

# The Market for Subscription Technical Support Services

**MARKET FOCUS** 

SERVICE: DIGITAL HOME SUPPORT SERVICES

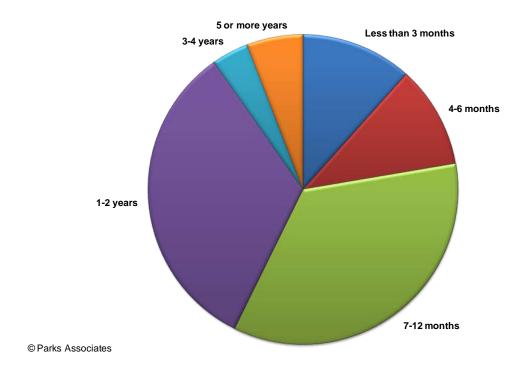
4Q 2013

By John Barrett, Director, Consumer Analytics, and Yilan Jiang, Manager of Consumer Research, Parks Associates

### **SYNOPSIS**

The Market for Subscription Technical Support Services analyzes households that currently have or previously had a subscription support service for a CE device. It also analyzes households that considered subscribing to such a service but ultimately decided not to subscribe. Key market drivers are also assessed, including the problems consumers experience with CE devices and how they currently resolve those problems.

# Length of Previous Subscription Technical Support Plans (U.S. Broadband Households That Previously Had Subscription Technical Support Plans)



### **ANALYST INSIGHT**

"The value proposition for subscription technical support services needs to change from 'pain relief' to 'peace-of-mind.' Consumers find ways of resolving their technical problems, but protection from data theft and loss is something that's harder to do on your own."

— John Barrett, Director, Consumer Analytics, Parks Associates

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**Previous Research** 

**Key Findings** 

Recommendations

**Market Overview** 

**Trends in Consumer Electronics Adoption** 





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- Average Number of Connected Devices Owned per BB HH (2010 2013)
- Consumer Electronics Adoption (2009 2013)
- Difficulty in Giving up CE Devices (Q3/13)
- · % BB HHs Making a CE Purchase in 1H of the Year (2010 2013)
- · Consumer Electronics Device Purchases in 1H of the Year (2012 vs. 2013)

# **Device Problems**

- Frequency of Connected Device Problems (Q4/12)
- · Home Network Problems (2010 vs. 2013)
- Smartphone Problem Experienced (2012 2013)
- Smartphone Problem Experienced by Operating System (Q3/13)
- Type of Smartphone Problems Experienced (2012 vs. 2013)
- · Tablet Problem Experienced (2012 2013)
- Type of Tablet Problems Experienced (2012 2013)

#### **Interactions with Professional Technicians**

- Interaction with Technical Support Agent (Q3/13)
- Methods of Interacting with Technical Support Agents (Q3/13)
- Type of Technical Support Agents Consumer Contacted (Q3/13)
- Technical Problem Resolution Rate by Devices (Q3/13)
- High Satisfaction with Technical Assistance (Q3/13)
- Expenses to Resolve the Technical Issues by Devices (Q3/13)
- Average Cost of One-Time Technical Support Service (Q3/13)
- · Switching to a Different Provider After Experiencing Technical Problems (Q3/13)

## **Consideration & Adoption of Subscription Support Services**

- Devices Covered by Extended Warranty (Q3/13)
- Market for Subscription Technical Support Services (Q3/13)
- Use of Subscription Technical Support Services by Age (Q3/13)
- Use of Subscription Technical Support Services by Annual Household Spending on CE Devices (Q3/13)
- Use of Subscription Technical Support Services by Gender (Q3/13)
- Interaction with Technical Support Agent by Experience with Subscription Support Service (Q3/13)
- Interaction with Technical Support Agent by Annual Spending on CE Devices (Q3/13)





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Length of Previous Subscription Technical Support Plans (Q3/13)

# **Demographic Profile of Technical Support Subscription Segments**

- Demographic Comparison of Tech Support Subscribers (Q3/13)
- Average Number of Connected CE Owned by Subscription Support Service Segments (Q3/13)
- Annual Household Spending on Consumer Electronics by Subscription Support Service Segments (Q3/13)
- · Devices Covered in Packages by Technical Support Subscription Segments (Q3/13)
- Number of Devices Covered in Packages by Technical Support Subscription Segments (Q3/13)
- Average Cost of Current Subscription Support Services (Q3/13)
- Expected Cost of Technical Support Services (Q3/13)
- · Subscription Service Providers (Q3/13)
- Frequency of Using Subscription Support Services (Q3/12)
- · In a few words, tell us why you decided to get a subscription technical support service?
- In a few words, tell us why you decided against getting a subscription technical support service?
- In a few words, tell us why you decided to subscribe but then cancel a subscription technical support service?

## **Additional Research from Parks Associates**





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# **ATTRIBUTES**

Parks Associates 15950 N. Dallas Pkwy Suite 575 Dallas TX 75248

TOLL FREE 800.727.5711
PHONE 972.490.1113
FAX 972.490.1133

parksassociates.com

sales@parksassociates.com

Authored by John Barrett and Yilan Jiang

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