For Immediate Release

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COMPTEL: FCC’s Data Driven Process is Key to Competition

WASHINGTON DC (Thursday September 17, 2015) – Today, the FCC announced the process for reviewing critical information from the FCC’s long anticipated special access data collection.

The FCC also will also allow for an independent, third party review of the data to provide an additional level of transparency.


In response, Chip Pickering, CEO of COMPTEL released the following statement:

“For too long incumbent providers like AT&T and Verizon have leveraged their market power, derived from legacy networks built under monopoly rules, to set up roadblocks to competition in most markets across the nation.

“The special access proceeding provides the most comprehensive process for a data driven solution by any FCC, that will help open more markets for competition. After a decade-long delay of much needed reforms in this market – reforms that will provide significant benefits to American businesses and consumers - we are pleased to see Chairman Tom Wheeler and the FCC are moving this process forward.
“This proceeding has the potential for effective reform that will connect businesses, schools, hospitals and government offices with more choices and better prices for broadband, and COMPTEL is pleased that that Chairman has committed to completing this proceeding during his tenure.”

**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](http://www.comptel.org) or follow @COMPTEL on Twitter.