AirGig](#).

The Policy Forum at AT&T