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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

December 19, 2011

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**COMPTEL Comments on End of
AT&T's Bid to Acquire T-Mobile**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today AT&T officially ended its attempt to acquire T-Mobile USA from Deutsche Telekom. The following statement can be attributed to Jerry James, CEO of COMPTEL, the leading trade association for the competitive communications industry:

“Today’s decision by AT&T to cease its pursuit of T-Mobile USA was a victory for competition, consumers and innovation.

Since this merger was announced nine months ago, the merging parties believed they would gain agency approval solely on promises. But ultimately the facts – not the promises – were victorious. It quickly became clear that the combination of the second- and fourth-largest wireless carriers would result in fewer jobs, and have a significant negative impact on competition in a variety of sectors – from mobile services to handsets to backhaul.

We are grateful for the hard work and dedication of the staff at the U.S. Department of Justice and the Federal Communications Commission. Their due diligence and reasoned analysis, based on the facts, ensured a fair process. As the dust settles on this failed takeover attempt, let us remember that only a true competitive marketplace will bring more jobs, greater innovation and lower prices for consumers across the country.”

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.