



**INDEPENDENTS
FIBER NETWORK**

A  **CNI Company**

NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: February 6, 2013

Contact: Tim Berelsman, CEO
13888 County Road 25A
Wapakoneta, Ohio 45895
tberelsman@cniteam.com
419-739-3100

Network Connectivity to Chicago Upgraded

Lima, Ohio— February 6, 2013 — Independents Fiber Network, a Com Net Incorporated (CNI) Company, announced today that it has upgraded its GigE Plus Network with a second connection to Chicago, Illinois. The new connection runs between the GigE Plus point-of-presence (PoP) at 535 Scherers Court, Columbus, Ohio and the INDATEL Services' Ethernet Exchange PoP located at 350 E. Cermak St. in Chicago.

The circuit allows Independents Fiber Network to provide its parent company, CNI, a direct peering relationship with over 20 Content Delivery Networks (CDNs) including Google, Netflix and You Tube. By having a direct peering relationship through the INDATEL Ethernet Exchange, Internet subscribers benefit through a high speed, low latency connection. This partnership between Independents Fiber Network and INDATEL, also, provides Independents Fiber Network the ability to deliver point-to-point connections to clients across North America.

Director of Technical Operations at CNI, Aaron Holtz, stated "After visiting the INDATEL facility at the Cermak building last summer, we knew we had to be in there. Our requirements for Tier 1 bandwidth were ramping up quickly, and we felt the content peering that INDATEL offered would enhance our users experience by taking the traffic off of our Tier 1 and 2 Internet access connections and delivering it directly to the CDNs. Max Huffman (Executive Director/CCO of INDATEL), Corey Jensen (Operations Manager at VisionNet) and the rest of the group at INDATEL Services were great to work with and their experience allowed for a quick and painless turn-up.

We saw benefits within the first few hours of activation. In fact, the new circuit has already been upgraded to keep pace with the increase of capacity to the CDNs. The relationship has, also, enhanced our ability to provide transport solutions to customer locations nationally and internationally."

—More—

About Independents Fiber Network (Independents): Independents is a wholly owned subsidiary of CNI that was established in 2003 to better serve the voice, video and data services of their customers. Independents is, also, a member of Broadband Network Group, LLC and INDATEL Group. Independents worked in synergy with 13 of Northwest Ohio's community based independent providers with local fiber assets and established the BNG Optical Transport Network. This network currently represents the most reliable and comprehensive transport network in Northwest Ohio. Independents is the established single point of contact to make it easier and more efficient to utilize the network. Independents is, also, committed to finding reliable and economical means for covering more of Ohio than anyone else.

Independents provides transport services of Dedicated Access Line (DAL) and Optical Digital Services (ODS). Independents, also, provides interconnections to National Fiber Based Carriers, Dedicated Internet Access Providers, Access Tandem Switching Providers, and Digital Video Providers. Independents has 24/7 Network Management and Monitoring, Alternate Routing/Disaster Recovery, Company Intranet/B2B Networking and Collocation Hosting Services.

Additional information about Independents, and the services they provide, can be found at www.ifnetwork.biz.

About INDATEL: INDATEL Group was established in 2003 with 15 charter members. Today, there are 28 members from across the nation that consists of 500 Rural Local Exchange Carriers, with over 70,000 miles of fiber optic backbone network, and over 5,000 communities served. Each INDATEL member is majority owned by the Rural Local Exchange Carriers in its home state, some of which have been in existence for over a century. INDATEL members are committed to providing secure, reliable and flexible bandwidth at competitive rates.

About Com Net, Inc. (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.

— More —

Customers of CNI 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.

###