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Unfortunately, many pole owners face a big obstacle: **outdated utility pole infrastructure asset management systems.**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 Buildout Raises the Stakes For Advanced Pole Management**

5G network infrastructure spend, 2018: 
$528 million\(^1\)

5G network infrastructure spend, 2022: 
$26 billion\(^1\)

Number of 5G connections in North America, 2021: 
32 million\(^2\)

Number of 5G connections in North America, 2023: 
186 million\(^2\)

Average annual pole space lease rate, wired comms: 
$17.58\(^3\)

Average annual pole space lease rate, wireless comms: 
$505.56\(^3\)

Total utility poles in service in the U.S.: 
160-180 million\(^4\)

Average service life, wood utility poles: 
30-40 years\(^5\)

Average service life, steel utility poles: 
65-100 years\(^5\)

Number of decommissioned wood poles sent to landfills per year: 
25,000\(^5\)

**SOURCES:**

1. 5G Americas
2. Center for Technology, Innovation, and Competition, University of Pennsylvania Law School
3. Utility Products
4. SCS 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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