While rural places in the U.S. continue to make gains in bridging the digital divide, many are still un-served or underserved by high speed telecommunications. Some areas that have made gains in achieving access to high speed, continue to struggle with populations who are not 'technology savvy' and are therefore not taking full advantage of the power of the world wide web to create wealth while allowing them to enjoy the benefits of living in a rural setting.

Conference tracks include:
Developing Infrastructure
Understanding Regulatory and Public Policy Issues
e-Government: Smart Government!
Community and Economic Development
Telemedicine - Rx for Rural
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Registration is $245 and is bundled with membership for 2002-2003 ($50 value). All persons attending the conference will automatically become members of the Rural Telecommunications Congress (unless you indicate that you wish not to be made a member, but in that case, registration is remains $245). After the conference, those who wish to join the RTC but who did not attend the conference may do so for $50.

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RuralTeleCon

Annual Conference

Building
Demand
for
Broadband

October 6 - 9, 2002

Hotel Fort Des Moines
Des Moines, Iowa

ruraltelecon.org

Sunday, October 6, 2002

Noon - 6:00 p.m. Registration Open

2:00 - 3:00 p.m. RTC Board Briefing with Michael Powell

3:00 - 5:00 p.m. Forum:"FCC Regulations from Telco and Consumer Perspective"
Glenn Brown, two other panelists yet to confirm.
Moderator: Sharon Black, esq.

6:00 - 7:30 p.m. Welcome to Iowa Reception, includes hors' d' oeuvres & entertainment
The Honorable Thomas Vilsack, Governor of Iowa (invited)

Monday, October 7, 2002

7:00 - 8:00 a.m. Registrations, Continental Breakfast

8:00 - 8:30 a.m. Welcome and President's State of RTC Address, Cindy Weeldreyer, President, RTC
Opening Remarks and Overview
Richard Kimmel, President-elect, RTC

8:30 - 9:00 a.m. Keynote Address - Michael Powell, Director, Federal Communications Commission (invited)

9:00 - 10:00 a.m.   Chuck Fluharty, Director, RUPRI

10:00 - 10:30 a.m. Break - Vendor Booths

10:30 - 11:00 a.m. Rural Policy Forum Virtual Cafe - Patrick Murphy, NW Area Foundation

11:00 - 12:15 p.m. Chris Israel, Deputy Secretary - U.S. Department of Commerce

12:15 - 1:45 p.m. Lunch
Speaker: The Honorable Thomas Vilsack, Governor of Iowa (invited)

1:45 - 2:00 p.m.   Breakout Sessions Convene

2:00 - 3:15 p.m.   Concurrent Break-out Sessions

3:15- 3:45 p.m.   Break - Vendor Booths

3:45 - 5:00 p.m.   Concurrent Break-out Sessions

5:15 - 6:30 p.m. Tour of Iowa Communications Network System, Camp Dodge, Johnston
(OPTIONAL, Prior registration required)
under development

7:00 - 9:00 p.m.   Dinner & Entertainment
(OPTIONAL - Prior registration required)

Tuesday, October 8, 2002

7:00 - 8:00 a.m.
Registrations, Continental Breakfast

8:00 - 8:45 a.m.
The Honorable Senator Tom Harkin (D-Iowa)
The Honorable Senator Larry Craig (R-Idaho)
Introduction by Richard Varn, CIO, Iowa

8:45 - 9:00 a.m.   Break-out Sessions Convene

9:00 - 10:15 a.m.   Concurrent Break-out Sessions

10:15 - 10:45   Break - Vendor Booths

10:45 a.m. - Noon Concurrent Break-out Sessions

Noon-1:30   Lunch
The Honorable Senator Tom Daschle (South Dakota) Invited
The Honorable Senator Grassley (Iowa) Invited
Introduction by Richard Varn, CIO, Iowa

1:45 - 2:00 p.m.   Break-out Sessions Convene

2:00 - 3:15 p.m.   Concurrent Break-out Sessions

3:15-3:45   Break - Vendor Booths

3:45 - 5:00 p.m.   Concurrent Break-out Sessions

5:30 - 9:00 p.m. Taste of Iowa Banquet and entertainment

Wednesday, October 9, 2002

7:00 - 8:00 a.m.
Registration, Continental Breakfast

8:00 - 8:45 am Panel Presentation, "Emerging Technologies"

8:45 - 9:00 a.m.
Break-Out Sessions Convene

9:00 - 10:15 a.m.
Concurrent Break-out Sessions Begin

10:30 - 11:15 a.m.
Closing Speaker - to be announced

11:15 - 1:00 p.m.
"RTC General Meeting and Officers Election"
The 2003 Board will be elected. Also the members will discuss and draft the working agenda for 2003. This will include the issues that RTC feels are major obstacles to bringing broadband communication to rural areas. Each Community of Interest will hopefully develop one agenda issue they feel is important to their community.

1:30 - 3:00 p.m.
2003 Board First Meeting/Luncheon

RURALTELECON

Register on line at www.ruraltelecon.org or, If you prefer to pay by check or purchase order, send your check or purchase order to:
        RuralTeleCon'02 Registration
        Colorado Mountain College
        P.O. Box 10001
        Glenwood Springs, CO 81602
Indicate person(s) for whom this registration is to cover (registration fee is $245 per person).

For more information, contact:
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515.242.4875   or   515.242.4922