



# FIBER DEEP/ LAST MILE PLANS

There's no question that cable operators see installing more fiber in their plant as crucial to their ambitions to boost bandwidth capacity, offer new, more advanced broadband and video services and improve the user experience for their subscribers. There's also no question that operators have already started extending fiber deeper into their HFC networks to at least some degree. Instead, the big questions now facing cable providers involve how far they intend to extend the fiber, which DAA option they aim to pursue in conjunction with that extension, which challenges they see as the biggest ones standing in their way and how they plan to overcome those hurdles. Accordingly, this section of our report covers a key aspect of cable operators' fiber buildout strategies: the ways in which they will actually carry out those strategies.

## KEY TAKEAWAYS:



**Nearly 87% of cable respondents** say their company has already started extending fiber deeper into the access network or plans to start doing so by the end of this year.



**Over one-third of cable respondents (nearly 36%)** say their company aims to go all the way to a fiber-to-the-home (FTTH) architecture, while another 29% say their company will go to a node-plus-zero (N+0) architecture.



**Slightly more than half of cable respondents (53%)** say their company is pursuing the Remote PHY option of DAA, while 40% are pursuing Remote MAC/PHY and 33% are pursuing a virtualized CCAP course. (Cable operators can pursue more than one option at a time.)



**Cable respondents view fiber availability and expense as the greatest hurdle to going Fiber Deep.** Civil and real estate permitting come in a strong second, followed by the cost of digital fiber nodes.