



## This Week's Headlines

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### PEOPLE & COMPANIES

Do you have an announcement for *People & Companies*? Send an e-mail ([info@mnta.org](mailto:info@mnta.org)) or fax (651-291-2795) to MTA.

**[Save These Dates](#)**

February 22, 2008

## MTA UPDATE

### [About Our Key Note Speaker](#)

#### **[How to Create Results in the Midst Of Change](#)**

The featured speaker for the second general session on Tuesday, March 4, will be a unique presenter who uses different stage actions to reach his audience. Dan Thurman will present ***Success in Action***, which has been credited with inspiring and propelling thousands of individuals to achieve greater results in the midst of change. Are demands for your time and performance making it difficult to focus on what you are trying to achieve? Dan will help you regain control of your accelerated life. Success in Action is an inspirational program that teaches and illustrates personal management of multiple responsibilities. You can do more than you think you can, and during this presentation you will learn how to accomplish more of your important tasks in less time with precision, confidence and satisfaction!

### [At Convention](#)

#### **[Taking Pre-Orders for Centennial Book](#)**

"A Century of Connections," the coffee style photo book that is being produced as part of the MTA Centennial celebration, will be on display at the MTA 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention. Attendees will be able to pre-order the book, which will be published later this year and will be available at the MTA 100<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention in 2009. The book, with over a 100 photos, covers the history of telecommunications in Minnesota.

***This year's attendees at the Convention will have an opportunity to be in the book.*** A group photo of attendees will be taken on Tuesday, March 4, following the second general session. Plans call for the photo to be one of the last pages in the publication.

### **[Check These Sites for Things to Do In Twin Cities](#)**

Looking for interesting events and activities to attend while in the Twin Cities for the convention? Check out the following Web sites: For things to do in Minneapolis, [click here](#).

To check out what's happening in St Paul [click here](#).

A good site for making dinner reservations is [www.opentable.com](http://www.opentable.com).

**Annual Convention &  
Trade Show**  
March 2-5, 2008

**MTA Golf Day**  
July 7, 2008

**Fall Conference &  
Communications  
Seminar**  
November 18 & 19,  
2008

### **Stat of the Week**

Minneapolis –St. Paul has an estimated 360,340 households relying solely on older-style antennas to receive analog “over the air” broadcast, according to Consumers Union, publisher of Consumer Reports magazine.

### **WEEKLY BULLETIN**

Is there someone in your organization who you would like to add to the distribution list? Send their name, company, and e-mail address to [info@mnta.org](mailto:info@mnta.org) and we'll add them to the list.

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## **You Can Still Register On-Site**

Although online registration has closed, you are welcome to register on-site beginning at 4:00 p.m. Sunday, March 2.

Our theme – C3 2008: Competitiveness, Convergence and Consolidation—recognizes the three driving forces shaping today's telecom industry in Minnesota. To register today [click here](#).

## **INDUSTRY UPDATE**

### **LNP Rules Now In Federal Register** **Carriers Required to Be LNP Ready by March 24th**

The Federal Register this week published the long-awaited rules regarding Local Number Portability.

On November 8, 2007, the FCC released its [Report and Order](#) which addressed a number of topics relating to LNP, and lifted the stay which has been in place since 2005 delaying the implementation of intermodal LNP for small rural carriers. The Order said it would take effect 30 days after publication in the Federal Register.

Now that the Order has been published in the [Federal Register](#), the rules requiring all small carriers to be ready to implement intermodal local number portability go into effect **March 24, 2008** (the 30 days falls on March 22nd which is a Saturday).

Under the rules, a landline carrier must be technically able to port a number within six months of receiving a valid “bona fide request” from a wireless carrier. You may need to contact your attorney or consultant to determine whether you have received a valid BFR from a wireless carrier.

Earlier this month, on February 5th, the FCC issued an order extending the deadline to comply with another portion of that November ruling – the rule requiring all LNP validation processes for local number portability requests be based on no more than four fields (1) the ten-digit telephone number, (2) customer account number, (3) five-digit Zip Code, and (4) pass code. The deadline for implementing this “four fields” rule is still July 31, 2008.

### **T-Mobile, AT&T Matches Verizon's Flat-rate Plan**

Shortly after Verizon announced it will offer a flat-rate calling plan, AT&T and T-Mobile matched the offer. The three major wireless providers will offer a \$99.99 monthly plan featuring unlimited mobile calling. T-Mobile also is offering free texting and picture messaging, services that had previously cost users \$15 a month.

Meanwhile, media outlets were reporting that Sprint is considering a flat-rate plan around \$60 or \$70.

In a related matter, T-Mobile also announced this week that it will start

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Treasurer;  
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Weekly Bulletin editor:  
Moses Dennis

offering a landline phone service for \$10 a month, plus taxes and fees, to wireless subscribers in Seattle and Dallas-Fort Worth areas. The company plans to use the customer's broadband service to offer a Voice Over Internet Protocol service.

### **Man Sentenced for Vandalizing Utility Box**

A White Bear Lake man was sentenced this week to two years in prison for vandalism to a Qwest utility box, according to the St. Paul Pioneer Press. Ian-David McCombs, 22, pleaded guilty last October. He admitted that he and two friends broke into the utility box on St. Paul's West End neighborhood. The act of vandalism disrupted service to about a thousand customers, the paper said.

### **Reprinted from last week**

### **Qwest Earnings Rose for the Quarter**

Qwest Communications this week reported fourth-quarter and full-year 2007 results highlighted by substantial free cash flow, net income and earnings per share growth, the company said in a news release. For the quarter, Qwest said its earnings rose 89 percent. It reported net income of \$366 million, or \$0.20 per diluted share, compared to \$194 million, or \$0.10 per share, in 2006. Normalizing for \$106 million of income tax benefits, net income for the quarter was \$260 million, or \$0.14 per diluted share.

## **FCC & REGULATORY FILINGS**

**FEBRUARY 29:** Comments due on PUC docket P999/CI-07-1484, Industry-wide Investigation into the Promotional Practices of Telecommunications Services Providers

**MARCH 1: FCC FORM 477:** Local competition and broadband report due to FCC. All ILECs, CLECs and wireless providers must file this form. All cable TV operators that provide cable modem service must file this form.

**MARCH 1: CPNI ANNUAL CERTIFICATION:** All carriers are required to file a Customer Proprietary Network Information (CPNI) certificate with the FCC. A company officer with personal knowledge that the company has established operating procedures adequate to ensure compliance with the rules must sign the certificate, place a copy of the certificate in the company's compliance records file and file with the FCC.

**MARCH 1: COPYRIGHT STATEMENT OF ACCOUNT FORM:** This form for cable companies, plus royalty payment for the second half of the calendar year 2007, is due. This form covers the period July 1 to December 31, 2007, and should be mailed directly by cable TV operators to the Library of Congress' Copyright Office.

**APRIL 1: FCC FORM 499-A: TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

REPORTING WORKSHEET: This form must be filed by all contributors to the Universal Service Fund support mechanisms, the Telecommunications Relay Service Fund, the cost recovery mechanism for the North American Numbering Plan Administration and the shared costs of local number portability.

## INDUSTRY CALENDAR

### MTA Meetings This Week

**Feb 20:** MTA Legislative Committee

**Feb. 22:** MTA Executive Committee

### Upcoming MTA & Industry Meetings/Events

**March 2- 5:** 2008 MTA Convention & Trade Show, Minneapolis

**March 3:** MTA Education & Human Resources Committee, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, 2:00 p.m.

**March 5:** MTA Board of Directors, Hyatt Regency Minneapolis, 9:00 a.m.

**March 11:** MTA Regulatory, Tariffs & Services Committee, MTA office, 9:30

For a look at 12 months and more of industry events, [click here](#)

## MTA 99<sup>th</sup> Annual Convention Sponsors

*Thanks to the following companies for helping to sponsor this year's convention. We couldn't do it without them!*

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