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CommScope Files Patent Infringement Suit Against Clearfield

HICKORY, N.C.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- CommScope, a global leader in infrastructure solutions for communications networks, has filed a patent infringement lawsuit against Clearfield, Inc., a fiber optic manufacturer based in the Minneapolis area.

The complaint asserts 13 patents relating to CommScope fiber-to-the-X (FTTx) innovations against Clearfield's FieldSmart® PON Cabinets, WaveSmart® Ruggedized Splitters, FieldShield® Deployment Reel System, SmartRoute® Panel, FieldShield® Multiport SmarTerminal and FieldShield® Hardened Connectors.

"CommScope invests heavily in fiber optic innovation to benefit its customers and reinforce its position as a global leader in wireless and wireline network infrastructure," said Jaxon Lang, senior vice president and Connectivity Solutions segment leader, CommScope. "As such, we vigorously protect these valuable assets, and this action against Clearfield is a necessary step to prevent unauthorized infringement.

"Consumer and business demand for more bandwidth and higher speeds is driving an intense need for innovations that enable fast, efficient, and more cost-effective deployments of fiber-to-the-home (FTTH), fiber-to-the-building (FTTB), and other fiber network nodes. Through continuous and significant R&D investment, CommScope has built a deep and extensive portfolio of issued patents related to a wide range of FTTx solutions that simplify fiber network installation, maintenance and management from the central office or head end to the home, business, or other node in the fiber network."

The action and complaint can be found at CommScope Technologies LLC v. Clearfield, Inc., Case No. 17-cv-00307 (D. Minn., Jan. 2017). The asserted CommScope patents include U.S. Patent Nos. 7,233,731; 8,811,791; 7,198,409; 7,809,233; 9,201,206; 7,809,234; 7,816,602; 8,263,861; 8,705,929; 8,938,147; RE42,258; 7,397,997 and 9,122,021.

About CommScope:

<u>CommScope</u> (NASDAQ: COMM) helps companies around the world design, build and manage their wired and wireless networks. Our vast portfolio of network infrastructure includes some of the world's most robust and innovative wireless and fiber optic solutions. Our talented and experienced global team is driven to help customers increase bandwidth; maximize existing capacity; improve network performance and availability; increase energy efficiency; and simplify technology migration. You will find our solutions in the largest buildings, venues and outdoor spaces; in data centers and buildings of all shapes, sizes and complexity; at wireless cell sites; in telecom central offices and cable headends; in FTTx deployments; and in airports, trains, and tunnels. Vital networks around the world run on CommScope solutions.

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This press release includes forward-looking statements that are based on information currently available to management, management's beliefs, as well as on a number of assumptions concerning future events. Forward-looking statements are not a guarantee of performance and are subject to a number of uncertainties and other factors, which could cause the actual results to differ materially from those currently expected. In providing forward-looking statements, the company does not intend, and is not undertaking any obligation or duty, to update these statements as a result of new information, future events or otherwise.

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News Media Contact: Rick Aspan, CommScope +1 708-236-6568 publicrelations@commscope.com or Financial Contact: Phil Armstrong, CommScope +1 828-323-4848 Source: CommScope

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