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Transcript of 2022 Brooklyn 6G Wireless Summit,
Pioneer Award

Tom Wheeler

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P A R T I C I P A N T S

Joe Madden, Mobile Experts, Inc.
Ted Rappaport, NYU Wireless
Peter Vetter, Nokia Bell Labs Core Research
Tom Wheeler, Award Recipient

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P R O C E E D I N G S

JOE MADDEN: Well, thank you, everyone, for a great panel.

And -- and now I'd like to turn to a special part of our program. I'd like to bring Peter Vetter and Dr. Ted Rappaport up to the stage, and they have a special award to present.

Peter? Ted?

TED RAPPAPORT: Thank you, very much, Joe, and thank you for doing such a great job emceeing this second Brooklyn 6G Summit.

It's a pleasure to be here with you, Peter, for this very special time in each of our summits to present an award -- a Pioneer's Award to someone very special; isn't it?

PETER VETTER: Yeah, indeed. Also, this year, we're going to announce a -- a great award on behalf of Nokia Bell Labs. It's -- it's -- it's really an honor to do this every year, the Brooklyn 6G Summit Pioneer Award.

TED RAPPAPORT: Yeah. And, you know, we've had three amazing technology leaders who

4

have really changed the entire planet in the world of wireless -- our past three awardees. But this year's award winner, Tom Wheeler, is really a visionary and someone who has had a hand in public policy that has made not just 5G and wireless happen, but played a huge role in the cable industry and the very early days of the cellular industry.

Tom and I are going to have a wonderful fireside chat in just a minute. But, right now, Peter, why don't you present this Brooklyn 6G Summit Pioneer Award to a true pioneer, Tom Wheeler.

PETER VETTER: Thanks, Ted. So as you already said, it's a very prestigious award. Only three. We started to -- to do this back in 2018 in -- at the Brooklyn Summit with Marty Cooper, then we had Irwin Jacobs, and then last year Professor Paulraj.

So Tom Wheeler is now joining this very selective crowd for impact for work in the telecommunications industry for the past four

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1 decades.
2 Very befitting to the Brooklyn Summit
3 and to NYU, I want to highlight his work at the
4 FCC to open up the spectrum for cellular
5 electrodes above the 24 GHz range. That is
6 really an important milestone for the 5G era.
7 This is the first time in the industry that
8 millimeter wave spectrum could be used for
9 access.
10 But he's also an important
11 entrepreneur. He helped start up many
12 companies, started his own companies many times
13 in cable, in wireless, in video communications.
14 And he's actually -- interesting to know -- the
15 only person that has been inducted both in the
16 Cable Television Hall of Fame and in the
17 Wireless Hall of Fame, something that President
18 Obama joked about when he said: He's the Bo
19 Jackson of the telecom industry.
20 And I don't know what President Obama
21 would say about now adding the Brooklyn Pioneer
22 Award, but I can say on behalf of all my

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1 colleagues at Nokia and Bell Labs, a -- a warm
2 congratulations with this award, Tom Wheeler.
3 TED RAPPAPORT: Congratulations, Tom.
4 Well-deserved, and thank you for being this
5 year's Brooklyn 6G Summit Pioneer Award winner.
6 TOM WHEELER: Well, Peter and Ted,
7 thank you very much. I mean, what a great
8 honor. And, I mean, my goodness, to be
9 mentioned in the same breath with Marty and
10 Irwin and -- and Paul is -- is a huge honor in
11 and of itself. But to be recognized by leaders
12 like you and the job that you've been doing at
13 the Brooklyn 6G Summit is -- is a great honor,
14 and I'm -- I appreciate it very much.
15 And, Ted, I look forward to -- to our
16 visit in a few minutes.
17 TED RAPPAPORT: Yes. Thank you very
18 much.
19 Peter, we'll be sending Tom his very
20 special customized Brooklyn 6G Summit Award via
21 Express Mail in a few days. But it's really
22 wonderful, I think, for this Summit, which

7

1 really led the way to 5G back in 2014 when Nokia
2 and NYU teamed up. It's wonderful to have the
3 FCC commissioner who, at that time, allowed the
4 entire industry to finally move out of the
5 basement, below 2 GHz and 3 GHz, and move up to
6 the millimeter wave.
7 Tom, thank you so much for being here
8 and for accepting the Brooklyn 6G Summit Pioneer
9 Award. Congratulations.
10 TOM WHEELER: Thank you, Ted.
11 And, you know, if we have a correct
12 record here, Ted, we should make sure that when
13 -- when we did the millimeter wave proceeding,
14 we should make sure that this record shows that
15 in the specific citations of that order, we
16 referenced your work on why this was possible.
17 So to receive this award from the father of
18 millimeter wave is itself terrific.
19 TED RAPPAPORT: Thank you.
20 Peter, final last words?
21 PETER VETTER: Again, well-deserved.
22 The importance of -- of the milestone and for

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1 all the work, Tom Wheeler, that you have done
2 for the industry, thank you and congratulations
3 again.
4 (The recording was concluded.)
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A

ability 9:11
about 5:18, 5:21
above 5:5
accepting 7:8
access 5:9
accurate 9:5, 9:9
actually 5:14
adding 5:21
again 7:21, 8:3
all 5:22, 8:1
allowed 7:3
already 4:15
also 3:16, 5:10
amazing 3:22
announce 3:17
any 9:13
appreciate 6:14
april 1:8
available 9:6
award 1:4, 2:5, 3:7, 3:14, 3:18, 3:20, 4:3, 4:12, 4:15, 5:22, 6:2, 6:5, 6:20, 7:9, 7:17, 9:5, 9:22
awardees 4:2

B

b6gs 9:22
back 4:16, 7:1
basement 7:5
been 5:15, 6:12
befitting 5:2
behalf 3:18, 5:22
being 6:4, 7:7
bell 2:4, 3:18, 6:1
below 7:5
best 9:10
bo 5:18
both 5:15
breath 6:9
bring 3:5
brooklyn 1:3, 3:11, 3:20, 4:12, 4:17, 5:2, 5:21, 6:5, 6:13, 6:20, 7:8

C

cable 4:7, 5:13, 5:16
case 9:13
cellular 4:8, 5:4
certificate 9:1
certify 9:3
changed 4:1
channels 1:10, 9:7
chat 4:10
citations 7:15
colleagues 6:1
commissioner 7:3
communications 1:10, 5:13, 9:7
companies 5:12
concluded 8:4
congratulations 6:2, 6:3, 7:9, 8:2
cooper 4:18
core 2:4
correct 7:11
could 5:8
counsel 9:12
crowd 4:21
customized 6:20

D

days 4:7, 6:21
decades 5:1
doing 3:10, 6:12
done 8:1
dr 3:6

E

each 3:13
early 4:7
electrodes 5:5
emceeing 3:11
employed 9:12
entire 4:1, 7:4
entrepreneur 5:11
era 5:6
esther 1:22, 9:2, 9:19
every 3:19
everyone 3:3
experts 2:2
express 6:21

F

fame 5:16, 5:17
father 7:17
fcc 5:4, 7:3
few 6:16, 6:21
final 7:20
finally 7:4
financial 9:14
fireside 4:10
first 5:7
foregoing 9:4
forward 6:15

four
4:22

G

ghz
5:5, 7:5
going
3:17, 4:9
goodness
6:8
great
3:3, 3:10, 3:17, 6:7, 6:13

H

hall
5:16, 5:17
hand
4:5
happen
4:6
helped
5:11
here
3:12, 7:7, 7:12
hereby
9:2
highlight
5:3
honor
3:19, 6:8, 6:10, 6:13
https
9:7
huge
4:6, 6:10

I

ieee
1:10, 9:7
ieeetv
9:7
ieetv
1:10
impact
4:21
importance
7:22
important
5:6, 5:10
inc
2:2
indeed
3:16
inducted
5:15
industry
4:7, 4:8, 4:22, 5:7, 5:19, 7:4, 8:2
interest
9:14
interesting
5:14
irwin
4:18, 6:10
itself
6:11, 7:18

J

jackson
5:19
jacobs
4:18
job
1:20, 3:10, 6:12
joe
2:2, 3:2, 3:10
joining
4:20
joked
5:18

K

know
3:21, 5:14, 5:20, 7:11
knowledge
9:11

L

labs
2:4, 3:18, 6:1
last
4:18, 7:20
leaders
3:22, 6:11
led
7:1
look
6:15

M

madden
2:2, 3:2
made
4:5
mail
6:21
make
7:12, 7:14
many
5:11, 5:12
marty
4:17, 6:9
mean
6:7, 6:8
mentioned
6:9
milestone
5:6, 7:22
millimeter
5:8, 7:6, 7:13, 7:18
minute
4:10
minutes
6:16
mobile
2:2
move
7:4, 7:5
much
3:9, 6:7, 6:14, 6:18, 7:7

N

neither
9:12
nokia
2:4, 3:18, 6:1, 7:1
nyu
2:3, 5:3, 7:2

O

obama
5:18, 5:20
october
9:20, 9:21
only
4:16, 5:15
open
5:4
order
7:15
org
1:10, 9:7
otherwise
9:14
out
7:4
outcome
9:15
own
5:12

P

pages
1:21
panel
3:3
part
3:5
parties
9:13
past
4:2, 4:22
paul
6:10
paulraj
4:19
person
5:15
peter
2:4, 3:6, 3:8, 3:13, 3:16, 4:11, 4:14, 6:6, 6:19, 7:20, 7:21
pioneer
1:4, 3:20, 4:12, 4:13,

5:21, 6:5, 7:8, 9:22
pioneer's 3:14
pioneer-award-to-m-wheeler--b6gs--virtual 1:11, 9:8
planet 4:1
played 4:6
pleasure 3:12
policy 4:5
possible 7:16
present 3:7, 3:14, 4:11
presentation 9:6
president 5:17, 5:20
prestigious 4:15
proceeding 7:13, 9:4
proceedings 9:10
produced 9:3
professor 4:19
program 3:5
public 4:5

R

range 5:5
rappaport 2:3, 3:6, 3:9, 3:21, 6:3, 6:17, 7:19
really 3:19, 4:1, 4:4, 5:6, 6:21, 7:1
receive 7:17
recipient 2:5
recognized 6:11
record 7:12, 7:14, 9:10
recording 8:4
referenced 7:16
related 9:12
research 2:4
rev 9:21
right 4:11
role 4:6

S

said 4:15, 5:18, 9:9
same 6:9
say 5:21, 5:22
second 3:11
selective 4:21
sending 6:19
should 7:12, 7:14
shows 7:14
signature-1apgj 9:17
skills 9:11
someone 3:15, 4:4
something 5:17
special 3:5, 3:7, 3:13, 3:15, 6:20
specific 7:15
spectrum 5:4, 5:8
stage 3:7
start 5:11
started 4:16, 5:12
summit 1:3, 3:11, 3:20, 4:12, 4:17, 5:2, 6:5, 6:13, 6:20, 6:22, 7:8
summits 3:14
sure 7:12, 7:14

T

taylor 1:22, 9:2, 9:19
teamed 7:2
technology 3:22
ted 2:3, 3:6, 3:8, 3:9, 3:21, 4:14, 6:3, 6:6, 6:15, 6:17, 7:10, 7:12, 7:19
telecom 5:19
telecommunications 4:22
television 5:16
terrific 7:18
thank 3:2, 3:9, 3:10, 6:4, 6:7, 6:17, 7:7, 7:10, 7:19, 8:2
thanks 4:14
think 6:22
three 3:22, 4:2, 4:16
time 3:13, 5:7, 7:3
times 5:12
tom 1:6, 2:5, 4:3, 4:9, 4:13, 4:20, 6:2, 6:3, 6:6, 6:19, 7:7, 7:10, 8:1
transcribed 1:22
transcriber 9:1
transcript 1:3, 9:3, 9:4, 9:9
transcription 9:5
true 4:12, 9:5, 9:9
turn 3:4

V

vetter 2:4, 3:6, 3:16, 4:14, 7:21
via 6:20
video 5:13, 9:6
virtual 9:22
visionary 4:4
visit 6:16

W

want
5:3
warm
6:1
wave
5:8, 7:6, 7:13, 7:18
way
7:1
we'll
6:19
we're
3:17
we've
3:22
well-deserved
6:4, 7:21
wheeler
1:6, 2:5, 4:3, 4:13, 4:20, 6:2, 6:6, 7:10, 8:1
winner
4:3, 6:5
wireless
1:3, 2:3, 4:2, 4:6, 5:13, 5:17
wonderful
4:10, 6:22, 7:2
words
7:20
work
4:21, 5:3, 7:16, 8:1
world
4:2

Y

yeah
3:16, 3:21
year
3:17, 3:20, 4:19
year's
4:3, 6:5

2

20
9:20
2014
7:1
2018
4:17
2022
1:3, 1:8, 1:11, 9:8, 9:22
2025
9:20, 9:21
23
9:21
24
5:5
25
9:20
27
1:8

5

5g
4:5, 5:6, 7:1

6

604907
1:20, 9:22
6g
1:3, 3:11, 3:20, 4:12, 6:5, 6:13, 6:20, 7:8