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Higher Education Broadband Delegation Encourages Federal Communications Commission (FCC) to Approve M2Z's Plan for Free Nationwide Broadband Internet Access

Clifton, VA (August 1, 2007) – The Higher Education Wireless Access Consortium (HEWAC) led a delegation representing the voices of colleges, universities, and college families to Washington, DC today to meet and encourage the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) to act on a pending license application from M2Z Networks, Inc. which will create a free, wireless, nationwide broadband Internet network.

“Although most of Washington’s attention has been focused on the upcoming 700 MHz auction, now a ten year process running, we’re excited about the immediate opportunity at the FCC to approve M2Z’s license and create a true ‘third pipe’ for broadband services. If approved, M2Z Networks will lease fallow spectrum at 2155-2175MHz and deploy a free nationwide wireless broadband network,” stated Brian Christie, Senior Vice President of HEWAC. “M2Z’s service is critical to both ensuring that we maintain our country’s educational advantages worldwide and ensuring that we provide equal access to these advantages for all our students here at home.”

"There is a digital divide which has left too many Americans without adequate access to the Internet. This divide has limited opportunities to learn, succeed economically, and participate in society so it is critical that the FCC work to promote available and affordable broadband Internet access for all Americans" stated Gerardo E. de los Santos, President and CEO of the League for Innovation in the Community College and a member of the delegation. "If granted the license to proceed, the M2Z Networks service will help the nation’s community colleges which annually train more than 10 million students -- many lower income, minority, and from rural areas -- to better reach their students both on and off campus."

The Higher Education delegation represents more than 400 universities, 860 community colleges, 100,000 parents of college or university students, nearly 85,000 community college students and included the League for Innovation in the Community

College, the National Institute for Staff and Organizational Development (NISOD), the Higher Education Wireless Access Consortium (HEWAC), College Parents of America, Volunteer State Community College (Tennessee) and Central Piedmont Community College (North Carolina).

“In the past 25 years, the average cost of tuition and fees has risen faster than personal income, consumer prices and even health insurance,” stated James Boyle, President of College Parents of America, whose membership includes more than 100,000 college parents and more than 100 universities. “Therefore, we must seek every possible solution to lower the cost associated with education, including access to academic resources available online, as well as the delivery of distance education.”

“Assuming they even have Internet access -- and many community college students don't -- affordability is a key issue for students and their families,” stated Dr. Edward Leach, VP, Services and Programs, for the League for Innovation in the Community College. “When you consider the average annual tuition and fees for a two year public community college is \$2,272 and for a public 4-year college is \$5,836, then you can imagine the financial burden on students and families for a broadband connection which may run \$500 or as high as \$1,000 annually.”

“In the United States, 58 percent of American homes -- representing about 120 million adults -- do not have access to broadband and must rely on dial-up or they have no Internet connection at all,” stated John Muleta, CEO of M2Z Networks. “Unfortunately, in the educational sector, those who don't have broadband access are increasingly left behind -- and this has dire consequences for our country's long term competitiveness.”

According to the most recent statistics released by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), the U.S. dropped from 12th in the world to 15th for broadband penetration. In recent surveys by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the U.S. ranks even lower.

Background

M2Z Networks currently has an application before the FCC to lease 20MHz of underutilized spectrum to build a nationwide network to offer free, fast, and family friendly broadband to at least 95 percent of the U.S. population within ten years. The service will be supported by locally targeted search results and will include a network-level filter to shield children using the service from indecent content. If licensed, M2Z would pay the U.S. Treasury 5 percent of annual gross revenues from its companion subscription services, which could total payments of up to \$1 billion over 15 years. The introduction of M2Z's broadband service would generate \$18 to \$32 billion in direct consumer benefits over the next 15 years according to two uncontested economic studies.

Hundreds of officials and organizations from all over the country, including city council members, state senators, U.S. senators and congressmen, associations, public safety groups, colleges and universities, have written letters to the FCC urging them to approve the

M2Z application. In addition, over 50,000 individuals have signed petitions in support of M2Z.

About The Higher Education Wireless Access Consortium (HEWAC):

The Higher Education Wireless Access Consortium (HEWAC) is the only member-driven, organization focusing solely on wireless technology for higher education. HEWAC goes beyond technology for technology's sake and views broadband wireless technology as an enabling tool to support its member's individual, educational and social missions. The organization was created to provide a forum for the most senior technology leaders of colleges and universities in which to share cooperatively their ideas and experiences. HEWAC champions and shares best practices, bridges gaps of knowledge, brings communities of interest together, provides a common ground for resolving issues, provides a unified voice on regulatory concerns, and lessens the burden of risk and innovation for higher education policy and technology leaders. www.hewac.org

About M2Z Networks:

Founded in 2005 and headquartered in Menlo Park, Calif., M2Z Networks' goal is to transform the current state of the broadband marketplace by building a high-speed wireless network throughout the United States. In May 2006, the company submitted a license application to the FCC to construct and operate a nationwide broadband wireless network in the 2155-2175 MHz spectrum band. Approval of the application would guarantee delivery of free, fast and family-friendly wireless broadband service to at least 95 percent of Americans in a 10 year timeframe. M2Z is backed by Kleiner, Perkins, Caufield and Byers; Charles River Ventures; and Redpoint Ventures; three of the most successful venture capital firms in Silicon Valley with \$5 billion of capital under management. For more information, please visit www.M2Znetworks.com and www.freebroadbandnow.org.