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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**13 Members Elected to COMPTEL Board of Directors**

***TSI CEO Deb Ward Re-Elected to Serve as Chairwoman***

**ORLANDO** – Members of COMPTEL, the leading trade association for the competitive communications industry, yesterday elected 13 companies to serve on the COMPTEL Board of Directors for the 2015-2017 term during the annual membership meeting at the COMPTEL *PLUS* Business Expo 2015. These newly elected board members join the others who are currently serving their 2014-2016 terms.

Today, at its first meeting with the newly elected directors, the Board re-elected Deb Ward, CEO of TSI, as its chairwoman; Chris Murray, Senior Vice President of Public Policy at EarthLink as vice chairman; and Jim Butman, Group President at TDS as treasurer. Rounding out the Executive Committee are four at-large members: Robert Beaty, President of Impact Telecom; Dale R. Schmick, COO of YourTel America Inc.; Sam Kline, Senior Vice President - Corporate Strategy at Granite; and Bill Barloon, Vice President of State and Federal Legislative Affairs at Sprint.

"I'm honored to be re-elected to serve as COMPTEL's chairwoman," said Ward. "This is an exciting time for COMPTEL, which is a leading voice for competitive networks and policies. I look forward to continuing the momentum of the past year to grow and evolve our membership, effectively advocate for their needs and deliver the business opportunities that enable them to succeed."

Companies elected to the board for the 2015-2017 term include:

***Small Member Category***

- CoastCom, Inc. – Greg Palser, President and Co-Founder
- Kansas Fiber Network – Steven Dorf, President and General Manager
- TSI – Deb Ward, CEO
- WILCON – Eric Bender, Co-Founder and Senior Vice President
- YourTel America, Inc. – Dale Schmick, COO

***Medium Member Category***

- Hypercube – Ron Beaumont, President
- Impact Telecom – Robert Beaty, President
- Sonic Telecom – Dane Jasper, CEO and Co-Founder
- Spirit Communications – Grey Humphrey, Executive Vice President of Sales
- TDS – Jim Butman, Group President

***Large Member Category***

- Google – Milo Medin, Vice President, Access Services
- TelePacific Communications – Russell Shipley, Senior Vice President, Wholesale and Network Services
- XO Communications – Lisa Youngers, Vice President and Assistant General Counsel, Federal Affairs

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### **About COMPTEL**

Based in Washington, D.C., COMPTEL is the leading industry association advocating for competitive networks and competitive communications policy. 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.