



NEWS RELEASE

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CNI Announces Backhaul Network Expansion

Findlay, Ohio—December 18, 2012—Com Net Incorporated (CNI) announced today that it lit several new backhaul spans on its west-central Ohio fiber-optic network. The spans activated were between north Kenton, Ohio and Findlay, Ohio; Findlay, Ohio and Bowling Green, Ohio; and Van Wert, Ohio and Antwerp, Ohio.

This latest set of backhaul spans to be lit builds upon those lit earlier in 2012, which include Van Wert, Ohio and Lima, Ohio; Lima, Ohio and north Kenton, Ohio; north Kenton, Ohio and Scherers Court, Columbus, Ohio; Scherers Court, Columbus, Ohio and 180 E. Broad St., Columbus, Ohio; north Findlay, Ohio and 1946 N. 13th St., Toledo, Ohio; 1946 N. 13th St., Toledo, Ohio and 3035 Moffat St., Toledo, Ohio.

In the first quarter of 2013, CNI plans to further expand its fiber-optic network in west-central Ohio by lighting spans between Lima, Ohio and the Indian Lake Region (Russells Point); Indian Lake Region and West Milton, OH; West Milton, OH and Springfield, OH and Antwerp, Ohio and Archbold, Ohio.

Since construction began in June 2011 for the GigE Plus project, CNI is pleased to announce it is over 60% complete with their network build-out activities. When construction first began, CNI's CEO, Tim Berelsman stated "...this will connect with existing facilities of CNI and its partners to create the backbone of a new, highly survivable, broadband infrastructure that will serve as an enabler for economic development throughout the region." With this being said, CNI's next phase is to launch market development activities in order to help communities located in the area leverage the broadband infrastructure to spur economic development and job growth.

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About CNI's GigEPAC Network: The GigE Plus project first came about in March 2010 when CNI submitted an application to the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) for the Broadband Technology Opportunities Program (BTOP) to develop a Comprehensive Community Infrastructure (CCI). The award was granted to CNI later in 2010 to fund the addition of almost 700 new miles of fiber to its west-central Ohio backhaul network. This expansion enables CNI and its GigE Plus Availability Coalition (GigEPAC) partners to expand broadband services throughout the region to bring improved and new broadband services to rural and underserved communities in 28 Western Ohio Counties.

CNI maintains an open access policy in association with the GigEPAC network, which means any provider will be able to interconnect to the network at reasonable rates and terms. This benefits businesses and organizations connecting to the network by allowing them to select from multiple providers on a Best-in-Class and/or Best-in-Value basis or by deploying in-house services across the network. For more information on CNI's GigEPAC project coverage in Ohio, Indiana and Michigan, visit www.gigepac.com.

Ethernet transport services over the GigEPAC network can be sourced by contacting Independents Fiber Network, www.ifnetwork.biz, or another GigE Plus Coalition partner. For a complete list of coalition members, visit www.gigepac.com.

About CNI: CNI is an Ohio-based company that was established in 1993 through a collaboration of 15 independent local exchange companies (ILECs) across Ohio. Initially, CNI focused on delivering enhanced telecommunication features and complementary technical services. Soon after, CNI launched dial-up ISP services to enable early Internet adoption under its trademarked bright.net program. It was at this time that CNI's ownership base grew to 21 ILECs and one electrical cooperative.

CNI's ability to provide the highest quality communication offerings to local providers is found in the company's commitment to operate its network and services with integrity; and to be an early adopter of new and innovative voice, video, Internet access and data applications. CNI's commitment to local communication providers is stronger today than ever. CNI has invested in IPTV infrastructure to deliver HD and SD video over our regional fiber network. In order to ensure the reliability of voice offerings, CNI has added Quality of Service (QoS) and Quality of Experience (QoE) metrics to its traditional voice and IP voice service offerings. Customers of Com Net and its Partners receive the added benefit and peace of mind of knowing the services they receive are monitored 24/7/365 by CNI's Network Operation Center (NOC) and supported by CNI's 24/7/365 Call Center. The CNI NOC and Call Center, located in Wapakoneta, Ohio, are staffed 24/7/365 with experienced and knowledgeable subject matter experts.

Today, CNI's services extend well beyond their local service provider partners, to serve communication providers located throughout the United States.

Additional information about CNI and the services they provide can be found at www.cniteam.com.

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