



# Meet Me in Seattle

**Editors note:** This is the fifth installment in a series looking at the dominant “meet me” facilities in 10 major North American cities. Author Hunter Newby is chief strategy officer of TELX. Reader suggestions for the final city to be covered in this series should be sent to Hunter at [hnewby@telx.com](mailto:hnewby@telx.com).

By and large, the place many carriers find they “must be” when exchanging traffic in Seattle is The Westin Building, one of the largest “carrier hotels” in the United States. Most interconnect facilities in the area generally are home to no more than seven carriers. The Westin Building, on the other hand, offers access to virtually every carrier in the Pacific Northwest including access to the northbound and eastbound fiber routes.

The Seattle Internet Exchange (SIX) and the Pacific Northwest Gigapop (PNWGP) also are located inside The Westin Building. What makes the Westin Building unique in its market is the original “meet me room” model that has been adopted by the building management to facilitate the thousands of interconnects which take place within the facility.

The MMRs are state of the art areas centrally located within the building that facilitate easy access to new and existing high-rise and low-rise cable risers. The MMRs allow tenant-to-tenant cross connects to occur 24 hours a day at the tenant’s convenience.

These amenities are a key offering that allows for competition of network bandwidth where customers can select from criteria unique to their applications and specifications.

Additionally, the Westin Building offers turnkey telecommunications facilities that allow direct fiber and copper access to the meet me rooms. The Westin Building offers extensive infrastructure including diverse fiber-optic building entrances, multiple fire suppression systems, building condenser water system, building maintained back-up emergency generators, diesel fuel storage, AC & DC power plants, 24 x 7 building attendants, card key access systems and closed circuit TV continuous video recording of all entries.

The management of the Westin Building is solid with more than 100 years of real estate history in Seattle. This, and the commitment

to the telecom industry, is unique and fundamental to its success.

For more information, contact The Westin Building Telecommunications Facility at (206) 443-1800, [TFacility@westinbldg.com](mailto:TFacility@westinbldg.com); or contact Michael Boyle at [MBoyle@westinbldg.com](mailto:MBoyle@westinbldg.com).

## Attributes of Carrier Hotel

Building size	387,823 square feet on 34 floors
Union building	No
Building generator	Building maintained “Essential Power System;” back-up generators provide emergency electrical power for all services.
Generator rooms for tenants	Yes
Roof access	Yes
Tenant conduit rights	Yes
Is there a building meet me room?	Yes, 5 unique rooms
Is this MMR the featured site?	Yes

## Interconnection Guidelines

Can customers order cross connects to any other meet area customer?	Yes
Is the average turnaround time for cross connects 48 hours or less?	Yes
Is on-site technical support available 24/7/365?	Yes
Can customers access the site 24/7/365?	Yes
Can the technicians test and turn up circuits?	Yes
Does the meet area operator perform the cross connect?	No
Can the customer perform the cross connect?	Yes
Are all cross connects tagged and inventoried?	No
Is there a shared fiber panel (MDF, CFDP)?	No
Can the customer bring and install its own fiber distribution panels?	Yes
Is there a shared COAX or copper panel?	No
Can the customer bring and install its own COAX or copper panel?	Yes
Are there monthly recurring charges to cross connect in the meet area?	No
For carriers not in the meet area, the building allows direct point-to-point interconnects at current rates. Rates are based on cable type and number of floors.	
The costs and availability of cabling jobs are suite/floor specific, and bids are based on individual tenant requirements and existing conditions.	

## Attributes of the Interconnect Facility

Facility size	The building maintains in excess of 3,000 sq. ft. of meet me room/interconnect facilities.
Suite	Meet me rooms are located on both 19th and 20th floors.
AC power feed	The Westin Building meet me rooms are passive interconnect rooms. Convenience outlets are located within the facilities for termination and testing equipment.
Generator	See building generator information above; 14 generators in all.
Control system	The building maintains an extensive control and surveillance system for all sensitive areas of the building, utilizing C-cure, Isys, Alerton, Datatrax.
UPS	Multiple facilities throughout the building offer UPS battery and generator back-up power.
DC plant	Multiple DC power plants are located throughout building telecommunications facilities.
HVAC	2,500-ton Condenser Water Loop
Fire suppression	Building maintained pre-action and FM 200 systems are available.

## Carriers at The Westin Building

2alpha	GCI	SBC Internet Services
360networks	Global Crossing	Seimens Medical Solutions
AboveNet Communications, Inc.	Globix Corp.	Semaphore Corporation
Academia Sinica	Go.com	Sense Networking/The River Internet Access Co.
Acumen Associates	Grande Communications	Sentris Network, LLC
Advanced TelCom Group, Inc.	Group Telecom	Shaw Communications, Inc.
Altopia Corporation	Integrated Communications Consultants	SingAREN
Amazon.com, Inc.	Interland	Seattle Internet Exchange
Amerion	InterNap	Sprint Canada
Apollo Communications	ISOMEDIA, Inc.	StarNet, Inc.
Arch Wireless	Jazzie Systems	Swiftdesk
ARINC	King County Institutional Network (I-Net)	Switch and Data
AT&T	Level 3 Communications	Telus
AT&T Broadband/Comcast	Looking Glass Networks	Terabeam
AT&T Canada	McLeod USA	The River Internet Access Co.
Bell Nexxia	Metropolitan Fiber Networks	Time Warner Telecom
Beyond the Network	Microsoft Corp.	Touch America
Broadwing Communications	Nack.Net, Inc.	TSCNet Online Services
Cellular Express	Network OS	Universal Access
CenturyTel, Inc.	Nexion	VarTec Telecom, Inc.
Cidera	Northwest Link	Verizon Northwest, Inc.
CM2.COM, Inc.	Northwest Microwave	Verizon Wireless
Cogent Communications	Northwest Open Access Network	Vision Net, Inc.
COMindico Australia Pty Ltd	NTT/Verio	Washington Dept. of Information Services
Compass Communications Inc.	OneEighty Networks, Inc.	WebUseNet Corp.
Concord Technologies	OneStar	Who's Calling
Connect Northwest Internet Svs.	Pacific Northwest Gigapop	WilTel Communications
Corban Communications	Packet Clearing House	Winstar
Cortland Electronics Corp.	Peer1 Network	WoodyNet
Delta Communications	Pocketinet Communications, Inc.	WorldCom
Digital Marketing	Pointshare Corp.	XO Communications
EarthLink, Inc.	Primus Telecommunications Canada Inc.	Yipes Communications, Inc.
Electric Lightwave, Inc.	Qwest Communications	Zhonka
Epoch Internet	RealNetworks, Inc.	Zocalo
Fisher Communications	RGnet/PSGnet	
Fox Communications, Corp.	Savvis Communications	