

PRESS RELEASE

FOR INTEGRA TELECOM



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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INTEGRA TELECOM INTRODUCES EXPANDED BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Portland, Ore. – Dec. 17, 2009 – Integra Telecom Inc., a privately-held telecommunications provider for business, has announced its newly expanded board of directors, welcoming seven new appointments following the Nov. 19 restructuring of its balance sheet, which reduced the company's overall debt from \$1.3 billion to \$600 million.

"We are very pleased to further augment the diverse business knowledge and experience represented on Integra's board," said Dudley Slater, CEO of Integra Telecom. "The members of our board each bring tremendous understanding of the communications sector and offer Integra a valuable strategic asset. Integra's highly responsive, local service model, best-in-class network, strengthened balance sheet and strategically focused board well position Integra to continue its history of strong growth and value creation."

The following individuals now serve as the board of directors for Integra Telecom:

- **Lawrence T. Babbio, Jr.** – senior advisor, Warburg Pincus. Babbio focuses on investment activities in the technology, media and telecommunications industries. He is the former vice chairman and president of Verizon Communications. Babbio also serves on the boards of Aramark and Hewlett Packard and previously served on the boards of Compaq Computer Corporation and Verizon Wireless.
- **Tom Casey** – CEO and director, Current Group, LLC. Casey will serve as Integra Telecom's chairman of the board. Casey has served as CEO of One Communications Inc., Choice One Communications and Global Crossing and served as managing director and the co-head of the Global Communications Group at Merrill Lynch and at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher and Flom. Earlier in his career, Casey served as the deputy chief, Common Carrier Bureau and assistant to the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission and in the Antitrust Division of the US Department of Justice. Casey has served as chairman of Choice One Communications and Pacific Crossing Ltd., vice chairman of Global Crossing and as a board member of several other public and private companies.

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- **Kenneth Dunn** – vice president and general counsel, John Bean Technologies (JBT) Corporation. Before joining JBT, Dunn held the position of vice president, chief corporate development and strategy officer at Qwest Communications. Prior to his business role at Qwest, Dunn served in legal transactional leadership roles at Ameritech Corporation, SBC Communications and Qwest.
- **Robert Guth** – formerly president, Business Markets Group, Level 3 Communications. Guth also held the positions of chairman, president and CEO of TelCove before it was acquired by Level 3 Communications in 2006 for approximately \$1.2 billion. Under Guth's leadership, Telcove turned its annualized EBITDA from negative \$180 million to positive \$130 million. Guth also serves on the board of Ntelos.
- **Michael Leitner** – managing partner, Tennenbaum Capital Partners (TCP). A telecommunications veteran, Leitner previously served as senior vice president of corporate development for WiTel Communications before joining TCP in 2005. Leitner served as president and chief executive officer of GlobeNet Communications, vice president of corporate development for 360 networks and senior director of corporate development for Microsoft Corporation. Leitner serves on the boards of Anacomp Inc., ITC Deltacom Inc., Online Resources, Wild Blue Communications and Ticketmaster Inc.
- **Kevin O'Hara** – co-founder, former president, COO and director, Level 3 Communications. Prior to the founding of Level 3 Communications, O'Hara served as president and CEO of MFS Global Network Services. O'Hara presided over the acquisition or integration of more than 30 companies contributing to the successful growth and value creation of Level 3 and MFS.
- **Dudley Slater** – co-founder and CEO, Integra Telecom. Since co-founding Integra Telecom, Slater has grown the company from \$1.5 million in revenues and nine employees to more than \$650 million in revenues with 2,300 employees working in more than 30 offices across 11 Western states.
- **Paul Sunu** – CFO, Hargray Communications. Sunu also co-founded Madison River Telephone Company, LLC, of Madison River Communications Corp. in 1996 where he served as CFO and member of the board until the company's merger with CenturyLink in 2007. Sunu has also served on the board of Centennial Communications.
- **Gene Yoon** – head of private capital investing, America's Special Situations Group, Goldman, Sachs & Co. Prior to joining Goldman Sachs, Yoon was a partner at Great Hill Partners, LLC, a private equity firm specializing in media/communications, technology and business services. Yoon's experience includes director of corporate and business development of Geocast Network Services and investment banking with Donaldson, Lufkin & Jenrette.

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About Integra Telecom

Integra Telecom Inc. provides voice and Internet solutions to thousands of business and carrier customers in 11 Western states, including: Arizona, California, Colorado, Idaho, Minnesota, Montana, Nevada, North Dakota, Oregon, Utah and Washington. It owns and operates a best-in-class fiber-optic network comprised of metropolitan access networks, a nationally acclaimed Internet and data networks, and a 4,700-mile high-speed long haul network. The company has earned some of the highest customer loyalty and customer satisfaction ratings in the telecommunications industry. Primary equity investors in the company include Goldman, Sachs & Co., Tennenbaum Capital Partners, funds managed by Farallon Capital Partners and Warburg Pincus. Integra Telecom and Electric Lightwave are registered trademarks of Integra Telecom Inc. For more information, visit: www.integratelecom.com.

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