



NEWS

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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).

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FCC ANNOUNCES SMALL ENTITY COMPLIANCE GUIDE PROGRAM

Washington, D.C. – Yesterday, the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) announced its Small Entity Compliance Guide Program, pursuant to Section 212 of the Small Business Regulatory Enforcement Fairness Act of 1996 (SBREFA). The program serves to further the FCC's goal of promoting competition and its efforts to respond to the needs of small businesses, which are an integral part of the economy at large and of the telecommunications sector, in particular.

Over a hundred agency rule writers were in attendance as the FCC inaugurated the program with a Small Entity Compliance Guide Training Session, presented by the Office of Communications Business Opportunities (OCBO). The FCC will now publish compliance guides for notice-and-comment rulemaking proceedings for which a final regulatory flexibility analysis is required.

Michael K. Powell, Chairman of the FCC, comments, "The Small Entity Compliance Guide Program will help small businesses determine the bottom line in complying with our regulations. Written in plain language, the compliance guides will spell out the requirements that small entities must follow. The program is particularly important because small businesses are an essential part of the digital migration and the national broadband future."

For further information about the Small Entity Compliance Guide Program and the Office of Communications Business Opportunities, please visit OCBO's internet website at <http://www.fcc.gov/ocbo/> or contact Carolyn Fleming Williams, Director of OCBO, directly at 202-418-1026. Press inquiries should be directed to Audrey Spivack at (202) 418-0512.