

For Immediate Release

Contact Information:

Laura Kocher Great Plains Communications 402-456-6429 lkocher@gpcom.com

Great Plains Communications Begins Construction to Extend Fiber Network

New construction will expand the company's Internet and voice offerings in Omaha, Fremont, Columbus, Seward and rural areas of Nebraska

BLAIR, Nebraska - April 18, 2019 - <u>Great Plains Communications</u>, the largest independent telecommunications provider in the state of Nebraska, has kicked off new construction to extend the reach of its extensive 9,500-mile regional fiber network. Projects include construction to expand fiber coverage in select parts of the Greater Omaha area, Fremont, Columbus, and Seward, Nebraska to reach more enterprise customers with Internet, managed Ethernet, traditional and cloud-based voice services, and data center connectivity. In addition, the company will build fiber to several wireless towers across Nebraska.

Residential expansion includes construction into rural areas of Creighton, Ponca, Rushville, Scribner, Stapleton and Wisner. This network growth will allow customers to receive higher Internet speeds that support multiple devices, content and video streaming, working from home and online education in these currently unserved or underserved areas.

In 2018, Great Plains Communications completed four 100 Gbps rings. This enhancement allows the company to further leverage and increase the power of the network to accommodate present and future broadband initiatives including Software-defined Wide Area Network Solutions (SD-WAN), the Internet of Things (IOT), and 5G technology.

Todd Foje, CEO, Great Plains Communications, said, "In today's world, broadband connectivity is vital to both businesses and households. To meet growing demands, Great Plains Communications continues to strategically build out and improve our network year over year."

About Great Plains Communications

Great Plains Communications is the largest privately-owned telecommunications provider in Nebraska. The company provides over 90 communities across the state with high-speed Internet, cable television, and voice services. Business solutions range from traditional and cloud-based voice and data products to installation and support of large business networks with scalable Internet and Ethernet solutions.

At the core of its service offering is an extensive 9,500-mile regional fiber network including over 400 fiber miles in the Omaha Metro area. The network extends beyond Nebraska into Colorado, Illinois, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, South Dakota, and Wyoming offering community access rings, last-mile, and middle-mile solutions, all fully supported by their 24x7x365 Network Operations Center. The company is financially strong with over a century of experience providing reliable and innovative solutions. Great Plains Communications is privately owned by <u>Grain Management</u>, <u>LLC</u>: a leading private equity firm focused on investments in the Communications sector. For more information visit <u>www.gpcom.com</u>.

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