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INTERNET PROTOCOL ISSUES COMMITTEE ADDRESSES CRITICAL EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS ISSUES

(Washington, D.C. –) The E9-1-1 Institute today released the first round of white papers issued by a broad based committee of industry and public safety organizations that was created to examine the challenges and benefits of IP-based services for the Nation’s E9-1-1 system. The papers call for a comprehensive approach to implementing new IP-based technologies as well establishing national standards to foster deployment and improve public safety applications.

“The Internet Protocol Issues Committee exists to help the industry and policy makers address this critical public safety issue,” explained Gregory L. Rohde, Executive Director of the E9-1-1 Institute.

The mission of the Internet Protocol Issues Committee is to:

- Create a dialogue among a broad range of stakeholders, including public safety, state and local government, industry (providers, vendors, and technology innovators), academics, and consumers to examine the challenges and benefits of IP-based services for the Nation’s E9-1-1 system;
- Identify policy issues that need to be addressed in order to ensure a successful implementation of E9-1-1 operational and access requirements on VoIP systems; and
- Identify areas of opportunity for future IP-Based applications and identify solutions that can help to advance the nation’s E9-1-1 system.

“The rapid pace of change in communications technology creates both a challenge and an opportunity for our nation’s E9-1-1 system” said Rohde. “The Institute’s Internet Protocol Issues Committee (IPIC) seeks to foster consensus among public safety and industry to turn the challenges associated with new technologies into opportunities to improve public safety and emergency response.”

Co-chaired by Susan McGurkin of Intrado Inc. and Tim Lorello of TeleCommunication Systems Inc. - (TCS) (NasdaqGM:TSYS), the Internet Protocol Issues Committee includes industry and public safety leaders. “The committee brings together the people who are spearheading the next generation E9-1-1 system implementation, as well as those helping to ensure that E9-1-1 stays on track,” Mr. Lorello said. “The large number of entities and technologies that must work in concert to ensure our nation’s E-9-1-1 system evolves makes the Internet Protocol Issues Committee a needed resource to ensure public safety,” followed Ms. McGurkin.

“As industry leaders, both Susan McGurkin and Tim Lorello bring valuable perspectives,” Rohde said. “The E9-1-1 Institute is fortunate to have Ms. McGurkin and Mr. Lorello leading the effort to develop and recommend solutions for IP-based E9-1-1 deployment.”

The Internet Protocol Issues Committee would not seek to duplicate ongoing work that is occurring between some of the stakeholders on this subject. The scope of work for the Committee is focused on broad policy issues as well as serving as a clearinghouse of information on the many areas of activity related to IP-based services and 9-1-1/E9-1-1.

Specifically, the Internet Protocol Issues Committee serves to:

- Educate the Institute’s target audience about the technical issues surrounding the impact of implementing E9-1-1 for IP-based communications
- Offer suggestions and recommendations to the Institute’s target audience regarding the operational issues associated with E9-1-1 and how IP Communications impacts those issues.
- Offer suggestions and recommendations to the Institute’s target audience regarding the regulatory issues associated with E9-1-1 and how IP Communications impacts those issues

For further information regarding the Internet Protocol Issues Committee and to view the papers, please visit <http://www.e911institute.org/ipissuescommittee/index%20IPIC.html>.

About the E9-1-1 Institute:

The E9-1-1 Institute is a not-for-profit organization created to support the work of the Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus. The mission of the E9-1-1 Institute is to promote public education and awareness of E9-1-1 and emergency communications issues to advance solutions for improved E9-1-1 and emergency communications.

Gregory L. Rohde, former Administrator of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) serves as the E9-1-1 Institute’s executive director.

The Congressional E9-1-1 Caucus is Co-chaired by Senators Hillary Clinton (D-NY), Ted Stevens (R-AK), Representatives John Shimkus (R-IL) and Anna Eshoo (D-CA).

For further information regarding the E9-1-1 Institute, please visit: <http://www.e911institute.org> or call 202-292-4603 or email us at contactus@e911institute.org

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