



NEWS

Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, S.W.
Washington, D. C. 20554

News Media Information 202 / 418-0500
Internet: <http://www.fcc.gov>
TTY: 1-888-835-5322

This is an unofficial announcement of Commission action. Release of the full text of a Commission order constitutes official action.
See MCI v. FCC, 515 F 2d 385 (D.C. Circ 1974).

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
December 1, 2003

NEWS MEDIA CONTACTS:
Meribeth McCarrick 418-0654
Michael Balmoris 418-0253

FCC CHAIRMAN MICHAEL K. POWELL ANNOUNCES FORMATION OF INTERNET POLICY WORKING GROUP

Washington, DC – At a Federal Communications Commission (FCC) forum today to discuss issues relating to Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP), FCC Chairman Michael K. Powell has announced the formation of an FCC Internet Policy Working Group.

The Working Group will assist the Commission in identifying, evaluating and addressing policy issues that will arise as telecommunications services move to Internet-based platforms. The cross-bureau and multi-disciplinary working group will be directed by a steering committee comprised of senior management and staff from several Commission Bureaus and Offices, and will be staffed as needed by attorneys, engineers and economists from across the Commission. This Working Group will also reach out to key constituencies including state regulators, consumer groups and public safety organizations.

Chairman Powell said, “Internet-based services are already revolutionizing the way consumers do things,” said Powell. “They are having an even greater impact on the future of telecommunications. By forming this Working Group, we hope to gain a greater understanding of how policy-makers can create rational policies to encourage growth in Internet services.”

The members of the steering committee for the Working Group include:

Co-Directors

Robert Pepper, Chief of Policy Development

Jeff Carlisle, Senior Deputy Chief, Wireline Competition Bureau

June Taylor, Chief of Staff, Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau

Anna Gomez, Deputy Chief, International Bureau

Kyle Dixon, Deputy Chief, Media Bureau

Jeffery Goldthorp, Chief of the Network Technology Division, Office of Engineering and Technology

Mary McManus, Special Counsel, Office of the General Counsel

David Furth, Associate Bureau Chief/Counsel, Wireless Telecommunications Bureau

For additional information on the Working Group, please visit the Internet Policy Working Group website at: www.fcc.gov/ipwg.

-FCC-