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Clearfield Teams with Golden Belt to Bring Fiber to Kansas

Five year deployment to cover 18 exchanges, 4,000 square miles

MINNEAPOLIS--(BUSINESS WIRE)--

Golden Belt Telephone Association Inc. (GBTA), a cooperative based in Rush Center, Kansas, has teamed with Clearfield, Inc. (Nasdaq:CLFD) (formerly APA Cables & Networks) for a five-year fiber to the home deployment to 18 communities in west central Kansas.

According to GBTA Plant Manager Kirby Hagans, the deployment will cover approximately 4,000 square miles and 3,000 homes in rural Kansas when completed in 2013. "We're basically running active fiber to every home within the city limits of these exchanges," he said. "This project is part of a major upgrade where we're replacing copper with more efficient fiber."

He explained GBTA was looking for a patch panel system with fiber management that would serve the voice, broadband and cable television needs of their service area. GBTA recognized that the expanded band-width that fiber offers would be a welcomed-technology enhancement to their member community.

"Clearfield came through with exactly what we needed," commented Hagans. GBTA selected Clearfield's Fiber Distribution System for the central office due to the density of the design. "We wanted a cost-effective solution that provided high fiber counts in a small area - crucial to us due to our design plans of re-deploying an existing central office plant from copper to fiber."

Hagans noted that fiber is considerably less labor-intensive than copper, which translates in cost-savings for GBTA. "For example, we can handle all moves and changes from the central office, rather than having to roll out a truck. This makes for much easier and more efficient trouble shooting."

While the fiber to the home deployment is still in its infancy, with four exchanges expected to be completed this year, Hagans reported the process has been highly favorable to date. "It's been a very good working experience and we appreciate the ongoing support we've gotten from Clearfield. Product lead-times are minimal - allowing to manage our installation plans with confidence."

About Clearfield, Inc.

Clearfield, Inc., formerly APA Cables & Networks, designs and manufactures the FieldSmart fiber management platform, which includes its latest generation Fiber Distribution System (FDS) and Fiber Scalability Center (FSC). The FDS and FSC product lines support a wide range of panel configurations, densities, connectors and adapter options, and are offered

alongside an assortment of passive optical components. Clearfield provides a complete line of fiber and copper assemblies for controlled and outside plant environments. Clearfield is a public company, traded on Nasdaq:CLFD.

More information about Clearfield, Inc., its products and its people can be found at www.ClearfieldConnection.com.

Forward-looking statements contained herein are made pursuant to the safe harbor provisions of the Private Litigation Reform Act of 1995. These statements are based upon the Company's current expectations and judgments about future developments in the Company's business. Certain important factors could have a material impact on the Company's performance, including, without limitation, delays in or increased costs of production, delays in or lower than anticipated sales of the Company's new products, the Company's ability to sell such products at a profitable price, the Company's ability to fund operations, and other factors discussed from time to time in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. The Company undertakes no obligation to update such statements to reflect actual events.

Source: Clearfield, Inc.