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After 30+ Years of Service...

Ed Newcombe, everybody's favorite sales guy, has called it quits on a long and successful career in telecom sales.

Ed Newcombe retired back in July, allowing him some time to enjoy the rest of the late arriving summer. Ed is known primarily for his knowledge and expertise in outside plant products, from copper to fiber. He's been in sales for well over thirty years with companies like Norcom Agency Inc. (twice), Power and Telephone Supply, Pacific Star Communications who purchased Norcom in 2003, Camor Supply (which Ed started) and most recently with Norcom NW Inc.

Despite retiring at the age of 76, Ed still felt he owed customers his time and service, saying he felt like he would be letting them down if he retired. After a couple of months, he has softened that stance a bit and is embracing his retirement. He says that he has plenty to keep him busy, whether it's the never-ending duty of tending to his garden, almost weekly travels to his trailer at the

beach, visits to or from his family, tinkering with the '36 Ford or just helping his wife Peggy deal with him being around all the time. Admittedly, Ed says he surprised himself and hasn't quite missed it as much as he thought. To that, we should all say 'well done'!

Known for his sometimes controversial or oddly-inspiring license plate of "NUKM", which is simply for his last name, Ed has piled up hundreds of thousands of miles during his long tenure traveling the lonely highways. While covering mostly Oregon and Washington the last 10 years, Ed's territory has included Alaska, California, Nevada, Idaho and Montana. He's made friends and acquaintances in all these locations, from purchasing agent, outdoor technicians and engineers to presidents and CEO's.

There's probably not a telco entrance out there that wouldn't allow Ed to walk through and say 'hello.' It's no mystery how Ed has accomplished this. To put it simply, he always brings a smile that's genuine and he cares about the customers and people he dealt with on a daily, weekly or monthly basis.

Feel free to contact him and wish him a sincere congratulations. He would be happy to hear from many of you. He can be reached by email at enewcombe@frontier.com or on his cell phone at 503-816-0734.

Thanks Ed for all your service!



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Central Office & Information Technologies Seminar Recap

The 2011 CO/IT Seminar was held at the Best Western Agate Beach Inn on the Oregon Coast in Newport on September 29-30.

Curtis Frye, President of Technology and Society, Inc. opened the first day's sessions with his perspective on how individuals and groups can manage complex situations and deal effectively with challenges in the workplace through creativity. **Bob Duncan, President/CEO of Global FiberVision, Inc.** offered a session on a range of issues relating to the inspection and cleaning of fiber optic cables. **Rick Schippers and John Suh of EXFO America**, along with **Pattie Kitano of JDSU** and **Frank Mulhearn of Rep Com International** assisted with displaying and demonstrating a number of testing scopes.

Terry Martin, Owner of Martin and Baugh Consulting Group provided an overview of how SS7 over IP works, the reasons for using it and when it makes sense to employ it. **Jeff Woodman, Account Manager of JDSU** addressed "Understanding T1/DS1" including framing, performance characteristics and testing. **Ryan Lynch, Systems Engineer for Telco West Cisco Systems**, focused on the upcoming and on-going transition from IPv4 to IPv6. Ryan discussed the kinds of questions that telcos should be asking of vendors when evaluating the new hardware and software to accomplish this transition.

Brant Wolf, EVP of OTA was on hand for his legislative overview and regulatory update of the recently completed 2011 Oregon Legislative Session, including a discussion of bills that were of particular interest to OTA, touching on recent activities of the OPUC and the FCC.

Dale Merten, COO of The Toledo Telephone Company provided a presentation on OTT (Over the Top) Video technologies and how LEC's can utilize these technologies to better serve their customers. Dale shared how Toledo Telephone successfully moved from VUDU boxes to the latest OTT offerings to expand their market and attract new customers.



Mark Benson, American Power Systems visits with Helen Woosley, EnerSys at the Welcome Reception.



Rick Schippers and John Suh of EXFO America assist attendees during a hands-on session focusing on Fiber Optic inspection and cleaning.

Many thanks to the sponsors of this year's seminar for their generous support!

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2011 - 2012 OTA EVENT CALENDAR

2011

Safety Seminar • November 15

Red Lion Hotel - Jantzen Beach - Portland, OR.

8th Annual Cooperative Luncheon • November 17

Willamette University - Salem, OR.

2012

ITA Showcase • March 6-7

Holiday Inn - Portland Airport Hotel - Portland, OR.

Outside Plant Seminar • April 19-20

Best Western Agate Beach - Newport, OR.

2012 OTA-WITA Joint Annual Meeting • May 21-23

Skamania Lodge - Stevenson, WA.

OTA Web Site Update

*On-Line Registration now
available!*

For those of you who haven't noticed, you now have the ability to register for OTA seminars & events through the OTA web site. To access this feature, once you are on the home page, click on the link in the "Upcoming Events" box in the center of the page. Once you are on the Events Calendar page, scroll through to find the event you are interested in. You then will have two options to choose from. You can download the forms, print them off and fax or email your completed forms to the OTA office, or you can choose the option to "register on line." You have the ability to register up to 5 individuals at once. For payment options, you can request an invoice, indicate payment by check, or submit your credit card information through the secure system to pay by credit card. Your registration will be processed and a confirmation. invoice and/or receipt will be emailed to you.

.....stay tuned for more updates!



Notification of OTA President of Any Antitrust Concerns

OTA members, representatives and attendees should promptly bring any antitrust concerns to the attention of OTA President. Because antitrust law and policy is legally complex (especially in view of the heavily regulated nature of the telecommunications industry), all OTA members, representatives and attendees are expected and instructed to seek promptly the advice of counsel for OTA in the event that there is any question as to whether any contemplated action, activity, proposal, or other course of action may be in conflict with applicable law.

OTA members, representatives and attendees should terminate any discussion, seek legal counsel's advice, or, if necessary, leave any meeting or discussion where improper subjects are being discussed and explain the reasons for departure to those still in attendance.

For a copy of OTA's Antitrust Policy in its entirety, please contact the OTA office.

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An Important Message from the OPUC

As with the last biennium, statewide office closure/furlough days should be treated the same as if they were a state recognized holiday, meaning no disconnections on the Thursday prior.

The current recession has reduced state revenues, and has forced the Legislature to make deep cuts in agency budgets. Coping with these cuts requires closing state offices. State workers affected by the closures will take unpaid furloughs on those days. We apologize for any inconvenience these closures might cause, and we look forward to restoration of a full work schedule for all state agencies when the economy improves.

The designated closure days will not affect the Oregon University System or the legislative branch of government. State courts will be open on September 16, 2011, but will be closed on all other designated closure days listed below.

Please note the following furlough days for the next two-year budget period:

2011

Friday, Sept. 16, 2011
Friday, Nov. 25, 2011

2012

Friday, March 23, 2012
Friday, May 25, 2012
Friday, Aug. 17, 2012
Friday, Oct. 19, 2012
Friday, Nov. 23, 2012

2013

Friday, Jan. 18, 2013
Friday, April 19, 2013
Friday, May 24, 2013

Please include the following email addresses on your Oregon network outage notices:

Oers.Staff@state.or.us, PUC.Outage@state.or.us
Questions about PUC Outage notices may be referred to me;
questions about OERS Outage notices may be referred to Gordon Tiemeyer (503-378-2911 x22282)

Thanks,
Fred Goodwin, Senior Telecommunications Engineer
Rates and Service Quality Section, OPUC
Phone: (503) 378-6122 • Fax: (503) 373-7752

Please note the dates and the other information.

If you have any questions contact Brant or the Oregon Public Utility Commission directly.

– Phil Boyle, Manager, Consumer Services, OPUC
Toll Free 800-522-2404

OTA COMMITTEE MEETINGS CALENDAR



Please keep in mind the possibility that these dates could change, so be sure to watch your email for meeting confirmation and details that are sent to all committee members the week prior to the scheduled meeting date.

NOVEMBER 2011

- 7th Annual Meeting Committee Meeting**
Monday - 9:00 a.m. at Clear Creek Telephone, Oregon City
- 14th Safety Committee Pre-Seminar Committee Meeting Dinner**
Monday - 6:00 p.m. Red Lion Hotel - Jantzen Beach, Portland
- 15th OTA Board of Directors & Small Company Committee Meetings**
Tuesday - 9:30 a.m. at Douglas Electric - 1981 NE Stephens Street, Roseburg
- 16th Scholarship Foundation Board of Director's Meeting**
Wednesday - 9:00 a.m. at AKT Office, Salem

DECEMBER 2011

- 1st Accounting Committee Meeting**
Thursday - 10:00 a.m. at AKT Office, Salem
- 8th Outside Plant Committee Meeting**
Monday - 10:00 a.m. at Pioneer Telephone, Philomath
- 14th Consumer Services & Marketing Committee Meeting**
Wednesday - 10:00 a.m. at Monitor Telephone, Monitor
- 19th Safety Committee Meeting**
Monday - 2:00 p.m. at Canby Telcom, Canby

JANUARY 2012

- 10th Emergency Preparedness & Network Security Committee Meeting**
Tuesday - 10:00 a.m. at the OTA office, Salem
- 11th Central Office & Information Technologies Committee Meeting**
Wednesday - 10:00 a.m. at Pioneer Telephone, Philomath

Mark your calendar now for 2012!

**The OTA / WITA Joint Annual Conference
will take place at Skamania Lodge
in Stevenson, Washington
May 21st - 23rd**



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