



DAVID HOLSTON | HPE

Andy Thomas (left) and Rob Bryerton with X1 Communications inspect the wireless Internet receiver on the roof of the International Home Furnishings Center. The Receiver is pointed toward Winston-Salem, which can be seen peeking over the left horizon.

Internet hookup gets boost at market

BY BARBARA ARNTSEN
ENTERPRISE STAFF WRITER

HIGH POINT – Getting high-speed Internet access just got easier for market visitors.

Andy Thomas, Rob Bryerton and Tom Laydon, of X1 Communications, are providing the wireless connections without requiring long-term contracts.

"We want the market to keep coming here," Thomas said. "And this is something we thought we could provide."

The company, based in the Winston Tower Building in Winston-Salem, has what Thomas calls a "rare relationship with Time Warner Cable."

Laydon says the cable company works with X1 to get the circuits off and on in a short period of time.

"It's unusual," Laydon said. "For market they are boosting up to 35 megabytes per second, which is unheard of."

X1 is broadcasting off the International Home Furnishings Center because it's the tallest building in High Point.

Thomas said he was concerned about all the other things that were trying to pull the market away from High Point.

"We want to keep them coming here, and they didn't need monthly contracts when they're only going to be here for a week or two," he said.

Thomas said the Las Vegas market had new buildings, and was "up to speed with the latest technology."

"But we had a lot of obstacles, and unfortunately the phone company has been a big obstacle," he said.

Though X1 has primarily been serving the Winston-Salem market, Laydon said the company is ready to expand into High Point.

"Right now, we're working on market connections, but we're ready to connect High Point," he said.

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