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Rollout of Next Generation State Network in Full Swing

DIS continues the rollout of the Next Generation State Network across the state. There are 2,100 sites to upgrade for the new network. At this time, approximately 680 new routers are on order and vendors have installed 211 new routers. The target date for the implementation of the new network for K-12 schools is June 2013. The target for completion of the whole state network is December 2013. Some customers have made decisions regarding how to move forward with implementing the new network and new opportunities for bandwidth. If you have any questions regarding what is available for your agency and budget, please contact your customer account manager for more information.

The development of an application, including a mobile version, is underway to display the progress of the implementation of the Next Generation State Network. The application will provide details by a selected area in the state, such as router order dates, install dates from vendors, and completion dates. There are two versions of a state map that are available to review through the application, including status or Ethernet. The status version of the map includes information regarding the next generation network order by site, deployment, and status, and the Ethernet version of the map displays the availability of the public network to the site selected.

DIS is continuing work with the Pulaski County Special School District (PCSSD) and the vendor to provide more bandwidth throughout the AT&T territory of the school district. AT&T waived $500,000 in special construction costs to place fiber which will provide 100 Mb of bandwidth to PCSSD high schools, 50 Mb to middle schools, and 20 Mb to elementary schools.

With the long distance service bid awarded to AT&T, DIS is also in the process of finalizing rate packages for review and approval by mid-November. New rates will soon be effective for not only long distance, but also voice and web conferencing and network connectivity rates for 10 Mb and below for the CenturyLink territory of the state. All of these rates are expected to be lower than previous rates.

New Voice and Web Conferencing Solution Available

Customers using voice and web conferencing services should be aware that the contract to provide those services was recently awarded to a new vendor AT&T Connect. There will be a conversion process to migrate to the new vendor, and DIS will provide customers with all of

the information needed to establish an account with
AT&T. DIS will ensure that customers currently
using voice and web conferencing services will receive
the information quickly. If your agency is interested in
using the service, please contact your customer account
manager.

With the new contract in place, the rates for voice and
web conferencing will be lower than
the previous rates. If you have any questions, or are
interested in using voice
and web conferencing services, please contact your customer account representative.

2012 Arkansas Digital Government Summit Hours Away

The central themes for the 2012 Arkansas Digital Government Summit scheduled for
Wednesday, November 7 are Managing Mobile Devices, Cloud Computing, and Cyber
Security. The event is organized by Chief Technology Officer Claire Bailey, Government
Technology Magazine, and e.Republic, Inc. and is designed for state and local government.
The overall goal of the summit is to encourage discussion as well as to educate participants with
regard to the use of IT as a strategic tool. The summit will cover a wide range of topics such as:

• Technology Convergence (Unified Communications)
• Bringing Clouds Down to Earth
• Mobile Device Management
• Identity Management & Cyber Security
• Workplace of the Future

Last year's event attracted hundreds of information technology leaders from across the state as
well as state and local government leaders, policy makers, managers, executives, and agency
directors. The summit will be conducted at the Embassy Suites in Little Rock, beginning with
registration at 8:00 a.m.

Recent Recognition for Technology in the State of Arkansas

SuperCOOP, the disaster recovery software tool used across Arkansas government
agencies was recently selected as an award finalist by the National Association of State Chief
Information Officers (NASCIO). The tool was created by the Arkansas Continuity of Operations
(ACOOP) staff and an independent developer to provide a functional, compliant, cost effective,
navigational tool for managing disaster recovery and continuity of operations planning,

The NASCIO Recognition Awards for Outstanding Achievement in the Field of Information
Technology in State Government honors successful technology initiatives that deserve to be
highlighted and shared to promote innovation, foster better government, and engage citizens.
Projects and initiatives from NASCIO member states, territories, and the District of Columbia
were eligible for nomination, and finalists were selected by NASCIO's Awards Committee from a
field of more than 120 nominees.

SuperCOOP was selected as a finalist in the risk management initiatives category
and competed for the award with projects from the states of Michigan and North Carolina. For

more information regarding the 2012 NASCIO awards, please click on
http://www.nascio.org/awards/2012awards/.

In the newly released Digital States Survey 2012 from the Center for Digital Government, Arkansas improved the state's score from a B in 2010 to a B+ in 2012. Eight states received A grades, doubling the number from 2010, with Michigan and Utah receiving an A and California, Minnesota, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee and West Virginia receiving an A-.

All 50 states participated in the survey and received grades ranging from A's to D's. Besides the eight A grades, 22 states received B's, 18 states received C's and two states received D's for the first year ever. To review the full list of state grades, you may visit http://www.centerdigitalgov.com/survey/61.

The survey evaluated states based on a set of criteria including: implementations that support state priorities and policies to improve operations or services, quantifiable hard and soft-dollar savings or benefits, progress over the last two years, innovative solutions or approaches, and effective collaboration. Those states which received high marks demonstrated results across all criteria. State performance was evaluated by a judges' panel of the Center for Digital Government analysts, executives and Senior Fellows.

The Center for Digital Government is a government research and advisory institute on information technology policies and best practices in state and local government. The Center is a division of eRepublic, a national publishing, event and research company focused on smart media for public sector innovation.

DIS Provides Professional Development Support via the State Video Network

In order to meet the needs of one of the valued video network customers, DIS is providing a helping hand through the use of the ever-growing network. Recently, video network team members were contacted by the Southeast Arkansas Educational Cooperative for assistance to find an avenue for the Arkansas Adult Learning Resource Center (AALRC) to provide mathematics classes to adult students at eight education cooperatives across the state. The video network team was happy to help provide a solution.

DIS provided the AALRC instructor with a physical space and a desktop video conferencing unit to assist her in delivering the math courses to students. A new device was also purchased that connected the instructor's calculator to the video unit so that students could view her work. The sessions provided by the AALRC will continue through mid-December.

DIS has also assisted other state agencies with video conferencing equipment or space as needed as an added value for the video network service provided to the state. If you need any information about video network services provided by DIS, please contact your customer account manager.

Arkansas Department of Information Systems | Main Offices | One Capitol Mall
Little Rock, AR 72201 | Phone 501.682.2701 | Fax 501.682.4310 | dis.communications@arkansas.gov

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