



The VON Coalition

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VoIP Leaders Hail Recognition of Consumer Internet Freedoms

Say Internet Freedoms are Essential to Unlocking VoIP's Full Promise and Potential

Background: Today the FCC embraced a policy statement and opened a rulemaking to ensure that consumers can use any device, application, or service over their broadband connection. Commission endorsement of these connectivity principles helps to ensure that network operators and owners are not able to unreasonably or unlawfully restrict consumer choice by blocking or impairing services accessed over broadband connections.

The following statement can be attributed to Jim Kohlenberger, Executive Director of the Voice on the Net Coalition.

"In endorsing these basic Internet freedoms, the FCC took an important step forward today to ensure that Internet innovation can continue unabated. By establishing a set of safeguards to protect the rights of consumers to use any device, service, or application they choose over their broadband connection, the Commission is making a commitment that is critical to unlocking the vast potential of VoIP. Allowing consumers unfettered access to the Internet can help accelerate the new services, increased choices, and better prices that VoIP can deliver."

About the VON Coalition:

The Voice on the Net or VON Coalition consists of leading VoIP companies, on the cutting edge of developing and delivering voice innovations over Internet. The coalition, which includes Acceris, AccessLine, AT&T, BMX, BT Americas, CallSmart, Cisco, Convedia, Covad, EarthLink, iBasis, Intel, Intrado, Level 3, MCI, Microsoft, MobilePro, Multi-Link, New Global Telecom, PointOne, Pulver.com, Skype, Switch Business Solutions, T-Mobile USA, USA Datanet, and VocalData, works to advance regulatory policies that enable Americans to take advantage of the full promise and potential of VoIP. The Coalition believes that with the right public policies, Internet based voice advances can make talking more affordable, businesses more productive, jobs more plentiful, the Internet more valuable, and Americans more safe and secure. Since its inception, the VON Coalition has promoted pragmatic policy choices for unleashing VoIP's potential. More information about the VON Coalition can be obtained at the following website: <http://www.von.org>