



November 1, 2002

Immediate Release

In the next week, SawNet will be completing the next leg of a high-speed fiber-optic network backbone in the Columbia Gorge town of Stevenson, Washington. In the last month, SawNet installed four secure wireless nodes--one each on the Port of Skamania County's Tichner Building, the Skamania Lodge, the SawNet Headquarters and on the NoaNet POP (Point of Presence) connecting with the NoaNet broadband fiber optic loop encircling the Northwest. These secure wireless nodes allow any individual or any business with line-of-sight to access SawNet's bandwidth on the new fiber optic network.

In engineering this hybrid wireless / fiber network, SawNet created the new information and data transfer network for the Providence Health Systems and provided the specialized broadband fiber access required by the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA).

The next phase of SawNet's fiber loop is planned for this winter in conjunction with the Stevenson Downtown Revitalization Project. At that time, The Port of Skamania County plans to lay a redundant fiber connection from the Port's Tichner Building into the SawNet fiber network.

With the completion of the project in the Spring of 2003, Stevenson residents will readily access to the most advanced broadband network of any rural town area in the NW.

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For more information:

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High-resolution digital files of the construction are available in the "What's New" section of the SawNet web site.