

# China to push triple-play broadband in '06

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China plans to stoke the development of triple-play broadband service in the People's Republic next year.

A Ministry of Information official told a conference in Beijing this week that the infrastructure needed to support triple-play data, voice and video services would be strengthened in the Five-Year Plan for telecom that begins in 2006.

The People's Daily noted Friday that the government's emphasis in 2005 was on Internet Protocol Television and universal phone service; however, with more Chinese hooking up to broadband, there will be a new push for next-generation Internet services.

Ministry official Lei Zhenzhou told the audience that the course change was possible because of the rapid build-up of telephone service in rural areas.

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