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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**MTA Fiber Holdings Completes AICan ONE, Historic First All-Terrestrial Fiber Line That Will Improve Alaska's Connectivity**

*Fiber line that connects Alaska to the contiguous United States and beyond, began construction in spring 2019*

**Palmer, Alaska – May 26, 2020 –** [MTA Fiber Holdings](#), a wholly-owned subsidiary of [MTA](#), Alaska's best choice for technology and communications products, has officially completed construction and commenced operation of AICan ONE (Alaska Canada Overland Network), the first and only all-terrestrial fiber network connecting Alaska to the contiguous United States and beyond.

AICan ONE, which began construction in spring 2019, establishes a secure and reliable fiber connection to any point in the contiguous United States, providing MTA's members, as well as Alaska as a whole, with a robust internet transport connection for decades to come. The network has capabilities of over 100 terabits per second, which can be expanded and increased as demand grows.

The line runs nearly 300 miles long from North Pole, Alaska, to the Canadian border before connecting with Canadian carriers, helping to extend MTA's existing network through Canada and on to major hubs in the United States.

"After decades of talk about a terrestrial fiber optic path out of Alaska, our whole organization is proud to have accomplished this historic feat safely and efficiently," said Michael Burke, CEO of MTA. "Especially during this pandemic, connection via technology is absolutely vital, and whatever short-term capacity forecast that we had when we began this project a year ago has been blown out of the water due to the COVID-19 crisis. We don't know what the new normal is going to look like, but the AICan ONE network lays the groundwork to meet the needs for today, while helping us plant the seeds to meet future demand and help Alaska grow."

"The completion of this line is not just a win for MTA – it is a win for all of the people and businesses of Alaska," said Francis LaChapelle, Vice President of Wholesale and Carrier

Relations. “We’re very grateful for all of the carriers, communities, businesses and legislators who helped make this possible, and we’re confident that the benefits of this highly successful project will be felt by all. We’re looking forward to developing partnerships with telecommunications organizations across the state to maximize the value of AICan One for all Alaskans.”

The [Pacific Telecommunications Council](#) (PTC), whose annual awards highlight international players who have made outstanding contributions to improving the ability of people and firms in the Pacific region, honored MTA with the 2020 Outstanding Wireline Company Award for its work on AICan ONE.

For photos of the AICan ONE project in process and more information on MTA Fiber Holdings, LLC, please visit: [www.mtafiber.com](http://www.mtafiber.com).

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### **About MTA**

Established in 1953 as a 100 percent locally owned and operated Alaskan cooperative, MTA is Alaska’s best choice for technology and communications products. As a key player in the economy of Alaska, MTA provides residential and business technology solutions to empower member-owners and patrons to live a connected life. Today, MTA remains as one of the largest technology co-ops in the U.S. For more information, visit <https://www.mtasolutions.com/> or connect with MTA on [Facebook](#).