



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact: Paula Kangis  
Tel: 907-564-2643  
Cell Phone: 907-240-8415  
Email: [paula@astac.net](mailto:paula@astac.net)

### **ASTAC & OTZ Telephone bring faster wireless service to Alaska's Northwest Coast**

Anchorage, Alaska – Arctic Slope Telephone Association Cooperative (ASTAC) and OTZ Telephone (OTZ) jointly turned up a new fiber-fed 4G wireless site in Kotzebue last week, vastly improving mobile data speeds. ASTAC will be upgrading additional sites to 4G LTE across the North Slope over the next year, specifically, in Prudhoe Bay, Utqiagvik, Point Hope, Nuiqsut and Wainwright. Additional LTE sites are planned for new coverage along the Dalton Highway.

4G is the world standard for modern wireless networks and the ability to utilize and experience true mobile broadband in richer ways opens new possibilities for the area's residents, visitors and businesses. From streaming videos to online gaming, shopping, banking and airline check-ins, users will improve how they connect with the world by experiencing increased mobile data speeds.

"ASTAC is committed to closing the technology gap across the North Slope to enhance our membership's experiences and improve safety in some of the most remote places in Alaska. 4G is a big part of that and a real game changer in the region," said Jens Laipenieks, ASTAC CEO/General Manager.

"OTZ has enjoyed teaming up with ASTAC on the deployment of this new 4G wireless site in Kotzebue," said Doug Neal, OTZ CEO. "With the fiber-optic connectivity, AT&T customers will have the same 4G wireless experience in Kotzebue as they would anywhere else in the world."

ASTAC provides Broadband Ethernet and Internet, 4G wireless as well as local and long-distance services across the North Slope. Additionally, ASTAC offers a Nomadic WAN and Internet service using the North Slope's only private LTE network covering the oil fields. For more information, visit [www.astac.net](http://www.astac.net).

OTZ provides telecommunications services to the people and businesses of the Northwest Arctic Borough, which includes Kotzebue, ten villages, and the Red Dog mine. For more information, visit [www.otz.net](http://www.otz.net).

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