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**COMPTEL Commends FCC for Addressing  
T-Mobile Petition on Data Roaming**

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Earlier this year, T-Mobile USA Inc. asked the Federal Communications Commission for additional clarification of the meaning of the “commercially reasonable” standard in the context of data roaming pricing. Today, the FCC granted T-Mobile’s petition for expedited declaratory ruling.

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

*“Smaller wireless carriers continue to face challenges negotiating data roaming arrangements with AT&T and Verizon after the Commission adopted its rules because greater clarity was needed in how to determine whether proffered roaming rates were commercially reasonable. As a result, consumers’ mobile broadband experiences have been affected, and the ability of these carriers to compete effectively in the marketplace has been impacted.*

*We commend the FCC for its actions today in granting T-Mobile’s petition. We believe the adoption of the benchmarks T-Mobile proposed may relieve some of the difficulties smaller carriers have been experiencing in their negotiations. But we also encourage the Commission to remain vigilant in addressing the ability to obtain reasonable data rates, particularly in areas where alternative roaming partners do not exist.*

*By ensuring that roaming charges are indeed commercially reasonable, the Commission should make certain that roaming arrangements are fair to all parties and meet its goals of extending wireless broadband connectivity, enhancing consumer welfare and fostering a robust competitive market.”*

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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) or follow us on Twitter @COMPTEL.