Oct. 1, 2012

"Gigabit Libraries Network"

The "Gigabit Libraries Network" (GLN) extends the 5 yr-old "Fiber to the Library" campaign of fiber-connected libraries emerging as community leading technology hubs and as a defining global standard for free, open access to information in any medium.

GLN envisions a global relationship network and open collaboration of gig-ready and "gig-aspiring" libraries and library consortia cooperating as a distributed development, testbed and showcase environment for high performance, high value applications and gear that benefit from big bandwidth in the service of educational, civic and cultural objectives.

Initial project focus areas:
> -- big broadband utilization strategies: (uncompressed) HD streaming, video conferencing, & content development
> -- local collaborations among neighboring school, public and academic librarians
> -- explorations in distributed multi-user virtual (gaming) environments
> -- community technology policy leadership

In the tradition of libraries generally, GLN seeks to serve the widest array of needs and opportunities in education, health, entertainment/cultural exchange, access, public safety, civic engagement, e-gov't. and more. Initiating: (school, public & academic) libraries, library systems and consortia in US, Australia, China, and France.

In the US, GLN offers an optimal metric toward realizing the National Broadband Goal of a gigabit per second connection to local anchor institutions in every community. Further, GLN can add value and increase integration across all US gigabit deployment initiatives: GigU, USIgnite, USUCAN, BTOP, Google FIber, etc.

Participating library systems/consortia to date:

U.S.
   Kansas City "K20-Librarians"
   Chattanooga "K20-Librarians"
   Cuyahoga County, OH Public
   Delaware State
   Santa Monica, CA Public
   San Rafael, CA Public
Australia
   Queensland State
China
   Shanghai Pudong Society of Library Science
France
   Châtellerault Public

Contact: info@DigitalVillage.com