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Smithville Digital signs contracts with seven companies locating in WestGate @ Crane Technology Park for high-speed fiber connectivity

State Technology Park courts defense contractors with high-speed gigabit connectivity

CRANE, Ind. (Feb. 25, 2009)—Smithville Digital, affiliate of Smithville Telephone, Indiana’s largest telecommunications company, will provide seven companies locating in the WestGate @ Crane Technology Park with high-speed fiber optic broadband. As the fiber broadband provider for the rapidly expanding technology park in south central Indiana, Smithville’s dedication to providing the park with gigabit connectivity has become an important selling point for local economic development officials looking to attract high-tech defense contractors to the park.

The WestGate Technology Park, located adjacent to Naval Surface Activity (NSA) Crane in Southern Indiana, is home to some of the nation’s top defense contractors. Smithville Digital signed contracts with EG&G, RAYDAR, Crane Federal Credit Union, TSC, SAIC, NAVMAR, and Novonics to begin connecting these companies to high speed data services.

“Smithville Digital’s investment in the fiber broadband infrastructure that would eventually connect companies located in the WestGate @ Crane Technology Park was integral to our successful attraction of defense contractors and the creation of new jobs,” said Davies County Economic Development Corporation Executive Director Ron Arnold. “Their commitment to economic development in the Technology Park and the region demonstrates the possibilities for real growth and progress here, even in times of economic uncertainty.”

Smithville Digital currently provides high-speed fiber-optic broadband services throughout the state to companies, cities and technology parks like Cook Inc., Bloomington Hospital, Monroe County Schools, Baxter Pharmaceuticals, Purdue Research Park, City of Bloomington, City of Columbus and many other organizations.

“The availability of true high-speed fiber optic infrastructure is key to the economic development efforts of any community, and just as important as transportation infrastructure to a company’s decision to relocate,” said Smithville Digital President Cullen McCarty. “Through the deployment of gigabit fiber optic broadband throughout Indiana’s rural areas, we intend to make the state as competitive and as attractive for relocation as any other out there.”

Smithville Digital continues to invest millions in new fiber-optic infrastructure throughout the state to help boost Indiana's economy with over \$5 million in rural fiber-optic infrastructure just last year. The fiber-optic connections at WestGate @ Crane Technology Park are part of an overall strategy to place Indiana's high-speed broadband services on-par with the best in the world.

About Smithville Digital

Smithville Digital was formed in 2003 to offer the highest technological services for businesses and networking throughout the state of Indiana. Smithville Digital provides a fiber-optic means of digital data transmission to its customers. Fiber-optic technology allows for "last mile" connectivity as well as network management solutions to help customers meet their data transmission needs. For more information about Smithville Digital visit www.smithvilledigital.net.

Smithville Digital was formed as a spin-off of Smithville Telephone Company. Founded in 1922, Smithville Telephone has grown to be Indiana's largest independent telecom company. Smithville Telephone Company has expanded its services to include Smithville Digital as well as DSL services. The headquarters are located in Ellettsville, Ind. For more information please visit www.smithville.net.