

# ALASKA POWER & TELEPHONE COMPANY

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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## **Alaska Power & Telephone Company Celebrates 50 Years of Business**

**SKAGWAY, ALASKA.** – The year the Edsel made its debut and the electric can opener was the newest gadget in the American kitchen it was highly unlikely that any customers of the newly formed Alaska Power & Telephone Co., in Skagway Alaska had either of those items in their possession. In fact just getting to Skagway in 1957 remained a similar adventure to that of the men and women who put this gold rush town on the map as the gateway to the Klondike in 1895. Now one of the most progressive communications and energy providers in the State of Alaska, AP&T celebrates 50 years and serves over 30 communities stretching from the Arctic Circle to the southernmost tip of SE Alaska. AP&T proudly marks 2007 as its 50<sup>th</sup> year of growth, innovation and leadership in the utility industry.

In five decades, AP&T moved from humble beginnings, to take a leadership role in the development of renewable resource energy in Alaska. Through a combination of low impact hydro, wind and experimental underwater river turbine projects, AP&T's 134 employee-owners work to further minimize our environmental footprint while ensuring the availability of energy resources necessary in future years.

"This has been a fascinating five decades," said Stan Selmer, manager of the Skagway location. "The technologies, names and faces have changed but two constants remain: Our dedication to service as employee owners, and our firm belief in the power of innovation."

Serving over 12,000 households and business customers, today AP&T offers an array of services to Alaskans, from energy to cutting-edge voice, video and data communications built on a foundation of fiber-optic, landline and wireless technologies.

The company's commitment to both community and innovation is perhaps best illustrated by what it has accomplished in the last decade in its energy

*Alaska Power Company*

*Alaska Telephone Company*

*AP&T Long Distance, Inc.*

*North Country Telephone, Inc.*

*Bettles Telephone, Inc.*

*Goat Lake Hydro, Inc.*

*3BL Hydro, Inc.*

*HydroWest International*

generation division. "Approximately 70 percent of the energy we generate comes from renewable, small hydro resources," states Robert Grimm, AP&T's President. "Eleven years ago, 98 percent of what we produced came from fossil fuels. That transformation benefits both the environment, and our customers in terms of rate stability." Both AP&T's Black Bear hydro-electric project on Prince of Wales Island and our Goat Lake Hydro Project near Skagway have earned national recognition earning certification status as being low environmental impact.

Geography and climate also make AP&T unique among the nation's power and telecommunications companies. "We've created and maintain communication systems on icy windswept mountaintops, delivered power cable and fiber optic lines to the bed of the sea and built energy delivery systems few others would care to tackle," said Selmer. "What some may consider above and beyond, our people see as being all in a days work."

As part of its year long 50th anniversary observance, AP&T will be holding open house celebrations throughout the year in the communities it serves. Dates and times will be announced locally.

AP&T is committed to maintaining its legacy of a half-century of extraordinary customer service, while developing long term renewable energy and communication solutions that capitalize on the expertise of its skilled employees. AP&T is a privately held employee-owned utility whose corporate headquarters are located in Port Townsend Washington. For more detailed information and to download the 2006 Annual Report you may visit their website at [www.APTalaska.com](http://www.APTalaska.com) or call 1-800-982-0136.

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