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Altri autori (Persone)	GumasteAshwin Chlamtaclmrich SzaboCsaba (Csaba A.)
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3.1 Introduction; 3.2 E-education applications; 3.2.1 Virtual classrooms; 3.2.2 Web-based learning; 3.2.3 Technology of e-education; 3.3 Telemedicine applications; 3.3.1 What is telemedicine? 3.3.2 Overview of telemedicine applications 3.3.3 Requirements when transmitting medical diagnostic information; 3.3.4 Videoconferencing in telemedicine; 3.3.5 How does society benefit from telemedicine?; 3.4 E-government applications; 3.4.1 Overview; 3.4.2 Providing access to e-government services; 3.5 Summary; Part Two Business Models; 4 Key Legal and Regulatory Issues Affecting Community Broadband Projects in the United States; 4.1 Introduction; 4.2 The benefits of public fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) systems; 4.3 Burdens and risks of public broadband systems
4.4 Legal authority of public entities to provide communication services 4.4.1 Federal law encourages, but does not affirmatively empower, local governments to provide communications services; 4.4.2 State laws affecting the authority of public entities to provide communications services; 4.4.3 Local restrictions; 4.5 Involvement models and structures; 4.6 Other considerations; 4.7 Federal regulatory issues; 4.7.1 Key definitions; 4.7.2 Implications of key definitions; 4.7.3 Access to incumbent network elements under Section 251(c)(3); 4.7.4 Pole attachments; 4.7.5 Universal service
4.7.6 Other important federal provisions 4.8 State regulatory issues; 4.8.1 Certification; 4.8.2 Tariffs; 4.8.3 Annual reports; 4.8.4 Universal service and other contributions; 4.8.5 Regulatory fees; 4.8.6 Interconnection agreements; 4.9 Summary; 5 European Telecommunication Law and Community Networks; 5.1 Introduction; 5.2 Historical background; 5.2.1 The liberalization period; 5.2.2 The harmonization effort; 5.3 The New Regulatory Framework; 5.3.1 Liberalization; 5.3.2 National Regulatory Authorities; 5.3.3 General authorization; 5.3.4 Access and interconnection; 5.3.5 Universal service 5.3.6 Radio local area networks

Sommario/riassunto

Access to the Internet is an increasing problem in many areas of the world. As the popularity and usefulness of the Internet increases on a daily basis, lack of access to the technology is putting many groups at a disadvantage in terms of better education, better jobs and even in terms of higher levels of civic participation. However, creating a network infrastructure to serve outlying communities and sectors of the population is not straight-forward. This book brings together all the aspects of the problem - technical, regulatory and economic - into one volume to provide a comprehensive
