



James R. Johnsen Named Senior Vice President of Human Resources and Process Transformation for Alaska Communications

ANCHORAGE, Alaska, January 10, 2012 -- Alaska Communications (NASDAQ: ALSK) today announced the appointment of James R. Johnsen as senior vice president of human resources and process transformation.

In this key role, Johnsen will head up the company's human resources and process transformation functions and serve as a strategic partner in advising senior management in organizational performance improvement, training and development and employee engagement.

Prior to joining Alaska Communications, Johnsen served as senior vice president of administration at Doyon, Limited, an Alaska Native regional corporation. Before that he spent 12 years at the University of Alaska, where he served in several executive roles including vice president of administration, vice president of faculty and staff relations, chief of staff and director of labor relations.

"We are extremely pleased to have a leader of Jim's caliber join Alaska Communications. His experience in Alaska, serving large organizations with multiple geographic locations and aligning people resources with strategy will serve our employees, customers and shareholders well," said Anand Vadapalli, Alaska Communications president and CEO.

Johnsen is active in the community as a member of the Alaska State Chamber of Commerce Board of Directors, a Trustee of the University of Alaska Foundation and in several advisory roles at the University of Alaska, where he also teaches on occasion.

Johnsen holds a bachelor's degree from the University of California, Santa Cruz, a master's degree from the University of Chicago and a doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania.

About Alaska Communications

Headquartered in Anchorage, Alaska Communications (NASDAQ:ALSK) is a leading provider of high-speed wireless, mobile broadband, Internet, local, long-distance and advanced data solutions for businesses and consumers in Alaska and the Pacific Northwest. The Alaska Communications network includes the most advanced wireline and wireless data and voice networks and the most diverse undersea fiber optic system connecting Alaska to the contiguous United States. For more information, visit www.alaskacommunications.com or www.alsk.com.

Contact:

ACS Corporate Communications:

Heather Cavanaugh, Director, Corporate Communications
(907) 564-7722

###