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**City of Gulfport, Florida awards Communications System Management the contract to supply a Siemens VoIP telecommunications solution.**

**Tampa, Fla. - September 17, 2007** - The City of Gulfport, Florida announced the successful implementation of the new Siemens HiPath IP telephony network this summer.

In 2006, Gulfport had a Centrex network from Verizon with Nortel telephone system equipment that it was quickly outgrowing, had limited functionality, and proved to be too costly to upgrade. The City decided it was time to evaluate a replacement and decided to start looking at Voice over IP (VoIP) solutions from Tier One providers that were on the State of Florida Telecommunications Contract.

“We wanted to go with a system that wasn’t limited by copper on our campus that could provide TDM as well as VoIP,” said Sam Rivera, IT Manager with the City of Gulfport. “We also wanted a system that would provide integrated and centralized voice mail so that everyone in every office would be on the same system. We decided to go with a Siemens solution from CSM.” The executive committee also appreciated how cost-effective the Siemens solution was, coming in well below the State of Florida contract price, and how easily it integrated into the existing network infrastructure. A unanimous decision was made by the selection team to choose Siemens for the organization’s telecommunications needs.

The City estimates that it will save at least \$36,000 the first year the Siemens system is in place due to cost avoidance, PRI line charge savings and the elimination of Centrex numbers. Ongoing savings are estimated at about \$15,500 per year in line charges. “The bottom line is that with Siemens, we can do a lot more with the existing IT team,” said Rivera. “CSM with Siemens has made all of us more efficient, which is essential when an organization like ours needs to maximize time and budget.”

While all the cost savings, enhancements and improvements are nice, the need for reliability is paramount. The City stressed that the new system and the vendor deploying it had to offer a better grade of service and reliability than that offered by the old Centrex service from the local telephone company. “Gulf Port provides its citizens with public safety and other critical services and it was important to us that our responsiveness would not be hindered by the deployment of new IP telephony technology,” says Thomas Brobeil, City Manager, “I’m pleased to say that our faith in the quality of the product manufactured by a world class provider like Siemens has not been misplaced because the reliability to date has been superior to what we had before.”

**About Siemens**

Siemens AG (NYSE:SI) is one of the largest global electronics and engineering companies with reported worldwide sales of \$127 billion in fiscal 2006. Founded nearly 160 years ago, the company is a leader in the numerous fields, including medical technology; power systems; automation and control systems; transportation; information and communications; lighting; building technologies; water technologies; and services and home appliances. Based in Munich, Siemens AG and its subsidiaries employ 460,000 in 190 countries. Eleven of Siemens' worldwide businesses are based in the United States and are supervised from Siemens' U.S. corporate headquarters in New York City. Siemens' American operations produce annual sales of \$18.8 billion and employ approximately 70,000 people in all 50 states and Puerto Rico.

**About Communications Systems Management, Inc.**

Established in 1984, Communications Systems Management, Inc. is one of the nation's leading vendors of Siemens Communications solutions for enterprises of all sizes, enabling business processes to be more productive, faster and more secure – with any device, network or information technology infrastructure. The company is privately held with a national service network and is headquartered in Tampa, Florida.