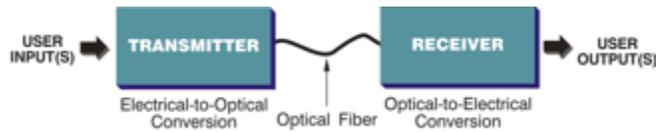


Baseband Video Transmission

Figure 1 - Point-to-Point Transmission



Baseband video consists of one video picture being sent point-to-point, such as the video output of a VCR to the video input of a monitor. Figure 1 illustrates simple point-to-point transmission. There exist two levels of service for baseband video: broadcast studio and consumer. These types describe, primarily, the quality of the signal. Broadcast studio quality requires a much higher signal fidelity, while consumer quality baseband requires is less demanding. In addition to the difference in signal fidelity, there is also a difference in the connectors typically used for the transmission of these signals. The broadcast baseband applications typically use a BNC connector and the consumer baseband applications typically uses an RCA connector.

Figure 2 - BNC and RCA Connectors



Baseband Video Signals

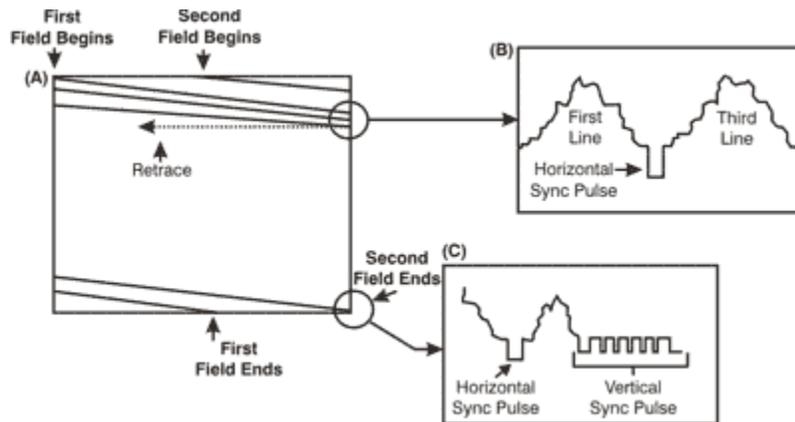
The most basic form of a television signal is a baseband video signal, also referred to as a composite video signal. In an AM baseband system, the input signal directly modulates the strength of the transmitter output, in this case light. The baseband signal contains information relative to creating the

television picture only. The following information is carried on a baseband signal:

- Scanning: drawing the television picture
- Luminance: the brightness of the picture
- Chrominance: the color of the picture

The creation of the baseband signal produces a range of frequency components. The highest frequency in a baseband signal is also its bandwidth. The lowest frequency ranges close to zero Hz or DC. The video output of a television camera or video tape recorder has its highest frequency, therefore, its bandwidth, at either 4.2 or 6 MHz, depending on the type of TV format used. Looking at an actual baseband signal, illustrated in Figure 3, we can see that the camera and the video display are scanned horizontally and vertically. The horizontal lines on the screen are scanned alternately, with the odd numbered lines first and the even numbered lines second, or vice versa. (Figure 3B depicts the initial scan of the odd numbered lines.) This method is known as an interlacing system. The second method is to scan the lines sequentially; this is known as progressive Scanning. The camera and receiver must be synchronized when scanning and reproducing an image. The horizontal and vertical sync pulses regulate the synchronization of the camera and receiver, illustrated in both 3B and 3C, and starts a horizontal trace. As seen in Figure 3A, during the horizontal blanking interval, the beam returns to the left side of the screen and waits for the horizontal sync pulse before tracing another line. The dotted line illustrated the horizontal retrace. When the beam reaches the bottom of the screen, it must return to the top to begin the next field. This is called the vertical retrace, which is signaled by the vertical sync pulse illustrated in Figure 3C. The vertical retrace takes much longer than the horizontal retrace, therefore, a vertical blanking interval ensues to synchronize the two signals. During both the horizontal or vertical blanking intervals no information appears on the screen.

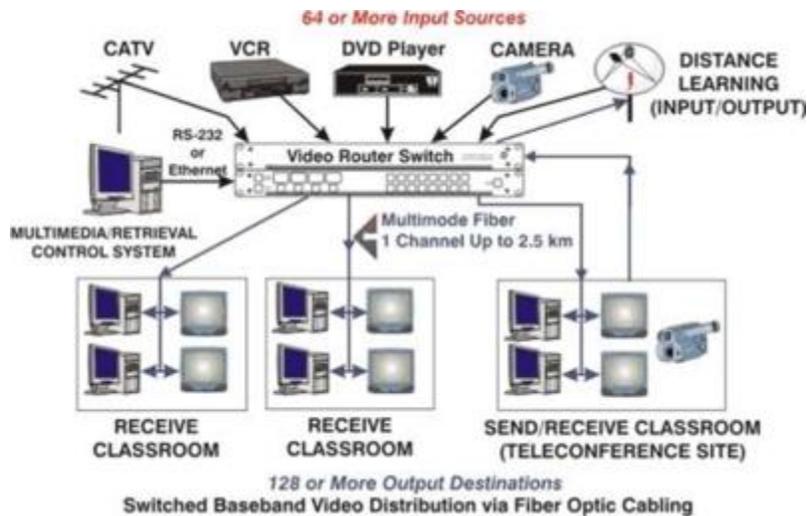
Figure 3 - Baseband Composite Video Signals



Baseband Video Applications

Figure 4 illustrates a multimedia baseband transmission systems.

Figure 4 - Multimedia baseband transmission



Listed below are common baseband video applications; most applications are for security and surveillance.

· Airport Terminals	· Traffic Monitoring	· Remote Broadcast Feeds
· Light Rail Systems	· Distance Learning	· Intra-studio Broadcast
· Card Access Systems	· Campus Return Feeds	· Inter-studio Broadcast
· Unmanned Vehicles	· Hospital Learning Labs	· Video Conferencing
· School Security	· Court Room Arraignment	· Teleconferencing

Table 1, below, outlines the characteristics of baseband video transmission over different transmission cables.

Table 1 - Characteristics of Baseband Video

	Copper Cabling		HFC (Hybrid Fiber Coax)	Optical Fiber	
	UTP	Coax		Multimode	Single-mode
Cost	Low	Medium	Medium	Medium	High
Wire Management	Excellent	Poor	Very Good	Very Good	Very Good
EMI/RFI Immunity	Poor/Good	Good	Good	Excellent	Excellent
Bandwidth	Low/Medium	High	High	High	Very High
"Future Proof"	No	No	Partially	Partially	Yes
Picture Signal	Good	Good	Good	Very Good	Excellent
Transmission Distance	1 Ch. 365-457 m	1 Ch. 170-365 m	1 Ch. to 90+ km	1 Ch. to 30+ km	1 Ch. to 100+ km

Source: http://www.fiber-optics.info/articles/baseband_video_transmission