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COMPTEL Files Open Internet Intervention in Support of FCC

WASHINGTON, D.C. (May 12, 2015) – In a move to support and defend the Federal Communication Commission’s landmark Open Internet Order, COMPTEL, the leading trade association advocating for competitive networks and competitive communications policy, filed a motion today with the U.S. Court of Appeals for the D.C. Circuit to intervene in the appellate case brought against the Order by a collection of large incumbent telco, cable, and wireless providers and their trade associations.

The COMPTEL filing states that the interests of its members would be adversely affected by a reversal or modification of the FCC’s Order. Sighting need for edge providers to connect with the network over the “last mile,” its intervention filing supports the FCC Order as it prohibits blocking, throttling, paid prioritization and unreasonable discrimination by reclassifying broadband Internet access service under Title II.

“The FCC Open Internet Order is a win for streamers and dreamers, allowing consumers to continue welcoming new network builders and video competition with open arms,” said Chip Pickering, CEO of COMPTEL. “We are proud to join with other tech leaders to defend the FCC’s Open Internet Order against attacks by old economy Internet service providers that seek to block or slow down new ideas and new markets.”
COMPTEL’s intervention filing today joins other filings from tech leaders and companies that are pushing back against legal attempts to harm the FCC open internet order, including Etsy, Kickstarter, Level 3, Meetup, Tumblr, Vimeo and venture company Union Square Ventures.

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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.