



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) or fax
(651-291-2795) to MTA.

[Save The Date](#)

***MTA Fall Conference
October 9-10, 2008***

July 18, 2008

MTA UPDATE

Committee Nominations Due Next Week

If you haven't submitted the nomination form or notified the MTA that you wish to remain on your current committee, you must do so by July 21, 2008. The information and nomination form was distributed to members earlier this month. To be considered, the form must be returned to MTA by July 21, 2008. Current committee members ***do not need*** to submit the form. However, they must notify Gerry Steele via e-mail that they wish to continue serving on their current committee. Contact [Gerry Steele](mailto:Gerry.Steele@mnta.org) at 651-291-7311 if you have any questions.

Deadline Today for Sharing Broadband Stories

Today, July 18, is the deadline for submitting articles on your company's broadband success stories that will be published online. The Blandin Foundation is developing a Web site to showcase the many great things happening in Minnesota communities through the use of broadband. The foundation is looking for links to articles describing broadband in action, providing both case studies and best practices on how to use these applications. The MTA is urging members to participate by sending the links to their broadband success stories to Randy Young, MTA CEO and president at ryoung@mnta.org. The MTA will package the info and submit to the Foundation. These can be stories written in the local newspaper, in a regional magazine, in a journal or study, even blog entries and press releases. Basically anything and everything that highlights broadband in action in Minnesota. Although today is the deadline, new initiatives can be submitted throughout the year.

REGULATORY UPDATE

Wergin Named to PUC

Senator Betsy Wergin, R-Princeton, has been named by Governor Tim Pawlenty to fill the remaining term of LeRoy Koppendrayner, her brother, on the Public Utilities Commission (PUC). The six-year term expires

Stat of the Week

Minnesota's employment rate dropped slightly to 5.3 percent in June, compared to 5.4 percent in May, according to the Department of Employment and Economic Development.

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 and we'll add them to the list.

WEEKLY BULLETIN is intended for MTA members. Redistribution is limited to internal audiences only.

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Brent J. Christensen,
Secretary-Treasurer;
Randy Young,
President/CEO

Weekly Bulletin editor:
Moses Dennis

Jan. 4, 2010. Koppendrayer retired last month. Commissioner David Boyd has been elevated to chair of the Commission by the Governor. [Read more](#)

Garvey Leaving State Government

Former PUC Chairman Edward Garvey is resigning his two positions in Governor Pawlenty's administration as director of the Office of Energy Security and deputy commissioner in the Minnesota Department of Commerce, effective August 8. He served on the PUC from 1997 to 2002 including three years as chairman. [Read more](#)

FCC Chairman: Comcast Violated Open Access Rules

Kevin Martin, chairman of the Federal Communications Commission, said last week he recommends the FCC rule that Comcast had violated the agency's principles regarding open access to the Internet, according to media reports. The FCC has been investigating Comcast for allegedly blocking Internet traffic, mostly from peer-to-peer file sharing users. Comcast has denied that it blocks Internet traffic. [Read more](#)

Telemarketers Fined for Do-Not-Call Violations

Two companies telemarketing Dish Network programming have agreed to pay a total of \$95,000 for calling consumers whose telephone numbers are on the National Do Not Call (DNC) Registry. The orders, filed by the U.S. Department of Justice on the FTC's behalf, also bar the defendant corporations, Planet Earth Satellite, Inc. and Star Satellite, LLC from violating the Commission's Telemarketing Sales Rule (TSR) when calling consumers. [Read more](#)

Reprinted from Last Week

Centennial Club Gets New Members—More Wanted

Membership in the exclusive Centennial Club has climbed to nearly 75 companies. While impressive, it is still short of the Centennial Committee's goal of 100 members.

All members, particularly associate members, are invited to join. Contributions to the 'Centennial Club' will help the MTA properly observe its 100th Anniversary. The MTA will mark this milestone with a commemorative picture book, a special centennial convention and celebration and publicity across the state and nation.

In recognition of your contribution of \$500, your company will be listed as a 'Centennial Club' member in the commemorative picture book and at next year's convention. The book will be found at telephone companies, libraries and museums across the state for years to come. [Click here](#) for an invitation to join the Centennial Club. Questions about the Centennial Club may be directed to Mike Nowick at 651-291-7311. To view the Centennial Club membership lists, [click here](#).

FCC & REGULATORY FILINGS

JULY 21: FCC FORM 497, LOW INCOME QUARTERLY REPORT: This form is the Lifeline and Link-Up Worksheet and must be submitted to the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) by all eligible telecommunications carriers (ETCs) that request reimbursement for participating in the low income program. The form is available at: www.universalservice.org.

JULY 31: FCC FORM 507, UNIVERSAL SERVICE QUARTERLY LINE COUNT UPDATE: Line counts are required to recalculate a carrier's per line universal service support and must be filed with the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC). This information must be submitted on July 31st each year by all rate-of-return carriers and on a quarterly basis if a competitive eligible telecommunications carrier (CETC) has initiated service in the rate-of-return incumbent carrier's service area and reported line count data to USAC in the rate-of-return incumbent carrier's service area, in order for the incumbent carrier to be eligible to receive Interstate Common Line Support (ICLS). The quarterly filing covers lines served as of December 31, 2007.

JULY 31: FCC FORM 525, COMPETITIVE CARRIER LINE COUNT QUARTERLY REPORT: Competitive eligible telecommunications carriers (CETCs) are eligible to receive high cost support if they serve lines in an incumbent carrier's service area, and that incumbent carrier receives high cost support. CETCs are eligible to receive the same per-line support amount received by the incumbent carrier in whose study area the CETC serves lines.

AUGUST 1: FCC FORM 499-Q, TELECOMMUNICATIONS REPORTING WORKSHEET: All telecommunications common carriers that contribute to federal Universal Service Fund support mechanisms must file this quarterly form. The form covers revenue information from the prior quarter plus projections for the next quarter.

AUGUST 1: FCC FORM 502, NUMBER UTILIZATION REPORT: Any wireline or wireless carrier that has been assigned an NXX code (10,000 numbers) or one or more 1,000 number blocks; and any wireline or wireless carrier that has received from the North American Numbering Plan Administrator (NANPA) or from another carrier one or more 1,000 number blocks must file this form.

INDUSTRY CALENDAR

MTA & Industry Meetings/Events This Week

July 14: MTA Legislative Committee

Upcoming MTA & Industry Meetings/Events

July 24: MTA Video Peer Group, MTA office, 1:30 p.m.

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

PEOPLE & COMPANIES

Pinnacle is continuing the fine tradition of the annual MART Golf Day & Dinner. Telco personnel are invited to the Telecom Industry Appreciation Golf Day at Wapicada Golf Club in St. Cloud on Monday, August 11, 2008. For more information on registering or if you wish to sponsor a hole or contribute a prize, please contact [Amy](#) at 800.950.4301.

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

