

# **Broadband Networks in Japan**

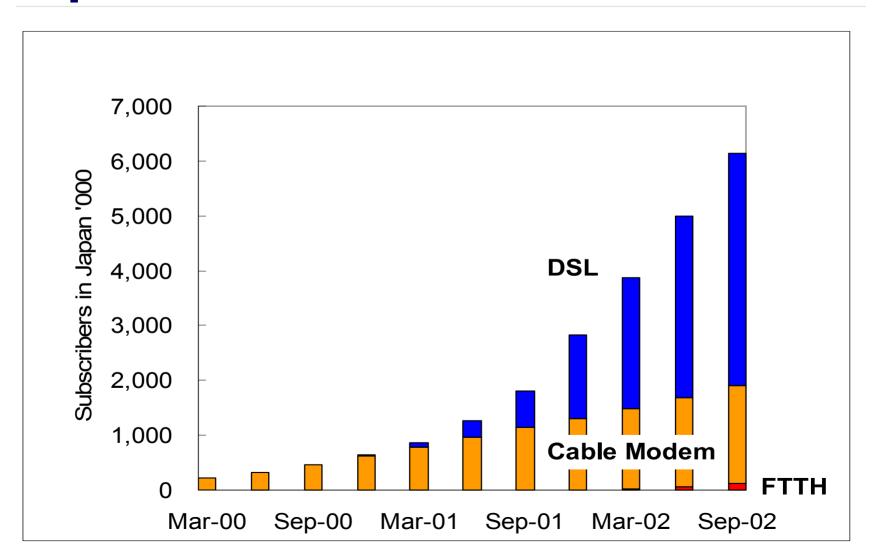
## **Winning Business Models**

USA-Asia Technology Management Center School of Engineering, Stanford University

December 5, 2002

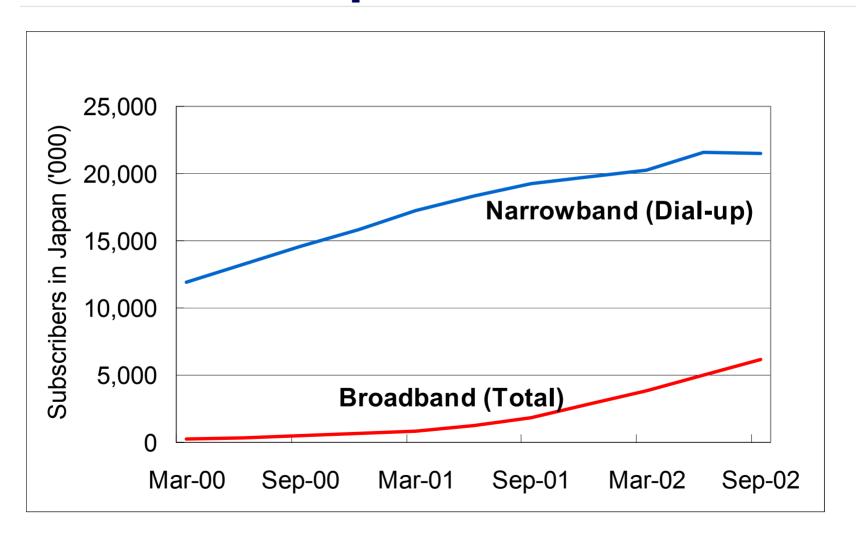


#### **Japan Broadband Networks Fast Growth**





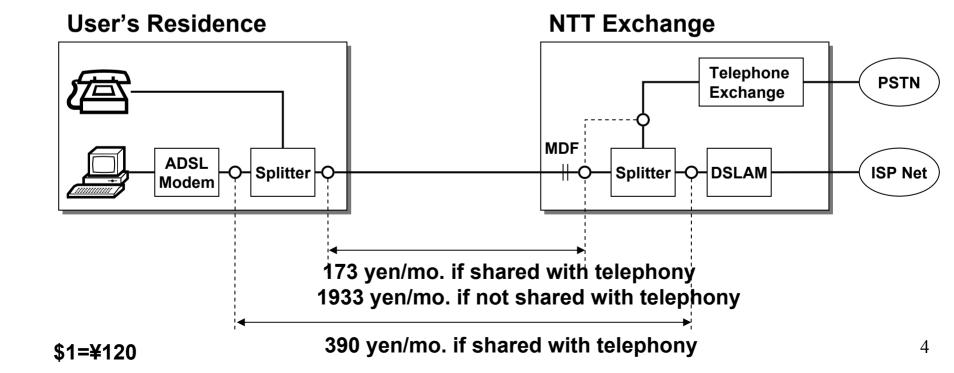
### **More Growth Expected**





## **Why Sudden Growth?**

Spurred by much faster growth of broadband in Korea, the Japanese regulator set low rates for DSL operators to rent the copper local loop from NTT (the incumbent)





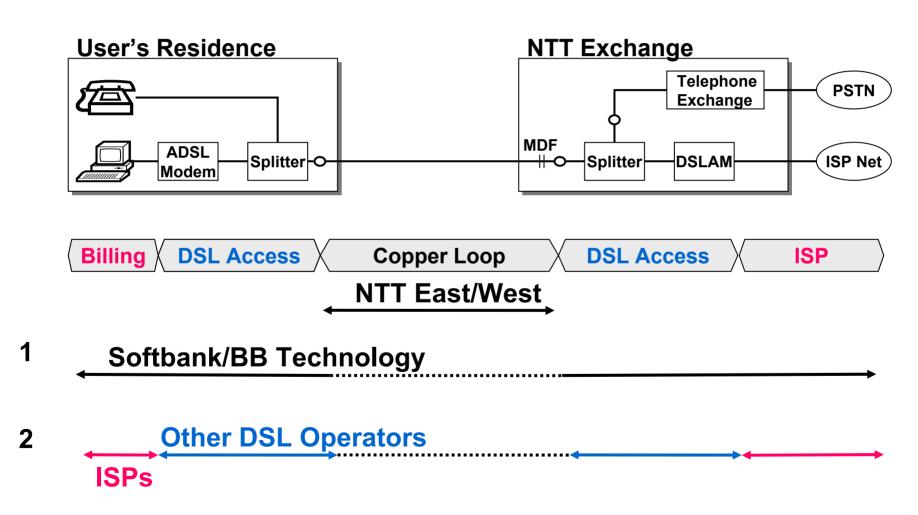
#### **NTT's Fiber is Also Unbundled**

Rates are relatively low, but higher than for the copper local loop:

- Dedicated fiber: 5,217 yen per core per month
- Shared fiber:
  - Passive optical double-star (8x4x) network: 2,327 yen/subscriber/month
  - Media converter based network:
    - With 16:1 concentration: 1,254 yen/circuit/month
    - Without concentration: 1,531 yen/circuit/month



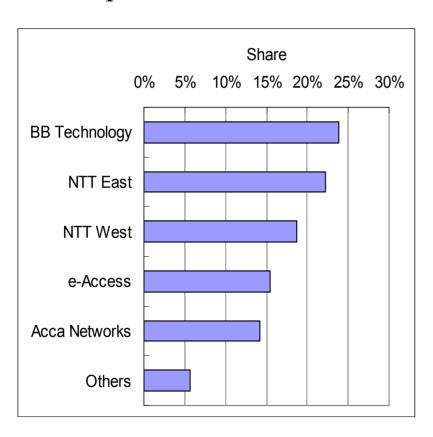
#### Two different DSL business models



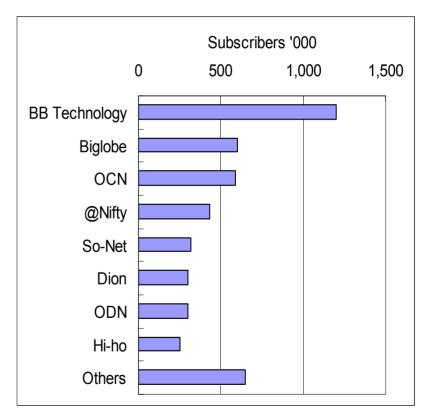


### How is the DSL market share evolving?

#### **DSL** Operator Share



#### ISP Share





### Case Study: BB Technology

BB Technology has changed the basis of competition three times:

- Offered disruptive pricing: 2400 yen/month when other operators were at 5,000 to 6,000 yen/month
- Led with increasing speed: 1.5 to 8 to 12 Mbps
- Added VoIP over DSL service
  - Maintain own phone number
  - Free calls on-net; 2.5 yen/minute to any phone in Japan or US mainland
- Next push is probably to content, business services
- Break-even point: 2 million subscribers, ARPU increasing from 3700 to 4000 yen/month



### **Competitive Response**

ISPs offering broadband service have formed two groups to offer VoIP service, free calls within group

**NEC** Biglobe

**KDDI** DION

Japan Telecom **ODN** 

Matsushita Hi-Ho NTT **OCN** 

Communications

Fujitsu @Nifty

Sony So-net



#### **Probable Result**

Rates for plain old telephony are approaching zero

Frantic move toward higher value added services:

- Business
  - Hosted IP PBX
  - Other SIP-enabled applications
- Consumer
  - Radical improvement of voice service
  - Streaming video
  - Integration with consumer electronics/home networks