



For Immediate Release

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COMPTEL: Charter's Peering Policy Move Good News for Open Internet, Over-the-Top Growth

WASHINGTON DC (July 15, 2015) -- Today, Charter Communications filed with the FCC a letter that contains significant changes to its Internet peering policy. Charter is willing to abide by this policy as a condition to FCC approval of its pending merger with Time Warner Cable and Bright House until the end of 2018.

In response to the news from Charter, Chip Pickering, the CEO of COMPTEL released the following statement on behalf of the organization:

"COMPTEL is pleased that Charter has offered modifications to its Internet interconnection policy that promotes consumer access and choice to over-the-top content and will maintain a policy of no access charges.

"Charter's offer to maintain this policy as a condition to its merger goes a long way in addressing concerns that the proposed merger would result in a large ISP with the size and capability to harm the development of online content, apps, and services and harm the open Internet.

"Today, Charter's commitment on Internet interconnection policy further promotes the industry standard on settlement free peering for transit providers, CDNs, and content providers.

This is a free market approach that all ISPs should readily adopt to promote an open Internet, and it is a commitment that should be made in all similar mergers. Specifically, we urge the Commission to ask AT&T why it isn't willing to adopt the same policy with respect to its pending merger with DirecTV.

COMPTEL continues to review other aspects of the proposed Charter merger, and we are withholding our endorsement of the merger at this time. Nonetheless, we are very pleased to see that Charter has made a significant commitment with respect to its Internet interconnection policy, and we commend it for this progress."

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