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SANTA CLAUS TO STOP BY INTEGRATELECOM TO TAKE CHRISTMAS WISHES

*Area Children Encouraged to Call Santa
Dec. 12, 9 a.m. to noon*

Prior Lake, Minn. – Dec. 7, 2009 – In an effort to check his list twice, Santa Claus has scheduled a special visit to the Twin Cities region on Saturday, Dec. 12, from 9 a.m. to noon to take phone calls from area children at Integra Telecom’s Prior Lake, Minn., office. Children interested in sharing their holiday wishes with Santa can call him directly at 952-447-0899 on Saturday, Dec. 12, anytime during the three-hour period.

Children who call the jolly St. Nick should be prepared to answer the question: Have you been naughty or nice? Santa will also ask each child what they’re wishing for this Christmas, while not making any promises so as to avoid spoiling the surprise.

“Santa takes wishes in a variety of ways. He chuckles at the letters he receives and reads each one himself, he always enjoys meeting children in person to hear their wishes, but sometimes a simple phone call is just what it takes to help him build his list right,” said a North Pole source who works closely with Santa.

With Minnesota being just a jaunt from the North Pole on Santa’s sleigh, Santa thought it would be the perfect spot to sled in and take a few calls. Even children who have already seen Santa Claus this year are welcome to call and reiterate — or change — their holiday desires. In fact, hearing from children more than once is part of Santa’s process to make his list and check it twice.

For more than 25 years, Integra Telecom Inc. and Prior Lake's Optimists Club have partnered to bring Santa Claus to the region to take calls from local children. This year, the organizations have made six lines available for children to make their holiday requests. In 2008, Santa fielded close to 600 phone calls from area children, the majority of who claimed to have been nice.

About Integra Telecom

Integra Telecom Inc. provides voice and Internet solutions to residential customers in the Scott/Rice Counties of Minnesota as well as thousands of business and carrier customers in 11 Western states. It owns and operates a best-in-class fiber-optic network comprised of metropolitan access networks, a nationally acclaimed Internet and data networks, and a 4,700-mile high-speed long haul network. The company has earned some of the highest customer loyalty and customer satisfaction ratings in the telecommunications industry. Primary equity investors in the company include Goldman, Sachs & Co., Tennenbaum Capital Partners, funds managed by Farallon Capital Partners and Warburg Pincus. Integra Telecom and Electric Lightwave are registered trademarks of Integra Telecom Inc. For more information, visit: www.integratelecom.com.

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