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## ValuNet FIBER Announces completion of Construction

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ValuNet FIBER President Rick Tidwell announced today the completion of construction of all fiber network zones in the City of Emporia. The end of the final construction phase means that nearly 25,000 residents and businesses now have access to a top-tier, all-fiber network with speeds up to 1 Gigabit per second for Internet, voice and network data services. Across the U.S., less than 20% of consumers have access to Gigabit fiber, putting Emporians in an elite group.

"Almost six years ago, our engineers determined we would need to build 33 different 'zones' within Emporia to be able provide virtually unlimited bandwidth and to reach any address in the community with that bandwidth," says Tidwell. "I am proud to report that with the completion of construction in the area of Emporia known as the Trusler Addition, we are now able to reach any address in the city. While it took several years and a lot of capital, our ever growing customer base and what they are doing with the bandwidth has made all the effort worth it. Our customers are the best, and our community is the best."

ValuNet FIBER was founded in 2012 by a group of over 50 local investors with a vision of bringing cutting edge technology to a small, Midwestern college town.

"Back when we started this project, we knew it was needed for Emporia to continue to prosper and grow," says Tidwell. "Today, we receive feedback from our customers almost every day letting us know how they appreciate the great network and the great service they receive from ValuNet FIBER."

Many local employers, from entrepreneurs to large corporations, have come to depend on ValuNet FIBER. According to Tidwell, "Over 500 businesses in Emporia are on our network, and we often hear how their business could not survive today without the always fast, always available Fiber Internet and other services we provide."

With construction complete, Tidwell is proud of the entire ValuNet FIBER team for bringing a dream into reality. As Tidwell notes, "Access to an all-fiber network for everyone, businesses and residents alike, is still a rarity outside of select large urban areas. In Emporia, we came together and got it done."