

Pine Belt Telephone Company

PINE BELT WIRELESS NETWORK GROWS AGAIN

New Tower in Magnolia is Tenth for Pine Belt in Marengo County

ARLINGTON, AL (May 14, 2009) – With the completion of a new cellular tower in Marengo County this month, Pine Belt dominates the calling region with 44 cellular towers that provide the most consistent cell coverage and strongest signal in five West Alabama counties that include Wilcox, Perry, Choctaw, Marengo and Dallas. “No other cellular carrier in the region has the signal strength or number of towers that Pine Belt Wireless does,” commented Pine Belt President, John C. Nettles.

Pine Belt’s newest tower is located in Magnolia and will improve service to residents of Magnolia and the surrounding communities. Pine Belt Wireless customers travelling through the area on Hwy 25 between Thomaston and Vineland will also notice the stronger signal. Brian Horton, Pine Belt’s Plant Operations Manager, has overseen construction of the cellular tower and commented, “Pine Belt is focused 100 percent on providing the best possible coverage to everyone we serve. It’s not always an easy job and it requires a lot of time and even more money, but that’s what we are here for, and that’s what we’re going to do.”

Of the 44 cellular towers owned and operated by Pine Belt, 10 are located in Marengo County. Pine Belt also has twelve towers in Dallas County, nine in Choctaw County, five in Perry County and eight in Wilcox County. “We were the first to bring cellular service to the region almost 20 years ago when we helped form an 11-county partnership with several other independently owned companies. We later divested from the group and formed our own company, Pine Belt Wireless, in 1993,” added Nettles. “Most people don’t realize that Pine Belt has over \$20 million invested in the telecommunications infrastructure in the area and local expertise that specifically understands our communications needs in rural counties. If you want to know about telephone and internet services around here, come talk to us. Our company is built on home grown ideas and principles. We know how to put the latest technology to the best use here at home,” continued Nettles.

The latest tower is the 6th added to the Pine Belt network in the last 12 months. “We have grown our network 15% in the last 12 months. No other carrier comes close to the investment that we have made in the local area. It is one more way that Pine Belt’s commitment to our West Alabama communities can be seen,” added Nettles.

Pine Belt Wireless is a family owned and operated company with deep roots in Marengo County. The company is a sister to Pine Belt Telephone Company which has been providing landline based services to Arlington, Dixons Mills, Sweet Water and Nanafalia for over 50 years. The company was founded by Dr. James D. (Buddy) Nettles in 1958 and remains family owned and 100% dedicated to the needs of the citizens of this area.

Pine Belt Wireless started its mobile telephone operations in 1995 and is licensed by the FCC to provide mobile telephone services for the five counties of Choctaw, Marengo, Dallas, Perry & Wilcox covering a population in excess of 110,000 via its digital network on 43 towers. Additionally, Pine Belt Wireless maintains cooperative relationships with two of the top four national carriers allowing its customers to benefit from being able to use their "home based" services nationwide without excessive roaming charges. To service its customers Pine Belt Wireless owns and operates five Radio Shack franchise stores in Selma, Camden, Marion, Linden and Butler. The Linden store was the second of the five, originally opening its doors in 1996.

The Pine Belt Companies are headquartered in Arlington, Alabama, at 3984 County Road 32. To learn more about Pine Belt Wireless services, call Pine Belt headquarters at 334.385-2106 or visit a Pine Belt Wireless Radio Shack. For more information on Pine Belt visit www.pinebeltTALK.com.

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