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**Press Release**

**Skamania Chamber of Commerce and Prindle business are Sawtooth Technologies first next generation wireless customers.**

The Skamania County Chamber of Commerce received the first link in the new Sawtooth Technologies fiber/wireless network in Stevenson. Located in the center of Stevenson in the First Independent Bank Building, the new system tested at a higher speed/capacity a T-1 and DSL speeds in Stevenson.

“It provides us with a new level of efficiency,” said Amy Nyberg, Executive Director of the Chamber. “E-connections are a vital link for business’ today.”

Using encrypted wireless signals, the signal leaves the Chamber office to a high capacity wireless node on the peak of Skamania Lodge. From that point, the signal bounces to a Sawtooth Technologies node at the NoaNet Point of Presence (POP) above Stevenson. Once at the POP, the signal loads onto the NoaNet fiber loop and then on to the 17 cross-connections Sawtooth Technologies maintains with other fiber optic systems in the country.

The second wireless customer created a unique problem for Sawtooth Technologies technicians. With no cable TV or advanced telecommunications available, the technicians adapted the system now operational in Stevenson to develop broadband in the West End of Skamania County. The first Sawtooth Technologies broadband customer operates an Internet business out of his home in Prindle. The slow speeds of available landlines placed him at a significant competitive disadvantage in processing orders and sending large files of information to clients. Again, the link in Prindle tested at speeds similar to the Chamber of Commerce link.

By installing a Prindle node, Sawtooth Technologies now offers Internet access at speeds in excess of T-1 lines to individuals in Prindle, Skamania Landing and the upper Washougal River areas with line-of-sight to the turning point. The low cost of wireless means the customer charge compares favorably to DSL. The long-term advantage of Sawtooth Technologies wireless nodes over landlines lies in the “scalability” of the system. If an individual only needs the capacity of a DSL, the node will be set at that capacity and the cost comparable. As the business expands, the capacity of the node can be increased without installing new hardware or disturbing current configurations.

Headquartered in Stevenson Washington, Sawtooth Technologies is a Northwest leader in fiber/wireless systems. Other fiber/wireless systems installed and maintained by Sawtooth Technologies operate in 6 NW cities and for the Bonneville Power Administration. Wireless systems offer secure data transmission for rural customer at a fraction of the conventional cost and require substantially less infrastructure.

For more information on Sawtooth Technologies projects and clients, visit the Sawtooth Technologies website at [www.saw.net](http://www.saw.net)

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