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**COMPTEL Urges FCC to Ensure Internet Remains an  
Open Platform for Speech and Commerce**

**WASHINGTON, DC** – Today at its May open meeting, the Federal Communications Commission adopted a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) that addresses the D.C. Circuit Court of Appeals' remand of the Commission's 2010 Open Internet Order and proposes enforceable rules to protect and promote an open Internet.

The following statement can be attributed to Chip Pickering, CEO of COMPTEL, the leading trade association for the competitive communications industry:

*"The Internet has been a driving force for innovation for more than two decades, generating incredible growth in our economy and delivering significant value to its users. The FCC, under the leadership of both parties, has recognized that these new services, applications and content offerings have been possible as a result of an open Internet.*

*We are pleased that the Commission is working to explore new, legally sustainable policies to ensure an open Internet will continue in the U.S. As the Commission proceeds, it will be important for the agency to adopt rules that provide certainty to all Internet users and Internet service providers. Such rules must protect against blocking, discrimination and paid prioritization, and offer more transparency in the marketplace for Internet services. These attributes are critical to ensure that the Internet remains an open platform for speech and commerce. COMPTEL and its members are committed to these values, and we look forward to participating in this very important dialogue at the Commission."*

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**About COMPTEL**

Based in Washington, D.C., COMPTEL is the leading industry association representing competitive communications service providers and their supplier partners. COMPTEL members are entrepreneurial companies driving technological innovation and creating economic growth through competitive voice, video, and data offerings and the development and deployment of next-generation, IP-based networks and services. COMPTEL advances its members' interests through trade shows, networking, education, and policy advocacy before Congress, the Federal Communications Commission and the courts. COMPTEL works to ensure that competitive communications providers can continue to offer lower prices, better service, and greater innovation to consumers. For more information, visit [www.comptel.org](http://www.comptel.org).