



Keystone Initiative for Network Based Education and Research

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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KINBER Completes Construction of Statewide Broadband Network

STATE COLLEGE (April 18, 2013) – The Keystone Initiative for Network Based Education and Research (KINBER), the non-profit membership organization comprised of education, healthcare and public media organizations devoted to fostering collaboration through technology, announced today that Bucks County-based Sunesys, LCC completed the construction of KINBER’s Pennsylvania Research and Education Network (PennREN).

PennREN provides advanced data networking to non-profit organizations across 50 counties of Pennsylvania. It enables value-added services like realistic high-definition video, real-time videoconferencing, and data sharing for education, research, healthcare, workforce development, government and economic development. The collaborative environment also provides opportunities for member institutions to share best practices, content and programs.

The KINBER research network joins 38 other state research networks across the country (including Pennsylvania’s surrounding states) that deliver high bandwidth networking services to support regional economic development.

In 2010, KINBER received an American Recovery and Reinvestment Act grant for \$99.6 million to deliver broadband networks to underserved areas of Pennsylvania by building a 1,600-mile high speed fiber optic network across the state within the three-year grant period.

“PennREN’s completion is the realization of a dream to bring quality, high speed, high capacity broadband network to all corners of Pennsylvania,” Bruce M. Taggart, Ph.D., chair of the KINBER Board of Directors and vice provost for library and technology services at Lehigh University, said.

Jeff Reel, KINBER executive director, said, “KINBER’s core mission is collaboration, which fits well with the federal grant’s requirement to bring in private partners. We were pleased to work with Sunesys, a dark fiber and lit services provider who handled PennREN’s construction. We knew it would be a challenge to meet the objectives and aggressive timeline of the federal grant and that it would take a company with special skills to get the job done. In Sunesys, we were fortunate to find such a company right here in Pennsylvania.”

“The partnership with KINBER builds on our deep roots with education and research. From the inception of this project, we have been eager to take on this challenge with KINBER and I am proud of our team’s successful on-time completion of the network,” Larry Coleman, President of Sunesys, added. “We anticipate an enduring partnership with KINBER as the State’s educational and health research institutions continue to connect and grow PennREN.”

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PennREN is known as a middle mile network that has a series of hubs at public sector sites. From those hub sites KINBER has engaged other private entities to provide last-mile network services over their networks to connect organizations in locations not met by the grant.

Reel noted that KINBER is looking to engage more last-mile providers across the state, and believes partnering with last-mile providers is a tremendous opportunity for growth in the public and private sectors in all of the impacted communities.

Reel also mentioned that KINBER already has several customers, primarily community colleges and it is offering a variety of services during PennREN's inaugural year, including dark fiber services, ethernet service and optical transport services across PennREN. Early adopter discounts will be extended to any qualified KINBER member who signs a service agreement prior to June 30, 2013.

About KINBER

KINBER is a non-profit membership organization that provides broadband connectivity, fosters collaboration, and promotes the innovative use of digital technologies among learning, health, media and other anchor institutions that improve the quality of life for communities in Pennsylvania through research, education and public service. Established in 2010 through a grant from the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, KINBER is committed to delivering equitable, reliable and affordable access, space for collaboration, and digital tools for research and education to inspire tomorrow's scientific discoveries, enable the exchange of ideas and culture among diverse populations, educate the next generation of citizens and revitalize Pennsylvania's economy.

KINBER's first project, PennREN, delivers a state-wide platform for connecting its members and other non-profit organizations through facilities-based fiber-optic networking. Members can utilize PennREN's services for advancing their initiatives while KINBER provider partners can offer open access for expanding broadband access across the commonwealth. PennREN has over 1,600 miles of fiber on a middle-mile network that connects over 70 locations. For more information on PennREN and KINBER, visit KINBER.org.

About Sunesys, LLC

Sunesys is a dynamic, forward-thinking telecommunications services and dark fiber provider. Sunesys brings effective and cost-efficient solutions to a variety of reputable institutions from coast-to-coast, building infrastructure and connecting network solution needs and goals. Sunesys has major networks in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh metro areas. The company also provides telecommunications services and dark fiber in New Jersey, Maryland, Delaware, Ohio, Illinois, Georgia, Florida and California. For more information or to be contacted about Sunesys services, please visit <http://www.sunesys.com>.

Sunesys is a subsidiary of Quanta Services, Inc. (NYSE: PWR), a leading specialized contracting services company, delivering infrastructure network solutions for the electric power, natural gas and pipeline, and telecommunications industries.