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Internet broadens its horizons through Wideband

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Dozens of gamers can escape the real world and battle it all on a global stage at [Tek Republik](#).

But in order for gamers to have that unique experience, they need a fast and stable connection. With the launch of Time Warner Cable's new service called [Wideband](#), the user can have speeds of up to up to 50 megabits per second. That's up from the previous 20 megabits per second.

Offline, the average gamer can finish a game like Call of Duty in about a month. Taking the game online, there's virtually an unlimited amount of opponents to play against.

"Well, no matter what time of day it was, you could find someone to play with anywhere in the world," Tek Republik Owner Chris Tom said. "You want a good net connection that's stable. You want it to have what's called low ping, so that the data travels quickly back and forth because if you're shooting at a guy and your ping is high, then you're going to miss him."

The Wideband service allows for multiple people to run programs at the same time all using the same connection.

"Maybe someone is downloading video, another person is downloading games online, a third person is checking email, they can do all those things at the same time without losing quality," Time Warner Cable spokesperson Ryan Kelly said. "It's probably 70 times faster than your normal DSL product."

Lifelong gamer Tom said he's getting the new Wideband service installed in his home.

"It looks like it will be a good technology. It's rolling out pretty quickly," he said.

He hopes the new Internet service can keep up with the demands of his ever-changing technology.

The new Wideband service is expected to add about \$100 per month to your bill if you already have Time Warner Cable.

Grande also offers the service at speeds that peak out at 110 megabits per second. It costs about \$110 per month and is only available in certain areas of the city.