Verizon Wireless Executive Laurie Gebhardt Joins National Wireless Safety Alliance Board of Governors

Announcement Made at CTIA's 2016 Super Mobility Week

(Las Vegas, Nevada) - The National Wireless Safety Alliance (NWSA) announced today that Laurie Gebhardt, Director – Network Engineering and Operations at Verizon Wireless, has joined the organization's Board of Governors. The NWSA's leadership made the announcement at the 2016 CTIA Super Mobility Conference in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The NWSA is a national non-profit assessment and certification organization that has been established to provide thorough, independent assessments of knowledge and skills and provide verifiable worker certification in order to enhance safety, reduce workplace risk, improve quality, encourage training, and recognize the skilled professionals who work on towers and other non-standard structures.



The NWSA Board of Governors consists of representatives from a broad crosssection of the industry and are tasked with developing policy and overseeing the activities of the various Committees that will serve under their jurisdiction.

At Verizon Wireless, Laurie Gebhardt is responsible for the development and implementation of standards for network facilities' infrastructure. Gebhardt also leads a national Verizon Wireless HQ support organization for Engineering and Operations. Additionally, she is responsible for all 911 and CALEA development, operation and compliance as well as Sustainability and Business Continuity/ Disaster Recovery with the national wireless carrier.

"The NWSA is excited to have Laurie Gebhardt join the Board of Governors," said Executive Director Chuck Slagle. "Laurie brings a wealth of experience to the table given her prominent role at Verizon Wireless and will be an invaluable asset to the NWSA Board of Governors moving forward," added Slagle.

The NWSA organization is the result of collaborative efforts between a broad coalition of the industry's leading subject matter experts, companies and stakeholders representing wireless carriers, tower owners/vertical realtors, OEM's, turnkey management firms, small contractors, tower technicians, public safety entities and industry associations.

In November of 2015, the NWSA and NCCCO began offering co-branded CCO Rigger and Signalperson Certification programs. These programs have the distinction of becoming the first two assessment and certification offerings available to the wireless industry's workforce through the NWSA.

The NWSA's Telecommunication Tower Technician I (TTTI) and Telecommunications Tower Technician II (TTTII) certification programs are slated to be launched in the marketplace in December of 2016. Other assessment and certification programs the NWSA will likely unveil in the future include Antenna & Line Foreman, Tower (Stacking) Foreman, Structural Modifications Foreman, DAS Systems, Small Cell Systems, Broadcast Structures and Outside Plant/Fiber to the Home and Business.

Industry workers, companies and stakeholders are encouraged to visit the NWSA website at <u>www.nws-a.org</u> to learn more about the organization.

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About National Wireless Safety Alliance

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