Bridging the Enterprise AI Gap

How Solstice Data and Lumen are bringing real-time AI closer to where enterprises operate

Solstice Data

www.solstice-data.com

- AI infrastructure company focused on helping enterprises move from experimentation to real-world AI deployment
- Focused on industries including healthcare, manufacturing, automotive, and robotics where milliseconds can matter
- Building a new category of metro-first AI infrastructure that brings compute closer to enterprise demand

Challenges

- Enterprises increasingly need AI infrastructure capable of supporting real-time inference workloads.
- Traditional hyperscale environments are optimized for training, not low-latency applications.
- Building metro-adjacent infrastructure introduces complexity across connectivity, site readiness, and expansion planning.

Solutions

- **Lumen® Wavelength Services** Dedicated 100G connectivity supporting Solstice's metro-first AI infrastructure strategy
- **Lumen® High-Speed IP (HSIP)** Scalable internet connectivity designed for production-grade AI workloads.
- **Diverse-Route Network Architecture** Resilient connectivity engineered for high-capacity AI deployments.

Results

- Production-ready foundation for real-time AI deployment.
- Low-latency infrastructure designed for enterprise inference workloads.
- Repeatable metro-first model supporting future expansion.
- Connectivity backbone enabling the next generation of enterprise AI



Solstice Data

Real-Time Inference

Built for workloads where milliseconds matter

Metro-First Infrastructure

Designed to bring AI production closer to demand

Scalable Expansion

A blueprint for infrastructure market after market

LUMEN®

Challenge

Bringing AI closer to where decisions are made

For more than a century, Detroit has been a place where innovation takes shape. From automotive manufacturing to advanced engineering, the city helped build industries that changed how people live and work. Today, it stands at the center of another transformation. As enterprises race to operationalize artificial intelligence, many are discovering a growing gap between AI's potential and its practical application. While hyperscale providers have built massive environments designed to train AI models, organizations in healthcare, manufacturing, robotics, and transportation increasingly need AI closer to where decisions are made and outcomes happen.

Solstice Data recognized this challenge as the Enterprise Missing Middle. Real-time AI inference requires infrastructure positioned near the people, facilities, and operations it supports. In environments where milliseconds matter, proximity becomes critical. For Solstice, Detroit represented more than a market opportunity. It offered an opportunity to demonstrate how AI infrastructure can support the next chapter of American innovation, not only through technology, but through workforce development, community investment, and economic growth.

Solution

A network built for the inference era

Unlike model training, which can take place in centralized hyperscale environments, real-time inference depends on moving data quickly between enterprise operations and nearby AI compute. Partnering with Lumen, Solstice established a high-capacity network foundation for its metro-first model. The architecture includes dedicated 100G wavelength connectivity and high-speed internet delivered through diverse network paths. This provides greater resiliency by helping maintain connectivity if a disruption affects one path, an important consideration for production AI applications that depend on consistent access to data and compute.

By bringing high-capacity connectivity and compute closer to the facilities, systems and users generating data, the architecture is designed to reduce the distance information must travel and support the responsiveness required for real-time inference.

Solution Set

- Lumen® Wavelength Services
- Lumen® High-Speed IP (HSIP)

> " We're bringing AI closer to where people actually use it. Lumen provides the network foundation that allows those applications to operate in real time."
>
> – **Tony Graham,** North American Commercial Leader, Solstice Data

Results and Future Plans

Investing in What Comes Next

Together, Solstice and Lumen are building a repeatable connectivity model that can support future expansion as enterprise AI demand grows across markets. But Solstice's vision extends beyond AI infrastructure. The company believes the communities helping power the next wave of innovation should also share its benefits.

As AI investment accelerates, Solstice is working to ensure the opportunity it creates reaches beyond enterprise customers and into the cities where that infrastructure is built.

That commitment is reflected in Solstice's relationship with Code 313, a Detroit-based nonprofit focused on STEM education, workforce development and career pathways for young people. Solstice has explored models that could turn infrastructure investment into lasting community value, including redirecting savings generated by neighboring facilities to organizations preparing the next generation of innovators.

As Code 313 founder Bartell Welch explains, "The youth are our future. We need these future innovators."

Detroit serves as an early proof point for what that future could look like. For Phil Harvey, CEO of Solstice Data, the ambition is to build a repeatable model in which connectivity, AI infrastructure, workforce development and local investment work together, bringing AI closer to the enterprises that need it while helping communities participate in the economic opportunity it creates.

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