



G R E A T P L A I N S
C O M M U N I C A T I O N S

**ATTACHMENT
LETTER E**



GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS is one of the largest privately-owned telecommunications providers in the Midwest, serving communities throughout Nebraska, Iowa and Indiana. Business and enterprise services range from traditional and cloud-based voice and data products to installation and support of strategic networks with fully scalable, managed Ethernet solutions. Residential services include high-speed Internet, cable and streaming video, local and long-distance phone and whole home WIFI. At the core of its service offering is an extensive 13,500+-mile, MEF-certified regional fiber network reaching 11 states that is fully supported by a 24x7x365, Network Operations Center.

What sets our company apart is our exceptional customer service. From the first customer contact through design, turn-up, testing and maintenance you will work with a local team committed to developing custom solutions to help you achieve your business goals. Operating on the core values of accountability, community, integrity, quality, service and teamwork, we deliver the benefits of a high performing network and high performing people.

LARGEST PRIVATELY-OWNED NETWORK IN NEBRASKA

- 99% buried fiber
- Unique routes
- MEF-certified
- Reliability - 99.999% availability on the core
- 13,500+ mile fiber network
 - 600 miles in Omaha
- Fully meshed transport core network
- Secure fiber network designed with ringed redundancy, scalability and flexibility
- Local presence - technicians strategically located across our fiber footprint



NETWORK OPERATIONS CENTER - QUALITY NEVER SLEEPS

- 24x7x365 network monitoring to ensure superior reliability and connectivity
- Proactive communication and monitoring to customer network
- Central point of contact for all network maintenance
- Rapid response to network outages and alarms

FIBER-DRIVEN SERVICES

POTENTIAL SERVICES FOR RESIDENTIAL AND ENTERPRISE CUSTOMERS

FIBER-DRIVEN BUSINESS-CLASS SERVICES



Standard & Dedicated Internet Access

Symmetrical and asymmetrical bandwidth up to 10 Gbps



Managed WiFi

Cloud-managed solutions with capability to provide guest and private WiFi networks



Managed Ethernet

Point-to-point, point-to-multipoint and multipoint-to-multipoint connections supported 24x7x365 by our Network Operations Center



GPC Cloud Connect

Provides a fast, flexible and secure direct connection to multiple leading Cloud and Network providers on our cloud ecosystem



DDoS Protection

Automated or on-demand attack traffic scrubbing service backed by teams of network security experts



Traditional & Cloud-Based Voice

Solutions ranging from POTS lines, SIP trunks and PRIs to unified communications services



Streaming TV

The latest entertainment, live sporting events and popular features over your business's GPC Internet connection

FIBER-DRIVEN RESIDENTIAL SERVICES



Internet

Speeds ranging from 50 Mbps to 1 Gig



Whole Home WiFi

Personalized and secure home network with GPC Whole Home WiFi, powered by Plume HomePass®



Phone

Clear, reliable landline connection with local and long distance calling options



GPC iTV Streaming TV

The latest entertainment and most popular features delivered to your smart TV or wireless devices over your GPC Internet connection

OUR TEAM

WITH OVER 130 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE



Tony Thakur, Chief Technology Officer

20+ years of experience

As the most senior technology executive in the organization, Mr. Thakur takes responsibility for leading and planning how to attain network growth, cost targets and other metrics required to meet annual corporate goals. Tony plays an integral role in the company's strategic direction and development and has overall responsibility for the long-range direction of technological planning. He establishes, communicates and maintains the technical architecture for corporate production, computing technologies and all network systems while ensuring the architecture can support the growing and changing needs of the business. Mr. Thakur puts his extensive experience to use by contributing to strategic decisions on expanding the fiber footprint, deploying capital, and supporting potential acquisitions, while positioning the company's service offerings as a leader in the communications industry.



Janelle Allison, Chief Operating Officer

15+ years of experience

Ms. Allison supports the mission statement of Great Plains Communications (GPC) by working within GPC's strategic and policy framework to manage the operations of the business by ensuring development of strategic plans, accountability of performance, and mentoring the Operations and Management team. Her extensive industry and company experience allow her to set operations direction while monitoring pricing and initiatives to ensure the company maintains a competitive market position, while meeting strategic growth initiatives.



Chris Wulf, Sr. Director of Operations

25+ years of experience

Mr. Wulf directs, manages and coordinates activities of the Outside Plant Engineering and Operations Departments. He develops, establishes and evaluates the strategic operations plan for Great Plains Communications and directs and ensures attainment of operational, strategic and financial goals of Great Plains Underground Construction (GPUC) and Business Systems groups. He also directs and designates assignments and responsibilities to State Operations Managers. Chris also determines and specifies equipment needs and schedules and sets budgets and oversees timelines and budgets for his teams.



Travis Radnor, Director of OSP Engineering

20+ years of experience

Mr. Radnor evaluates and prioritizes short-term and long-term Outside Plant (OSP) projects, evaluates strategic network opportunities and designs fiber optic, copper, and coax network routes. He oversees the development of cost estimates for OSP capital budget projects, grant applications, Network Services Group (NSG) proposals and dark fiber Requests for Proposals (RFPs). Travis participates in customer discussions for the development of custom communications solutions as part of the sales process, coordinates joint OSP projects with other companies and evaluates and manages fiber leases.



Joe Wisnieski, District Manager

20+ years of experience

Mr. Wisnieski develops a team-oriented commitment to support a positive customer-service culture. He coordinates with all departments to plan and execute territory specific network projects and initiatives and effectively manages a Broadband Technician team. He also proactively engages with the public in the areas he serves to determine needs, enable growth, resolve issues, answer questions and report information back to the corporate office to ensure full community awareness. Ian sets priorities and standards for routine maintenance and network improvements in his respective territory and assists with marketing and sales efforts.



John Evans, Sr. Project Manager

25+ years of experience

Mr. Evans serves as the lead project manager for technical and other business-related projects that address a wide variety of large and/or complex initiatives involving multiple internal departments and/or external customers. He initiates, plans, executes, monitors and closes projects according to strict deadlines and within budget while ensuring consistency with the company's strategies, commitments and goals. He coordinates the efforts of team members, vendors, third-party contractors and/or consultants in order to complete defined deliverables. John also builds project teams, develops, plans and executes project activities and facilitates all required communications. He efficiently manages changes and ensures high quality control throughout each project's life cycle.

POSITIVE CULTURE AND COMMUNITY IMPACT

GREAT PLAINS COMMUNICATIONS NOT ONLY MAINTAINS A POSITIVE CULTURE AND COMMITMENT TO COMMUNITY, BUT IMPROVES AND ENHANCES PROGRAMS YEAR AFTER YEAR.

Great Plains Communications realizes the need to continue the tradition of giving back to the communities we serve and the need to exude and nurture the strong company culture that has been built over the past century. Therefore, the company continues our on-going traditions of sponsoring our communities and having employees living, working and giving back to the areas they serve. These efforts and traditions not only solidify and leverage ongoing relationships with clients, they also strengthen and position us for strong growth as the brand gains traction in the marketplace.

COMMITMENT TO OUR SCHOOLS -

Great Plains Communications believes in the power of education. Therefore, we focus on helping students in the communities we serve attend college by offering over \$15K in scholarships each year. We also provide over \$25K in annual grants.

The company also awards an annual teacher of the year to an individual recognized and nominated by their peers for outstanding work in education.



SPONSORSHIPS AND DONATIONS -

Great Plains Communications is proud to sponsor and donate to causes and events that help to promote and grow the communities we serve.

IMPACT PROGRAM

The IMPACT program was developed by Great Plains Communications to encourage nonprofit organizations to undertake projects that have a positive community IMPACT. "How can we help?" is the seed that can grow into an IMPACT project.

MCCOOK IMPACT PROJECTS



McCook Skate Park Project, Light Up McCook



IMPACT grant to McCook Family Resource Center

"The commitment of Great Plains Communications to invest in the communities they serve is helping us remain competitive with other towns interested in staying ahead of the curve with community and business development. We are already recognized as a 'great small town,' and we're proud of that fact. However, the Great Plains Communications IMPACT Program gives us additional resources to stay competitive, progressing towards the next level of success we envision for ourselves."

KIRK DIXON

Former Executive Director
McCook Economic Development Corp.

VOLUNTEERISM -

With both integrity and community as core values, Great Plains Communications believes in giving back. That is why over half of our 260+ employees live and work in the communities they serve. On top of this they actively take part in community causes, donating thousands of hours as firefighters, paramedics, mentors, board members, scout or church leaders and to other community-based organizations.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT -

To ensure we were working more effectively in the area of Economic Development, a new internal Economic Development committee was formed at the beginning of 2019. This group helps to stay on top of initiatives within current service areas as well as areas where the company is looking to expand and prioritizes both monetary contributions and time allotment accordingly.

CULTURE -

The internal culture of Great Plains Communications is very collaborative and focused on the core values of accountability, community, integrity, quality, service and teamwork. Employees strive to work together providing a superior customer experience and making a difference in the communities and to the customers served. We pride ourselves on making each other better and living up to our motto: **HIGH PERFORMING NETWORK, HIGH PERFORMING PEOPLE**



RECENT EXPERIENCE

After receiving funding grants under the 2020 Cares Act administered by the Nebraska Department of Economic Development (DED), Great Plains Communications (GPC) began constructing Fiber-to-the Home and business networks in seven Nebraska rural communities in the Fall of 2020. GPC has begun cutting customers over to the fiber in phases as construction is completed. Projects are still underway and will be fully completed by the end of summer, 2021. The newly installed fiber plants will receive bandwidth from the Great Plains Communications 13,500+ mile owned and operated state and regional long-haul fiber network, which will provide multiple 100 Gbps circuits to meet existing and future bandwidth demand.

CALLAWAY, NEBRASKA

PROJECT SUMMARY

Great Plains Communications (GPC) deployed a total of 120,000 feet of fiber throughout the City of Callaway utilizing some of our existing conduit. The original project plan was a combination of aerial and buried conduit. However, GPC was unable to use locally owned poles. Therefore, the original design was revised to be all-buried fiber. As of April 15, 2021, the project is 100% complete and customers have been converted over to fiber.

COMMUNITY QUICK FACTS

Homes Passed

330

Businesses Passed

54

CREIGHTON, NEBRASKA

PROJECT SUMMARY

The project is a combination of 65% aerial and 35% buried fiber. GPC was able to utilize some existing conduit from a previous Alternative Connect America Model (ACAM) project. There is a total of 113,000 feet of fiber installed throughout Creighton. The project is currently underway with only 50 drops remaining and is scheduled for completion by July 1, 2021. GPC will be required to remove COAX from the Nebraska Public Power District (NPPD) poles by December 31, 2021.

COMMUNITY QUICK FACTS

Homes Passed

641

Businesses Passed

107

DESHLER, NEBRASKA

PROJECT SUMMARY

The project consists of a combination of 50% aerial and 50% buried fiber and utilizes some existing GPC conduit. There is a total of 110,000 feet of deployed fiber throughout the community. The project is currently ongoing and scheduled for completion by July 1, 2021. GPC iTV streaming video will be a new product in this community.

COMMUNITY QUICK FACTS

Homes Passed

426

Businesses Passed

49

GORDON, NEBRASKA

PROJECT SUMMARY

The project combines 35% aerial and 65% buried fiber with some existing conduit being utilized. A total of 200,000 feet of fiber has been deployed throughout the City of Gordon, and the project is currently ongoing with a scheduled completion date of July 1, 2021. GPC will be required to remove COAX from the NPPD poles by December 31, 2021.

COMMUNITY QUICK FACTS

Homes Passed

857

Businesses Passed

152



NORTH BEND, NEBRASKA

PROJECT SUMMARY

The project consists of 175,000 feet of 100% buried fiber deployed throughout the City of North Bend with some existing conduit being utilized. The project is in progress with a planned completion date of July 1, 2021.

COMMUNITY QUICK FACTS

Homes Passed

698

Businesses Passed

70

RED CLOUD, NEBRASKA

PROJECT SUMMARY

There is a total of 139,000 feet of fiber being installed in Red Cloud utilizing some existing conduit. This project will include 60% buried fiber and 40% aerial. The project is currently ongoing with a scheduled completion date of August 1, 2021. GPC iTV streaming video will be a new product in Red Cloud.

COMMUNITY QUICK FACTS

Homes Passed
683

Businesses Passed
113

SUTHERLAND, NEBRASKA

PROJECT SUMMARY

The Sutherland project combines 55% aerial and 45% buried fiber utilizing some existing conduit. There is a total of 200,000 feet of fiber being deployed with a completion date scheduled for mid-May, 2021. GPC will be required to remove COAX from the NPPD poles by December 31, 2021.

COMMUNITY QUICK FACTS

Homes Passed
565

Businesses Passed
43

