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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

February 4, 2010

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**RUS Administrator Jonathan Adelstein to Deliver Keynote Address  
at COMPTEL *PLUS* Spring 2010 Convention & EXPO**

***Former FCC Commissioner Brings Unique View of How Policy, Grants and Loans Can  
Combine to Meet Administration's Goal of Nationwide Broadband Access***

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – COMPTEL, the leading trade association for the competitive telecommunications industry, today announced Jonathan S. Adelstein – Administrator of the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Rural Utilities Service (RUS) and former Commissioner of the Federal Communications Commission – will deliver the keynote address at the COMPTEL *PLUS* Spring 2010 Convention & EXPO on March 15, 2010.

Throughout his career in public service, Adelstein has been dedicated to fighting for the public interest. At the FCC, he sought to secure access to communications for everyone – including those left behind by the market. And he continues to be a strong advocate for improvements in rural telecommunications and broadband, working to ensure that all consumers have access to the latest telecommunications services, no matter where they live.

"Jonathan has a long history of working with the communications industry – both as a Commissioner at the FCC and in his current role overseeing the grants and loans that will have a lasting impact on bringing broadband to all Americans," said Jerry James, COMPTEL's CEO. "Just days before the FCC expects to deliver its anticipated National Broadband Plan, we look forward to the opportunity to hear Jonathan's unique perspective about how his agency's work, as well as that being done at the FCC and National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA), will combine to realize the Administration's goals of expanding broadband access across the country."

Adelstein was nominated by President Obama, and unanimously confirmed by the U.S. Senate in July 2009, to serve as the 17<sup>th</sup> Administrator of USDA's Rural Utilities Service. He previously served as an FCC Commissioner from 2002 to 2009. While at the FCC, Adelstein worked to improve universal service, advocated for a substantive national broadband strategy, promoted policies to improve access to spectrum, and was a key staff architect of expanding the RUS's authority to finance broadband services in the 2002 Farm Bill.

Before joining the FCC, Adelstein served for 15 years as a staff member in the United States Senate. During his final seven years, he was a senior legislative aide to then Senate Majority Leader Tom Daschle (D-SD), where he advised Sen. Daschle on telecommunications, financial services, budget, housing, transportation and other key issues. Previously, he served as

professional staff member to Senate Special Committee on Aging Chairman David Pryor (D-AR), including an assignment as a special liaison to Sen. Harry Reid (D-NV), and as a legislative assistant to Sen. Donald W. Riegle, Jr. (D-MI).

Prior to his service in the Senate, Adelstein was a teaching fellow in the Department of History, Harvard University, while studying at the Harvard Kennedy School of Government. He also was a teaching assistant in the Department of History at Stanford University, where he earned an M.A. in History and a B.A. in Political Science.

The COMPTEL *PLUS* Spring 2010 Convention & EXPO is scheduled for March 14-17, 2010, at the Gaylord Opryland in Nashville. Adelstein's keynote will begin at 4:30 p.m. on March 15. For more information, please visit [www.comptel.org](http://www.comptel.org).

**About COMPTEL *PLUS***

COMPTEL *PLUS* is the preeminent networking event for innovative communications companies. Held twice a year, these events attract more than 147 exhibitors and 3,200 attendees, who have the opportunity to learn about new products, services and industry trends, meet potential customers and do business. In addition to exclusive exhibit hours, COMPTEL *PLUS* offers comprehensive educational programming and experienced industry speakers. The COMPTEL *PLUS* Spring 2010 Convention & EXPO is scheduled for March 14-17, 2010, at the Gaylord Opryland in Nashville. For more information, please visit <http://comptel.org/content.asp?contentid=2153>.

**About COMPTEL**

Based in Washington, D.C., COMPTEL is the leading industry association representing competitive communications service providers and their supplier partners. COMPTEL 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. COMPTEL advances its members' interests through trade shows, networking, education, and policy advocacy before Congress, the Federal Communications Commission and the courts. COMPTEL 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](http://www.comptel.org).

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