



President  
DOUGLAS J. WENZLAFF

President Elect  
JAMES COSTELLO

Executive Director  
WILLIAM ESBECK

**NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

**August 22, 2007**

Contact: **Bill Esbeck, Executive Director** or **Chris LaRowe, Manager of External Affairs**

Phone: 608/256-8866 Fax: 608/256-2676 Email: [bill.esbeck@wsta.info](mailto:bill.esbeck@wsta.info) or [clarowe@wsta.info](mailto:clarowe@wsta.info)

**3 Wisconsin Local Telephone Companies Celebrate 100 Years**

MADISON – During the past several months, three Wisconsin-based local telephone companies have proudly celebrated 100 years of service with their customers, employees, local elected officials and state legislators. Since the beginning of June, an estimated 2,000 citizens attended 100 year anniversary events for Lemonweir Valley Telephone Company (Camp Douglas, WI), Coon Valley Farmers Telephone Company, Inc. (Coon Valley, WI) and Farmers Independent Telephone Company (Grantsburg, WI). All three companies are members of the Wisconsin State Telecommunications Association (WSTA).

“WSTA salutes the hard work, dedication and commitment these companies and their employees have given to their customers during the past 100 years,” said William C. Esbeck, Executive Director. “We especially applaud the significant financial investments they have made in their networks, which provides the latest technology and offers the highest quality telecommunication services. WSTA member companies continue to provide the infrastructure needed to keep the Wisconsin economy and job market competitive in a global economy.”

Approximately 90% of Wisconsin’s telephone exchanges have Broadband capabilities, including customers in all urban, suburban, and rural exchanges. In addition, approximately 85% of WSTA member company customers can order Broadband products today. Broadband and the feature rich telecommunication services that can be layered on top are vital to the success and prosperity of the public and private business sectors and the residents of the State of Wisconsin.

WSTA is a Madison-based trade organization representing 70 Wisconsin local telephone companies, 25 of the state’s Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and 9 of the state’s wireless carriers.