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Comtech Telecommunications Corp. Announces Its Next-Generation BFT-HC Transceiver and Advanced Ground Station Technology

MELVILLE, N.Y., Feb 17, 2009 (GlobeNewswire via COMTEX News Network) -- Comtech Telecommunications Corp. (Nasdaq:CMTL) announced today that its Maryland-based subsidiary, Comtech Mobile Datacom Corporation recently filed patents for two key components of its next-generation Blue Force Tracking-High Capacity (BFT-HC) network. The BFT-HC network meets or exceeds all requirements for the next-generation BFT system required by the Force XXI Battle Command Brigade and Below -- Blue Force Tracking (FBCB2-BFT) program, a battle command real-time situational awareness and control system. BFT-HC provides on-the-move satcom data rates up to 230 kbps, and is fully backwards compatible with our existing BFT-1 platforms. This allows us to provide maximum flexibility to our customer by supporting either a gradual or rapid roll-out, and minimizing total next-generation deployment costs by maximizing the use of the existing, proven network infrastructure and mobile communication systems.

Advanced Software Defined Radio

The first patent filing covers our Advanced Software Defined Radio (ASDR) transceiver, or BFT-HC transceiver. The ASDR represents a significant leap forward in our mobile transceiver technology and is designed to meet or exceed all performance requirements identified for the BFT program's next-generation satellite-based communications network.

The ASDR achieves high satcom data rates on-the-move in a rugged military form factor at a very competitive price. This is accomplished using a very low cost nine-element phased array antenna that electronically steers the antenna beam down to the horizon. This breakthrough antenna technology provides superior high gain allowing customers to purchase below nominal power off the satellite, leading to substantial service cost savings. In addition to the 230 kbps data rate, the ASDR provides six other data rates optimizing performance options to take advantage of lower power satellites or enabling operation in dense foliage. The ASDR transceiver incorporates Comtech AHA's Low Density Parity Check (LDPC) forward error correction technology to ensure the ASDR establishes the highest possible link quality. The ASDR is on track to complete its FIPS-140-2, Level 2, security validation.

Of critical importance to our BFT customer in this budget conscious time is the fact that the ASDR is fully backwards compatible with the existing MT2011 BFT-1 transceiver and current satellite network infrastructure, enabling a seamless BFT-HC rollout now and smooth transition into their next generation satellite based tracking system.

Adaptive Multi-User Detection

The second patent filing covers our next-generation earth station technology for the BFT-HC network referred to as Adaptive Multi-User Detection (AMD). This next-generation AMD equipment employs advanced signal processing techniques hosted on state-of-the-art hardware, which allows near real-time processing of overlapping signals transmitted by numerous mobile terminals. The sophistication of this state-of-the-art signal processing technique dramatically expands the capacity of the mobile satellite uplink. We have an exclusive license with our partner DSpace for use of their patented algorithm in the U.S. DOD mobile tracking market. Comtech's patent filing pertains to taking the DSpace algorithm and employing new techniques that allow the highly complex multi-user detection algorithm to execute in real time on cost-effective processors. We believe Comtech is the first company to deploy this advanced technology into an active satellite environment for mobile users.

Our AMD technology provides a 20 times capacity improvement when compared to previous generation earth station equipment. AMD is a fully backward compatible technology, and is already being deployed into our active earth stations to improve the capacity of the existing BFT-1 system. This feature allows our BFT customer to enjoy the immediate benefits of this forward leaning technology while planning for the seamless move to the BFT-HC transceiver and their next-generation satellite-based tracking system.

We will be introducing the ASDR/BFT-HC transceiver at the Association of the United States Army (AUSA) Winter Symposium and Exhibition, 25 - 27 February 2009, at the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County Convention Center (Booth #2737).

This will be followed by a formal product launch for the ASDR/BFT-HC transceiver and the AMD product during the Satellite 2009/MSUA Conference and Exhibition, 25 - 27 March, at the Washington DC Convention Center (Booth # 1104).

Finally, we will exhibit our BFT-HC products during the AFCEA Belvoir Industry Days -- featuring PEO-EIS; 25 - 27 March at the Gaylord National Resort & Convention Center, Washington, DC (Booth #1624).

Comtech Mobile Datacom Corporation, a Germantown, Maryland-based company, is engaged in the provision of satellite-based packet data communication systems and location and messaging services through the use of advanced communication and network technology. To learn more about Comtech Mobile Datacom, please visit the company's website at www.comtechmobile.com.

Comtech Telecommunications Corp. designs, develops, produces and markets innovative products, systems and services for advanced communications solutions. The Company believes many of its solutions play a vital role in providing or enhancing communication capabilities when terrestrial communications infrastructure is unavailable or ineffective. The Company conducts business through three complementary segments: telecommunications transmission, mobile data communications and RF microwave amplifiers. The Company sells products to a diverse customer base in the global commercial and government communications markets. The Company believes it is a market leader in the market segments that it serves.

Certain information in this press release contains statements that are forward-looking in nature and involve certain significant risks and uncertainties. Actual results could differ materially from such forward-looking information. The Company's Securities and Exchange Commission filings identify many such risks and uncertainties. Any forward-looking information in this press release is qualified in its entirety by the risks and uncertainties described in such Securities and Exchange Commission filings.

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SOURCE: Comtech Telecommunications Corp.

Comtech Telecommunications Corp.
Media Contacts:
Michael D. Porcelain, Senior Vice President
and Chief Financial Officer

Sage Communications (for Comtech Mobile Datacom)
Cory Porter
(703) 584-5646
coryp@aboutsage.com

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