



Media Contacts

Vicki Lyons
Covad Communications
408-952-7274
vlyons@covad.com

Christian Pinkston
Pinkston Group
703-574-2137
pinkston@pinkstongroup.com

Investor Relations

Robert Dougherty
Covad Communications
408-434-2130
investorrelations@covad.com

Covad Helps New Orleans Small Businesses

Telecommunications Solutions Provider Working with NewCorp Business Assistance Center to aid in post-Katrina Rebuild

New Orleans, LA (December 21, 2006) – Covad Communications Group, Inc. (AMEX: DVW), a leading provider of integrated voice and data communications, is improving the way small businesses in New Orleans communicate by providing cost-effective voice and data solutions. Working with New Orleans-based channel partner Universal Data, Inc. (UDI), Covad is contributing to NewCorp Business Assistance Center's post-Katrina recovery efforts by providing advanced voice and data solutions. NewCorp, a local non-profit community development financial institution, provides small businesses with technical assistance and funding (loans and grants).

"Covad's voice and data solution is a vital tool which allows us to have a direct impact on the economic recovery of New Orleans small businesses," said Vaughn Fauria, executive director for NewCorp. "Covad has helped us rebuild our business, which in turn enables us to reach out to other businesses in the community and help in their recovery."

Covad partners with local dealers such as UDI to serve the New Orleans community and major metros nationwide. UDI has been a proud supplier to New Orleans small businesses for over two decades and continues to provide local support to new and rebuilding businesses. Covad's commitment to New Orleans' economic development includes operating a local network and providing communications solutions to fit the unique needs of small businesses in the region.

"Covad is pleased to be able to assist New Orleans small businesses as they focus on the future," said Barbara Buchnowski, Covad's district sales manager. "Our competitively-priced voice and data solutions are simple to understand, easy-to-implement and include advanced features that improve business continuity during and after natural disasters." These features include calls automatically forwarding to two alternate phone numbers during a failure of any kind, busy signal or a phone ringing more than eight times without an answer. Covad enables New Orleans-based small business owners to focus on rebuilding and growing their businesses instead of worrying about telecommunications technology."



Covad offers a complete portfolio of cost-effective voice and data solutions, including:

- Business-class broadband – a variety of high-speed Internet services that provide small businesses with the bandwidth that best suits their business needs
- Covad ClearEdge Integrated Access – an integrated local, long distance and data service for businesses with up to 100 employees that maximizes an existing phone system and provides many of the calling features and advanced functionality of a much larger company
- Covad ClearEdge Pro – a fully-hosted voice solution for businesses with up to 250 employees – because there is no onsite PBX, it reduces maintenance expenses and helps businesses deal with business continuity issues

To learn more about the full portfolio of Covad's services, please log onto <http://www.covad.com>.

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About Covad

Covad is a leading nationwide provider of integrated voice and data communications. The company offers DSL, Voice Over IP, T1, Web hosting, managed security, IP and dial-up, wireless broadband, and bundled voice and data services directly through Covad's network and through Internet Service Providers, value-added resellers, telecommunications carriers and affinity groups to small and medium-sized businesses and home users. Covad broadband services are currently available across the nation in 44 states and 235 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) and can be purchased by more than 57 million homes and businesses, which represent over 50 percent of all US homes and businesses. Corporate headquarters is located at 110 Rio Robles San Jose, CA 95134. Telephone: 1-888-GO-COVAD. Web Site: www.covad.com.

About UDI

Universal Data, Inc. was founded in 1983 with the philosophy of strength through excellence, community and cooperation. These principles have endured and are our battle cry. Our love for technology has never interfered with our commitment to our clients and their business needs. Each client has a team of professionals assigned to ensure complete satisfaction. Today, Universal Data, Inc. continues to lead in the design and implementation of computer related automation and collaboration needs.