



For Immediate Release

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Great Plains Communications becomes the First Tier III Service Provider in the nation to achieve TL9000 Certification

July 14, 2015 (Blair Neb.) - Great Plains Communications, Nebraska's largest privately owned telecommunications company, is proud to announce they have achieved ISO9001:2008 and TL9000-VR5.5/5.0 certifications under product category 7.3.2 for their Network Operations Center (NOC). The NOC is located at the headquarters building in Blair, Nebraska and provides 24/7/365 monitoring, technical support and notification in support of the company's 5,000 mile, fiber optic network. The company is the first Tier III Service Provider in the United States to achieve this designation.

"Achieving these certifications is an important milestone for Great Plains Communications. It demonstrates to our customers and stakeholders that we are committed to delivering quality service and continuous improvement," said Mike Huggenberger, Senior Director of Technology and Network Services. "The company will leverage the TL9000 quality management system to ensure the stability, flexibility and growth of our network."

The TL9000 Quality Management System (QMS) is designed specifically for the communications industry. The purpose is to define the distinctive QMS requirements for design, development, production, delivery and service. In addition, the system identifies measurements to assist in evaluating the effectiveness of quality implementation and improvement programs.

"Great Plains Communications is honored to be the nation's first Tier III Service Provider to achieve this designation and certification," said Todd Foje, CEO. "Holding ourselves accountable to the highest standards of quality adds value for our clients, and sets us apart from the competition."

About Great Plains Communications

Great Plains Communications is the largest privately owned telecommunications provider in Nebraska. At the core of their service offering is an extensive, 5,000 mile regional fiber network with community access rings, last mile and middle mile solutions. The network reach extends beyond Nebraska into Colorado, Iowa, Kansas, Minnesota, South Dakota and Wyoming, and is fully supported by a 24x7x365 Network Operations Center. The company is financially strong with a 105-year history of providing reliable and innovative solutions. Great Plains Communications prides itself on their progressive approach to accommodating the unique needs of all regional and national telecommunications carriers, LECs, ISPs, wireless carriers and other service providers utilizing superior custom engineering and custom build strategies.

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