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**NEUTRAL TANDEM EXPANDS NATIONAL FOOTPRINT WITH LAUNCH OF  
BOSTON, WASHINGTON D.C. AND ROCHESTER MARKETS**

**Only Carrier-Neutral Tandem Provider in U.S. Fosters Competition,  
Provides Redundant Network with Homeland Security Benefits**

**CHICAGO, September 12, 2006** – Neutral Tandem, Inc., the nation’s only independent provider of inter-carrier tandem and voice peering services, today announced service to the Boston, Washington D.C. (including northern Virginia and southeastern Maryland) and Rochester, New York metropolitan areas, adding to its national footprint of 45 U.S. markets.

Neutral Tandem operates the country’s only carrier-neutral tandem and voice peering network for wireless, wireline, cable and broadband service providers to exchange traffic, providing a cost-effective alternative to ILEC tandems. Neutral Tandem offers more interconnections—with access to over 125 million telephone numbers—to more carriers, in more locations than any other tandem provider.

The company’s “neutral” tandem network mirrors the ILEC network, thus ensuring customers’ mission-critical calls have multiple paths to secure call completion. This redundancy yields significant public benefits in natural disaster and Homeland security situations.

“Neutral Tandem’s network provides carriers with a diverse, cost-effective alternative to today’s existing incumbent tandem network,” said Rian Wren, Chief Executive Officer of Neutral Tandem. “Ultimately, all consumers benefit from competition, as well as the increased redundancy we build into the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN).”

“We are delighted to expand our service to these three critical markets in our national footprint,” said Dave Lopez, Senior Vice President of Sales for Neutral Tandem. “Our continued expansion across the U.S. leverages competitive benefits and reduces overall costs to consumers.”

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In addition to offering choice to carriers that previously had no options, Neutral Tandem provides significant competitive benefits to its carrier customers, including lower per minute transit charges, reduced port charges and nonrecurring fees, simpler network configurations, increased network reliability, improved quality of service and traffic transparency.

Neutral Tandem currently provides tandem services to more than 50 major carriers, including nearly all of the major wireless, competitive local exchange carriers (CLECs), cable and VoIP providers. The company is operational in many U.S. markets, including: Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Cincinnati, Cleveland, Columbus (OH), Detroit, Indianapolis, Los Angeles, Miami/Fort Myers, Milwaukee, Minneapolis, New York, Northern New Jersey, Orlando (FL), Rochester (NY), Tampa (FL), Washington D.C., and the state of Connecticut.

**About Neutral Tandem, Inc.**

Neutral Tandem, Inc. is the nation's only provider of independent tandem and voice peering services to wireless, wireline, cable and VoIP companies. Founded in 2003, the company has created the largest non-PSTN (Public Switched Telephone Network) tandem network in the U.S., facilitating inter-carrier communications with a cost-effective alternative to the Incumbent Local Exchange Carrier (ILEC) network. Neutral Tandem's solutions build redundancy, security and operational efficiencies into the nation's telecommunications infrastructure by connecting over 125 million end points (terminating numbers) in 45 U.S. markets. The company is headquartered in Chicago. Please visit Neutral Tandem's website at: [www.neutraltandem.com](http://www.neutraltandem.com).