July 30, 2024

Fiber Broadband Association Recognizes Clearfield CEO Cheri Beranek's Contributions to Industry

First Women Changing Fiber for Good AMPLIFY Award Winner

MINNEAPOLIS--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Clearfield, Inc. (NASDAQ: CLFD), the leader in community broadband fiber connectivity, today announced the Fiber Broadband Association (FBA) awarded Cheri Beranek, President and Chief Executive Officer of Clearfield, its Women Changing Fiber for Good AMPLIFY Award at an Awards Luncheon that recognized leaders across a variety of categories and disciplines. This award recognizes women who are making changes that will impact and improve the fiber broadband industry for years to come.

"Cheri has had a profound impact on her company, community, and the industry, and we're thrilled she was selected as the inaugural recipient of the Women Changing Fiber for Good AMPLIFY Award. Her extensive track record with Clearfield stood out to the judges, building and growing the company over the past decade and a half, finding innovative solutions in the most challenging environments, including the COVID-19 pandemic, and preparing her company and its customers to be successful once BEAD funding starts to flow," said Doug Mohney, FBA's *Fiber Forward* Editor in Chief. "Cheri truly embodies everything we were looking for in naming a recipient of this award, and we are excited to see how she continues to change fiber for good."

Beranek said, "It is an honor to be awarded the Women Changing Fiber for Good AMPLIFY Award by the Fiber Broadband Association. Being recognized for the hard work and accomplishments made in this field alongside other broadband industry leaders is truly an amazing honor. I hope that I can continue to help our industry evolve as it continues to grow through public and private funding, ensuring we close the digital divide."

Cheri is a founding member of Clearfield and was named President and CEO in 2008. Her extensive leadership experience and insightful management style combine to deliver outstanding corporate performance. Under her direction, Clearfield has recorded 14 years of profitability and has gained Forbes' recognition as one of America's Best Small Companies three times, the most recent in 2022, ranking 4th in Forbes' Top 100 Small Cap Company listing.

In addition to the *Fiber Forward* "Women Changing Fiber for Good" AMPLIFY Award, Beranek was recently named an Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year® 2023 Heartland Award winner.

By singularly focusing on the fiber market, Beranek has guided Clearfield into a half-billion-dollar multinational business with more than 400 employees and over 1,200 customers as a leading provider of fiber protection, fiber management, and fiber delivery solutions that

enable rapid and cost-effective broadband deployment.

About Clearfield, Inc.

Clearfield, Inc. (NASDAQ: CLFD) designs, manufactures, and distributes fiber optic management, protection, and delivery products for communications networks. Our “fiber to anywhere” platform serves the unique requirements of leading incumbent local exchange carriers (traditional carriers), competitive local exchange carriers (alternative carriers), and MSO/cable TV companies, while also catering to the broadband needs of the utility/municipality, enterprise, data center, and military markets. Headquartered in Minneapolis, MN, Clearfield deploys more than a million fiber ports each year. For more information, visit www.SeeClearfield.com.

About the Fiber Broadband Association

The Fiber Broadband Association is the largest and only trade association that represents the complete fiber ecosystem of service providers, manufacturers, industry experts, and deployment specialists dedicated to the advancement of fiber broadband deployment and the pursuit of a world where communications are limitless, advancing quality of life and digital equity anywhere and everywhere. The Fiber Broadband Association helps providers, communities, and policy makers make informed decisions about how, where, and why to build better fiber broadband networks. Since 2001, these companies, organizations, and members have worked with communities and consumers in mind to build the critical infrastructure that provides the economic and societal benefits that only fiber can deliver. The Fiber Broadband Association is part of the Fibre Council Global Alliance, which is a platform of six global FTTH Councils in North America, LATAM, Europe, MEA, APAC, and South Africa. Learn more at fiberbroadband.org.

View source version on businesswire.com:
https://www.businesswire.com/news/home/20240730004884/en/

Autumn Minnich
Connect2 Communications for Clearfield, Inc. and for the Fiber Broadband Association
Clearfield@connect2comm.com
FBA@connect2comm.com

Source: Clearfield, Inc.