

Cox Communications Completes Acquisition of Unite Private Networks

ATLANTA, July 6, 2023 [PRNewswire/](#) -- Cox Communications has completed the acquisition of commercial fiber provider, Unite Private Networks (UPN). UPN and Cox-owned Segra will form a new standalone fiber company to accelerate growth in the company's commercial fiber solutions.

"We'll draw upon the successes of Segra and UPN, in addition to the rich history and values of Cox as we form our new fiber infrastructure company," said Mark Greatrex, president, Cox Communications. "Bringing Segra and UPN together into a standalone fiber platform will enhance our ability to serve our customers with an expanded footprint and greater network capacity."

Cox became the majority owner of UPN in 2016 in partnership with Ridgmont Equity Partners and the UPN management team.

"Our partnership with Cox Communications drove innovation, optimized operations, and fostered long-term sustainability," said George Morgan, senior advisor, Ridgmont Equity Partners. "Collaboration like this allows us to forge a path towards mutual success, shaping industries and making a lasting impact in the ever-evolving business landscape."

Kevin T. Hart leads the newly combined company as chief executive officer, and Jason Adkins serves as president, reporting to Hart.

"We're committed to offering our commercial customers a full portfolio of services," said Kevin T. Hart, chief executive officer of the new company. "Continuing to enable our customers to win in the marketplace by offering them best in class connectivity and business services is our top priority."

"By bringing Segra and UPN together, we strengthen our ability to provide lightning-fast speeds and enhanced reliability over fiber infrastructure," said Jason Adkins, president of the new company. "This opens new doors for businesses and communities across our network."

Cox acquired Segra in 2021, and Cox has invested in additional business services companies including cloud and managed IT services providers RapidScale and Logicworks.

Evercore acted as exclusive financial advisor to Cox Communications in this transaction and Eversheds Sutherland acted as legal counsel. UPN was represented by Morgan, Lewis & Bockius LLP and Dentons US LLP. Bank Street Group LLC acted as exclusive financial advisor to Ridgmont and Alston & Bird acted as legal counsel.

Cox Communications is committed to creating meaningful moments of human connection through technology. As the largest private broadband company in America, we operate fiber broadband networks in more than 30 states, providing connections and advanced cloud and managed IT services for nearly seven million homes and businesses nationwide. We're dedicated to empowering others to build a better future and celebrate diverse products, people, suppliers, communities and the characteristics that make each one unique. Cox Communications is the largest division of Cox Enterprises, a family-owned business founded in 1898 by Governor James M. Cox.

The commercial division of Cox Communications, Cox Business, provides a broad commercial solutions portfolio including advanced cloud and managed IT solutions and fiber-based network solutions that create connected environments, unique hospitality experiences and support diverse applications for nearly 370,000 businesses nationwide. For more information, please visit www.coxbusiness.com.

About UPN

Unite Private Networks (UPN) provides fiber-optic communications infrastructure services to schools, governments, carriers, data centers, hospitals, and enterprise business customers. Service offerings include dark and lit fiber, private line, optical Ethernet, Internet access, FiberVoice, DDoS Protection, Cloud Connect, SD-WAN, and other customized solutions. UPN currently serves over 300 communities across 21 states, with 12,000 fiber route miles and 9,500 end customer sites. UPN is also one of the largest providers of fiber WAN services to K-12 school districts in the U.S., serving more than 250 school districts, connecting nearly 2 million students. Headquartered in Kansas City, MO, UPN has been providing customer-focused communications solutions since 1998.

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For further information: Todd Smith, 678-362-8346, todd.smith@cox.com

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