

# WEEKLY FLASH

## Council Leading Major Telecom Infrastructure Revamp

We are gathering some of our largest employers – including Apple, AT&T, Cisco, Comcast, Hewlett-Packard, IBM, Nortel, Oracle and Verizon Wireless – plus the region’s largest governments – including the cities of San Jose, San Francisco, Oakland and the Association of Bay Area Governments – on Monday July 9, 2007 to begin charting out a major rework of the Bay Area’s telecommunications infrastructure. A recent study by the international Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development found that in terms of percentage of homes connected via broadband, the United States ranks 24th, behind countries such as Estonia. In addition, many other countries have broadband speeds that are 10- or even 50-times faster than what is generally available in the Bay Area. The meeting will be guided by a keynote presentation by Scott McNealy, Chairman and Co-Founder of Sun Microsystems, plus a [report](#) by the Bay Area Council that reviews what other regions have done to improve their infrastructure.



## New China Committee Starting Up: Open to Members

This April, the Bay Area Council signed a [Memorandum of Understanding](#) with the Yangtze Council (representing the Shanghai region of China), to increase ties between the two economic mega-regions in the areas of high tech, biotechnology, green technology, trade and logistics. This was an historic first step in an ongoing effort by the Council to expand and formalize our region’s global connections. We are now ready to take the next step with a formal “China Committee.” If you or a company representative would like to participate in the Bay Area Council's China Committee, please RSVP to William Robison, VP of Global Initiatives at [wrobison@bayareacouncil.org](mailto:wrobison@bayareacouncil.org).



## Take the Green Challenge on Saturday, July 7

Bay Area Council member employees can volunteer for environmental projects on July 7 to coincide with the LiveEarth concert. The Volunteer Centers of the Bay Area, led by Volunteer Center Silicon Valley, will launch a three year initiative, the Bay Area Citizen Climate Action Partnership called The Green Challenge 07-09. There will be 6 activities in 4 different locations. To learn more visit: [www.GreenChallenge07-09.org](http://www.GreenChallenge07-09.org).

## Article of the Week

As usual, blogger Bill Bradley cuts through to the heart of the Governor/California-Air-Resources-Board/Global-Warming-Solutions-Act-implementation-debate fracas in [this post](#).

## Quote of the Week

*“We see that corporations act and plan globally, and it's time for workers to act and plan globally to protect our interests.”* - Maria Elena Durazo, head of the L.A. County Labor Federation [announcing the first formal relationship](#) between U.S. and Chinese labor groups.

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