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Davis Wright Tremaine to Host COMPTEL PLUS Workshop on Key Issues for Carriers and ISPs in the FCC's Open Internet Order

Free Half-Day Workshop Set for Wednesday, October 21, in San Francisco

WASHINGTON, D.C. – COMPTEL, the competitive networks association, today announced that Davis Wright Tremaine LLP will host a free, half-day workshop on Wednesday, October 21, at the COMPTEL PLUS Fall 2015 Business Expo, in San Francisco. The workshop – <u>"The FCC's Open Internet Order: Key Issues for Carriers and ISPs"</u> – will explore the order's impact on the telecommunications industry landscape, including providers' privacy and security-related responsibilities, as well as possible extension of universal service obligations to broadband providers. In addition, speakers will provide expert analysis on the pending legal challenges to the order.

"In February, the FCC's Open Internet Order (OIO) reclassified broadband Internet access service as a common carrier telecommunications service under Title II of the Communications Act. The FCC's controversial decision is now being appealed in a federal court," said Davis Wright Tremaine's Of Counsel Jim Smith. "During this workshop, we'll explain the impact of the OIO on telecommunications carriers, broadband Internet access providers and edge providers, outlining what each needs to know in terms of complying with and, perhaps, benefitting from these new rules."

The workshop will be comprised of three panels:

- Open Internet Order 101: Everything You Wanted to Know But were Afraid to Ask The presenters will provide an overview of FCC's statutory interpretation in the OIO (Title II regulation, with forbearance) and regulatory/policy implementations (impose certain specific bright-line rules and some general conduct standards; impose substantial disclosure obligations). The presenters also will explain the implications of the FCC's reclassification of broadband Internet access services for universal service contribution obligations.
- Privacy and Security Under the Open Internet Order: New Requirements and
 Challenges for Telecom Carriers and Broadband Internet Access Providers and
 Implications for Edge Providers A largely overlooked, but extremely important,
 regulatory change that the FCC introduced in enforcement actions last year and then
 formalized in the OIO concerns the Commission's authority to regulate and police the
 privacy and security practices of telecom carriers and Internet providers alike, beyond its
 prior customer proprietary network information (CPNI) rules. Learn about the FCC's new
 and expanded Section 222 interpretation and what providers must do to avoid potentially
 massive exposure to penalties for privacy, security and data breach violations.

Reading the Tea Leaves: How Will the D.C. Circuit Decide the OIO Appeals? –
 Unsurprisingly for an order of its magnitude, the OIO has unleashed a torrent of litigation, including lawsuits (ultimately consolidated before the D.C. Circuit) from multiple petitioners, with more than 20 other parties lining up on both sides. Former FCC Deputy General Counsel Peter Karanjia will discuss how the Commission's new Title II framework for broadband may fare in the D.C. Circuit and whether a blockbuster telecom case before the Supreme Court is in the cards for 2016.

The FCC's Open Internet Order workshop will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 11:45 a.m., October 21 at the Marriot Marquis in San Francisco. The full agenda and confirmed speakers can be found in the COMPTEL PLUS agenda.

The workshop is free, but pre-registration is required. For more information, visit www.comptelplus.org.

About Davis Wright Tremaine

Davis Wright Tremaine LLP is a national law firm with approximately 500 lawyers representing clients based throughout the United States and around the world. For more information, visit www.dwt.com.

About COMPTEL PLUS

COMPTEL PLUS is the preeminent networking event for innovative communications companies and their supplier partners. Held twice a year, COMPTEL PLUS provides attendees with the opportunity to learn about new products, services and industry trends; meet potential customers and do business. In addition, COMPTEL PLUS offers comprehensive educational programming led by experienced industry speakers. COMPTEL PLUS is produced by COMPTEL, the competitive networks association. The COMPTEL PLUS Fall 2015 Business Expo is scheduled for October 18-21 at the Marriott Marquis in San Francisco. For more information, visit www.comptelplus.org or follow us on Twitter at @COMPTELPLUS #COMPTELFall15.