



For Immediate Release

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COMPTEL Praises Action on FCC Tech Transition

Washington DC (Friday, July 10, 2015) – Today, FCC Chairman Tom Wheeler announced in a blog post that the Commission would vote on the technology transitions item during its August meeting.

The following statement can be attributed to Chip Pickering, CEO of COMPTEL:

“Businesses from across the nation, including small corner shops and national retail chains, have asked the FCC to protect their ability to choose a competitive provider during and after the tech transitions.

“COMPTEL is proud to have led this effort, and is strongly supportive of Chairman Wheeler and the FCC as it moves forward on a pro-competition tech transitions item this summer. Last year, all five FCC commissioners came together around a set of core values that have guided productive, bi-partisan conversation on the tech transitions, which is critical to our economy, education and public safety.

“History can light the path to the future. Competitive access to networks, enhanced by the landmark 1996 Telecom Act, has enabled choice, affordability and innovation to break open a communications marketplace. It was competition that launched the IP revolution, and competition that will sit at the core of the FCC tech transitions proceeding.

“By including reasonably comparable wholesale access provisions in the tech transitions, the FCC will take an important step to ensure competition continues across all technology networks and platforms.

“COMPTEL would like to thank the thousands of business and consumers who have spoken out on this issue, including hundreds who have written the FCC. We would also like to commend the work of our coalition partners, including Public Knowledge and [dozens of consumer groups](#), AARP, the [Small Business Administration advocates](#) and [trade associations](#) including Edison Electric Institute, fuel marketing association SIGMA, The Alarm Industry Communications Committee, Engine, Internet Freedom Business Alliance and the National Association of Convenience Stores.”

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About COMPTEL

Based in Washington, D.C., COMPTEL is the leading industry association representing competitive networks. 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 or follow @COMPTEL on Twitter.