With bandwidth demand at an all-time high, now is the time to get familiar with the new solutions that will increase network capacity and keep subscribers connected. Here are the technologies you should have on your radar this year.

**Mid and High-Split**

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**Distributed access architectures**

The rise of video conferencing, telehealth, and video sharing is accelerating the need to allocate more spectrum to the upstream. Look for the mid and high-split to come on strong this year.

**Virtual data and video core**

Cloud-based applications, mobile backhaul, and increased utilization are driving traffic in both the upstream and downstream. PON is a great option in 2021 for operators that need to support symmetrical, multi-gigabit services.

**Virtual management plane**

In 2021, we’ll start to see today’s rigid, hardware-based headend infrastructure evolve to a more dynamic virtualized architecture. For operators, that means more flexibility and lower costs.

**Extended spectrum DOCSIS**

With the release of the DOCSIS 6.0 specification in 2020, operators turned their attention to extending the spectrum available at the headend to increase capacity, optimize the headend, and prepare for virtualization.

**INCREASE SERVICE SYMMETRY**

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**Evolution**

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**4X FASTER THAN WI-FI 5**

For some subscribers, a low ping means everything. That’s why low-latency DOCSIS is so exciting. It promises a round-trip delay as low as 5 ms for latency-sensitive AR, VR, gaming, telemedicine, and financial applications.