

CONNECTIONS NEWSLETTER

OREGON
TELECOMMUNICATIONS
ASSOCIATION
1915 - 2015
100 YEARS



4th Quarter 2015 Edition

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This year's event was sponsored in part by

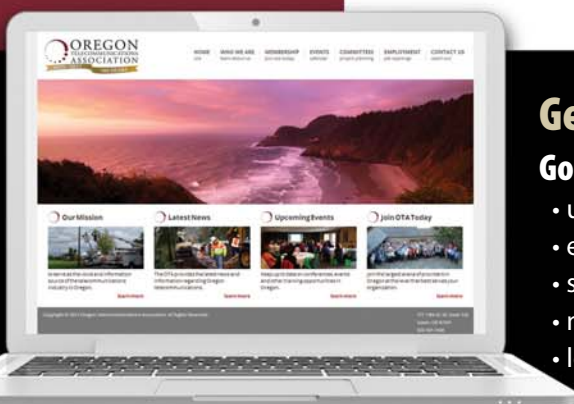


2015 Safety Seminar Recap

The OTA 2015 Safety Seminar was a one day event that took place on November 18th at the Comfort Suites Airport in Salem.

Kicking off the seminar was **David Briggs, Partner at Saalfeld Griggs, P.C.** who presented **"Drugs in the Workplace: A Review of Safety Concerns Port-Measure 91."** David reviewed what the legalization of marijuana for recreational purposes means for your workplace, and what you can and should be doing to ensure a drug-free workplace. David covered what Measure 91 does and does not do with respect to employment laws, and provided practical advice for handling issues that arise when crafting a lawful drug use and testing policy. He also addressed the struggles companies face in light of the use and abuse of prescription medication, including those employees in safety-sensitive positions.

See Safety Recap



Get informed 24/7/365

Go to www.ota-telecom.org

- up-to-date industry news
- event calendar
- seminar information
- member directory
- legislative updates

Show off your stuff...

Are you a new member? Would you like your fellow OTA members to notice your company and products? If so, this quarterly online newsletter is a great way to be seen and make new contacts!

Contact the OTA office today!

503.581.7430

ITA Showcase Northwest 2016

BOOM!

Beginning the Big Build Year

March 2 and 3

Holiday Inn / Portland Airport Hotel

for more information visit www.itashowcase.org

DON'T MISS IT!!

Coming soon.....the 2016 Outside Plant Seminar!



Please plan to join us for discussions on:

Grounding & Bonding • Fiber Characterization • Joint Pole Usage: Shared Conduit and Shared Facilities
WiFi • Bonded Pairs & Loop Extenders • Regulatory & Legislative Report
Whole Home Automation & Monitoring

The seminar brochure and registration materials will be distributed via e-mail mid February. Watch your in-box! On-line registration will be available the end of February at www.ota-telecom.org.

James Rennard Appointed Western Region Division Manager for GVNW Consulting Inc.

Tualatin, OR (December 29, 2015) - GVNW Consulting is pleased to announce that effective January 1, 2016, James Rennard will be assuming the position of Division Manager for GVNW's Western Region.

James joined GVNW in 2009 after positions with AKT's audit group and at Canby Telcom as its CFO and VP - Finance & Regulatory.



Jeff Smith, GVNW President and CEO shares the following: "James brings energy, enthusiasm and insight to his new role and responsibilities. I look forward to working with Jim in meeting the needs of our rural broadband clients."

Mr. Rennard will be based in GVNW's Western Region office in Tualatin, Oregon. He can be reached at 503.612.4410 or jrennard@gvnw.com.

About GVNW Consulting, Inc.

GVNW Consulting is one of the leading telecommunications consulting firms in the nation specializing in applications to enhance the delivery of telecom products and services to rural areas. Established in 1970, GVNW currently serves over 200 client companies around the world, both incumbent and competitive, with the majority consisting of smaller companies located in high cost rural or insular areas. Please visit www.GVNW.com for more information.

Safety Recap, continued...

Mike Hetzel, Director-Risk Management Services for **Unitel Insurance** talked about "**Work and Home Safety and Security.**" Mike covered how to enhance your safety at work as well as take what you have learned and apply it to your personal life at home or play.

Laurie Holien, Deputy Director at the **Oregon Office of emergency Management (OEM)** offered a presentation on "**The Cascadia Threat and Emergency Coordination with the Telecommunications Sector.**" Laurie described how the State of Oregon is coordinating with the private sector owners and operators to streamline response efforts and describe how service providers can develop business continuity plans.

Daniel Multop, owner of **Multiple Computer Solutions** joined the group to discuss "**Security Threats and Best Practices,**" covering what the most common cyber threats are, how to avoid them, and how to deal with them if they happen to you. He also discussed

OTA COMMITTEE MEETINGS CALENDAR

A graphic showing two black silhouettes of people standing and shaking hands, positioned between the words 'OTA COMMITTEE' and 'MEETINGS CALENDAR'.

MARCH 2016

- 2 *OTA Outside Plant Committee Meeting*
Wednesday – 12:00 p.m. – ITA Showcase;
Holiday Inn Airport Hotel – Portland, OR
- 15 *OTA Consumer Services & Marketing Committee Meeting*
Tuesday – 10:00 a.m. – Scio Mutual Telephone Association
– Scio, OR
- 17 *OTA CO-IT Committee Meeting*
Thursday – 10:00 a.m. – OTA – Conference Rm B – Salem, OR
- 22 *OTA Small Company & Board of Directors Meeting*
Tuesday – 9:30 a.m. – OTA – Conference Rm A – Salem, OR

APRIL 2016

- 7 *OTA Accounting Committee Meeting*
Thursday – 10:00 a.m. – AKT's office – Salem, OR
- 13 *OTA Outside Plant Committee Pre-Seminar Meeting*
Wednesday – 6:00 p.m. – Best Western Agate Beach Inn
– Newport, OR
- 28 *OTA Scholarship Foundation Board of Directors Meeting*
Thursday – 10:00 a.m. – OTA – Conference Rm A – Salem, OR

different types of scams such as FBI-related scams, identity theft, computer crimes, untrustworthy websites, and the latest scams in the news.

Michael Van Wormer, Loss Prevention Consultant with **Great American Insurance** finished off the day's sessions with "**Outside Plant Safety and Ergonomics.**" Michael talked about material handling issues (proper ergonomics), slips, trips and falls, driver controls, outside elements (heat and cold), ladder safety, proper tool selection, controls for entering a customer's home, fall protection and safety controls for trenching, boring and excavation.

Thank you to our exhibitor's for joining us for the day!



Oregon Telecommunications Association
&
Washington Independent Telecommunications Association
Joint Annual Meeting, May 16 – 18, 2016



1415 Fifth Avenue, Seattle



Call the MOTIF today at (855) 515-1144

Please be sure to ask for the "OTA/WITA Annual Meeting" group rates.

All room rates are non-commissionable, net rates, subject to tax, which is currently 15.6%, and/or state or local mandated tax, which is currently \$2.00 per night. Room rates are subject to change.

Hotel Reservation deadline is April 15, 2016

www.motifseattle.com Group code: OREG0515

Conference brochure and registration materials will be distributed and on-line registration available at www.ota-telecom.org in early March.

MOTIF
SEATTLE

FROLIK
INTERNATIONALS

OTA EVENT CALENDAR

ITA Showcase

March 2 – 3, 2016

Holiday Inn Portland Airport Hotel – Portland, OR

Outside Plant Seminar

April 14 – 15, 2016

Best Western Agate Beach Inn – Newport, OR

OTA- WITA Joint Annual Meeting

May 16 – 18, 2016

“Motif” (formerly the Red Lion Hotel) on Fifth Avenue – Seattle, WA

Central Office & Information Technologies Seminar

September 8 – 9, 2016

Best Western Agate Beach Inn – Newport, OR

Accounting Seminar

October 13 – 14, 2016

Best Western Agate Beach Inn – Newport, OR

Consumer Services & Marketing Seminar

October 27, 2016

Oregon Garden Resort – Silverton, OR



The new look website is now ready!

www.ota-telecom.org

Check it out today!

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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New Members

The OTA would like to welcome the following companies who have recently joined the association.

For contact info and links to their websites, please visit the OTA website.

New Associate Member:
Cordell, Inc.



Did you attend Wireshark 101?.....

On Wednesday, December 2nd OTA sponsored a training workshop at Canby Telcom on the world's foremost network protocol analyzer - WIRESHARK.

It lets you see what's happening on your network at a microscopic level. The goal of the workshop was to provide both a background of **Wireshark** as well as hands on fundamentals.

The training was coordinated with the assistance of Gene de Vore and presented by Justin Radke and Chris LaPlante of Canby Telcom. The program included a lecture and a lab session. Space was limited to 24 attendees, so **if you missed out on the December 2015 class, we might be able to persuade Justin and Chris to share their expertise once again** if we can generate enough interest to arrange another training session. **Call or e-mail Susan at the OTA office if you would like to see this happen.**

Security and Home Automation Service

Protect your customers. Protect your Future.

Offer your customers reliable security and home automation they can access remotely through a custom app on their smartphone, tablet and web-portal.

- ✓ Interactive home security
- ✓ Integrated thermostat and lighting control
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