



NEWS RELEASE

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**TDS TELECOM Director of Legislative Affairs and Corporate Communications
Named WSTA President**

MADISON – The Wisconsin State Telecommunications Association (WSTA) is pleased to announce that Andrew “Drew” Petersen (Middleton, WI) was recently installed to the role of President during WSTA’s 99th Annual Convention, which took place May 18-21, 2009, at the Grand Geneva Resort in Lake Geneva, Wisconsin. Mr. Petersen replaces James M. Costello, General Manager of Lemonweir Valley Telcom (Camp Douglas, WI), who served as WSTA President during the past year.

“WSTA and its member companies are very much looking forward to working with Drew during his term as President, as we showcase the industries accomplishments and appropriately position the Association as it moves towards its 100 year anniversary in 2010,” said Bill Esbeck, Executive Director. “We applaud the hard work, dedication and leadership Jim provided the Association during the past year.”

In his role at TDS, Drew serves as chief corporate spokesman for TDS TELECOM, the fifth largest, non-Bell Telecommunications Company in the United States, with headquarters in Madison, Wisconsin. Drew is responsible for effectively developing, tracking and proactively implementing all federal and state legislative policy, regulatory affairs, managing the TDS TELECOM Political Action Committee (PAC) program and assisting in the development and organization of TDS TELECOM’S nationwide legislative and communications positions and strategy.

Drew comes from the public sector, where he most recently served as Director of the Wisconsin Office of Federal/State Relations in Washington, DC. Appointed to the position by Wisconsin Governor Tommy G. Thompson, Petersen represented the State of Wisconsin and Governor Thompson through close contact with Congress, the White House, federal agencies and foreign governments.

Mr. Petersen received an Executive Master of Business Administration (MBA) from the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He also holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree majoring in History and Leadership Studies from Ripon College, Ripon, Wisconsin. Mr. Petersen is active in the civic community of Madison serving as Trustee/Vice President for the Big Brothers, Big Sisters Organization of Dane County as well as on the United Way of Dane County Vision Council. He is a Member of our Lady Queen of Peace Catholic Church and serves on the parish school and family board of directors.

WSTA is a Madison-based trade organization representing more than 70 of Wisconsin's local telephone companies, Internet Service Providers (ISPs) and wireless carriers.