

5G Buildout Raises the Stakes For Advanced Pole Management



North American carriers have already started to jockey for 5G cellular service dominance. Because 5G requires dense cell coverage – up to one cell every 820 feet – the buildout boom could prove extremely lucrative for owners of pole infrastructures.

Unfortunately, many pole owners face a big obstacle: **outdated utility pole infrastructure asset management systems.**

5G network infrastructure spend, 2018:
\$528 million¹

5G network infrastructure spend, 2022:
\$26 billion¹

Number of 5G connections in North America, 2021:
32 million²

Number of 5G connections in North America, 2023:
186 million²

Average annual pole space lease rate, wired comms:
\$17.58³

Average annual pole space lease rate, wireless comms:
\$505.56³

Total utility poles in service in the U.S.:
160-180 million⁴

Average service life, wood utility poles:
30-40 years⁵

Average service life, steel utility poles:
65-100 years⁵

Number of decommissioned wood poles sent to landfills per year:
25,000⁵

SOURCES:

¹IDC

²5G Americas

³Center for Technology, Innovation, and Competition, University of Pennsylvania Law School

⁴Utility Products

⁵SCS Global Services



Atonix Digital™ distributed asset management solutions help simplify the management of utility pole infrastructures – from planning and installation through maintenance, structural integrity, and leasing – for utilities, telecom service providers, and others.

To learn more about **Atonix Digital** and our **Utility Pole Infrastructure Management** solutions, visit:



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