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**Platinum Equity Principal Mark Barnhill to Speak at CEO Breakfast
During COMPTEL PLUS Fall 2010 Convention & EXPO**

***Presentation to Focus on Private Equity's Perspective on Investing in the Communications Sector
and Operating Communications Services Businesses in Today's Economic Environment***

WASHINGTON, D.C. – COMPTEL, the leading trade association for the competitive telecommunications industry, today announced that Mark Barnhill, a principal at the private equity firm Platinum Equity, will be the featured speaker at the CEO Breakfast during the [COMPTEL PLUS Fall 2010 Convention & EXPO](#) at the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center in Dallas, September 12-15, 2010.

"The industry's brightest leaders attend COMPTEL PLUS, and I look forward to a lively discussion on the issues we collectively face as business operators and investors in the communications sector during this volatile economic period," Barnhill said.

Platinum Equity is a private equity firm that has made wide-ranging investments in the telecommunications sector. Its current portfolio of operating companies includes several communications services businesses, including Covad Communications Company, which recently announced agreements to combine with MegaPath Inc. and Best Buy's Speakeasy unit; Matrix Business Technologies; Altura Communications Services; DCA Services; and Vanguard Networks, among others.

Barnhill is responsible for strategic planning and administration of Platinum's private equity funds, which are the firm's primary investment vehicles. He leads Platinum's capital raising activities and is the firm's senior relationship manager with investors, who comprise a diverse cross-section of public and private pension funds, financial institutions, foundations and family offices in North America, Europe and Asia. Barnhill also holds leadership functions connected to transaction sourcing, strategic planning and external affairs for Platinum Equity and its operating companies.

Prior to joining Platinum, Barnhill was a senior partner at Fleishman-Hillard Inc., a global communications consulting firm, where he directed the firm's corporate practice in Los Angeles and managed both domestic and international accounts. Before that he was a senior executive at the *Los Angeles Daily News*, where he served as assistant managing editor, city editor and Washington bureau chief, and spearheaded development of the newspaper's interactive business and first online sites.

The CEO Breakfast is scheduled from 7:30 a.m. to 9 a.m. on Monday, September 13. It is an invitation-only event, open to C-level executives at COMPTEL member companies.

About Platinum Equity

Platinum Equity (www.platinumequity.com), is a global M&A&O® firm specializes in the merger, acquisition and operation of companies that provide services and solutions to customers in a broad range of business markets, including information technology, telecommunications, industrials, logistics, manufacturing, and distribution. Since its founding in 1995 by Tom Gores, Platinum Equity has completed more than 100 acquisitions with more than \$27.5 billion in aggregate annual revenue at the time of acquisition.

About COMPTTEL PLUS

COMPTTEL PLUS is the preeminent networking event for innovative communications companies. Held twice a year, these events attract more than 140 unique exhibitors and 2,800 different attendees, who have the opportunity to learn about new products, services and industry trends, meet potential customers and do business. In addition to the trade show, COMPTTEL PLUS offers comprehensive educational programming and experienced industry speakers. The COMPTTEL PLUS Fall 2010 Convention & EXPO is scheduled for September 12-15, 2010, at the Gaylord Texan Resort and Convention Center in Dallas. For more information, please visit the [COMPTTEL PLUS Website](#).

About COMPTTEL

Based in Washington, D.C., COMPTTEL is the leading industry association representing competitive communications service providers and their supplier partners. COMPTTEL members are entrepreneurial companies driving technological innovation and creating economic growth through competitive voice, video, and data offerings and the development and deployment of next-generation, IP-based networks and services. COMPTTEL advances its members' interests through trade shows, networking, education, and policy advocacy before Congress, the Federal Communications Commission and the courts. COMPTTEL works to ensure that competitive communications providers can continue to offer lower prices, better service, and greater innovation to consumers. For more information, visit www.comptel.org.