

## AT&T to invest \$14 bn in US networks

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Shoppers pass an AT&T phone store at the Mall of America in Bloomington, Minnesota. AT&T on Wednesday announced a \$14 billion plan over three years to upgrade its networks, much of it to boost wireless high-speed Internet in the United States.

AT&T on Wednesday announced a \$14 billion plan over three years to upgrade its networks, much of it to boost wireless high-speed Internet in the United States.

The telecom giant said around \$8 billion will help boost capacities for so-

called 4G or fourth generation [wireless](#) networks, using Long-Term Evolution LTE technology, which delivers fast Internet connections for [mobile](#) devices.

Another \$6 billion will go to wireline services including fiber-optic lines which deliver Internet and other services.

"This is a major commitment to invest in 21st century communications infrastructure for the [United States](#) and bring high-speed Internet connectivity—4G LTE mobile and wireline IP broadband—to millions more Americans," said Randall Stephenson, AT&T chairman and chief executive.

"We have the opportunity to improve AT&T's revenue growth and cost structure for years to come, and create substantial value for shareowners."

The company plans to expand its 4G LTE [network](#) to cover 300 million people in the United States by the end of 2014, serving some 99 percent of its customers.

AT&T said it would also be moving to get more spectrum to ease the crunch on wireless data from a surge in the number of mobile devices like smartphones.

The U-verse service offered by AT&T which includes TV, Internet and voice will be expanded to cover as many as 33 million customers by 2015.

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