

Monday, June 16, 2008 - 12:57 PM EDT

RCN Metro Optical Networks expands to downtown Chicago

Washington Business Journal - by [Tierney Plumb](#) Staff Reporter

RCN Metro Optical Networks, a fiber optic-based network provider, expanded its capabilities to the heart of Chicago to facilitate connectivity between business customers.

"It offers high-capacity transport services to them, not only in the Chicago market, but connectivity back to other parts of the market, including D.C. and lesser known locations like Ashburn and Baltimore," said Maura Mahoney, senior director of marketing for RCN Metro.

The division of Herndon-based RCN Corp. completed the build of a fiber ring in downtown Chicago to light 80 buildings, many in the financial services industry and larger carrier hotels, to augment the existing fiber network it has in the area.

New York-based RCN Metro added its line of products, which includes wavelength services, IP transit and network management services, to the area. With the expansion, RCN Metro will add an additional 100 Gigabits of overall network capacity in the market.

In March, RCN Metro launched its fiber ring, encompassing over 3,000 fiber miles, in Center City, Philadelphia.

RCN Corporation (NASDAQ: RCNI), which sells Internet, phone and cable services in several cities, experienced a 17 percent revenue increase in the first quarter to \$179.8 million, compared to \$153.3 million in the year-ago period.