



This Week's Headlines

December 19, 2008

Taking Orders for MTA Centennial Picture Book



To Order - [Click Here](#)

Early Registration Ends Today for Exhibitors

Register Online for MTA 'Day On the Hill'

No Vote on Free Wireless Broadband

Qwest Drops Premium Internet Service Price by 40%

REGULATORY FILINGS

INDUSTRY CALENDAR

PEOPLE & COMPANIES

Do you have an announcement for

MTA UPDATE

[MTA Centennial Convention](#)

Early Registration Ends Today for Exhibitors

Reserve your booth space today, December 19, and save \$150. The MTA Centennial Convention is March 2-4, 2009 in Minneapolis. The exhibitor prospectus is available on the [MTA Web site](#). The theme for this historic event is, "Cherish the Past, Embrace the Future." On the schedule of events is a centennial museum filled with interesting items from telco members, a historical presentation that chronicles the growth of the telephone industry in the state, and the unveiling of the centennial picture book. To obtain a copy of the exhibitor prospectus register online, [click here](#).

Register Online for MTA 'Day On the Hill'

Registration information for MTA Day on the Hill was distributed to members electronically this week. The annual legislative gathering is Tuesday, February 3 and Wednesday, February 4. Make your room reservations now at 651-224-5400 or for online reservation [click here](#). Tuesday's briefing session will begin at 2:00 p.m. and appointments will be on Wednesday. Assignments for teams and materials will be sent to you the week of January 13th. This event is free to MTA members. The registration deadline is January 7. Reserve your room by January 14 online at the [Embassy Suites St. Paul](#) and receive the MTA room rate of \$149.

[MTA Peer Groups Meeting Calendar 2009](#)

| Peer Group | Date | Location |
|----------------------------------|--------------|------------------------|
| Video | January 13 | diversiCOM, Melrose |
| Marketing | February 4-6 | TBD, Minneapolis |
| Human Resources | February 18 | Holiday Inn, St. Cloud |
| Customer Service | March 11-12 | Holiday Inn, St. Cloud |
| Plant Managers | April 1-2 | Holiday Inn, St. Cloud |
| Plant Managers | December 2-3 | Holiday Inn, St. Cloud |

[Sponsorship Opportunities Available for CSG Conference](#)

People & Companies? Send an e-mail (info@mnta.org) or fax (651-291-2795) to MTA.

Stat of the Week

Minnesota has lost 30,000 jobs over the past year, according to the Dept. of Employment and Economic Development. In November, there were 10,500 jobs eliminated in the state.

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.

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Robert K. Eddy, Vice Chairman;
Brent J. Christensen, Secretary-Treasurer;
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The Customer Service Group has great sponsorship options available for its spring conference March 11-12, 2009, at the Holiday Inn, St. Cloud. The conference brings together customer service representatives from all across Minnesota to share valuable information directly pertaining to the industry and their jobs. To access the sponsorship information, [click here](#). The deadline to reserve your sponsorship is February 25, 2009. Contact [Amber Hutton](#) at 218.284-5719 if you have any questions.

INDUSTRY UPDATE

No Vote on Free Wireless Broadband

At the urging of two key senators and the Bush administration, FCC Chairman Kevin Martin cancelled its scheduled meeting on Thursday and any plans to provide a free national wireless broadband service through a spectrum auction. Sen. Jay Rockefeller (D-WVa.) and Rep. Henry Waxman (D-Calif.), who are set to take over their respective Commerce Committees, sent a letter to Martin telling him that the FCC should focus its attention on the upcoming digital transition, according to reports. On Feb. 17, American television broadcasting will switch from analog to digital transmission. Consumer groups and some wireless carriers strongly opposed the free wireless broadband.

Qwest Drops Premium Internet Service Price by 40%

Qwest this week reduced by \$40 the cost of its fastest Internet service, from \$99.99 to \$59.99 a month for new and current subscribers. The service, known as Connect Quantum, is available in areas where the company has installed new fiber optic cable. Those areas in the state include Anoka, Blaine, Burnsville, Eagan, Inver Grove Heights, Maplewood Minneapolis, Minnetonka, Plymouth, Savage, St. Louis Park and Woodbury. The service offers speeds up to 20 megabits per second, which is fast enough to download a two-hour movie in about 6 minutes or 30 songs in 60 seconds, according to Qwest.

In Case You Missed It

[Reprinted from Last Issue](#)

Your Chance to Provide Input On Legislative Initiatives

The Legislative Committee is in the process of adding the details onto each of its legislative initiatives for the 2009 Legislative Session. This year, the committee is reaching beyond the membership of the committee to draw in others who are interested in or have some knowledge of any of the issue being developed. If you would like to serve (a very limited commitment of time) on any of the Issue work groups listed below, please contact [Randy Young](#) at 651-288-3724.

FCC & REGULATORY FILINGS

DECEMBER 30: FCC FORM 507, Universal Service Quarterly Line Count Update

JANUARY 19: FCC FORM 497, Low Income Quarterly Report

FEBRUARY 2: FCC FORM 499Q, Telecommunications Reporting Worksheet

PEOPLE & COMPANIES

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