

## Network Communications, Inc. Reports Fiscal Year 2010 Second Quarter Results

	Second Quarter
Revenue	\$ 35.6 million
Operating Profit	\$ 1.7 million
Net Loss	\$ (3.2) million
EBITDA <sup>1</sup>	\$ 6.9 million

LAWRENCEVILLE, GA, October 23, 2009 — Network Communications, Inc. (“NCI”) today reported financial results for the quarter ended September 13, 2009. The Company reported revenues of \$35.6 million, down 23.9% from the same period in fiscal year 2009. Operating profit was \$1.7 million compared to the operating profit of \$4.9 million from the same period last fiscal year. For the quarter, net loss was \$(3.2) million compared to a net loss of \$(1.1) million in the same period of the prior fiscal year. EBITDA for the second quarter was \$6.9 million versus \$10.5 million in the same period of fiscal year 2009.

“Our year-over-year revenue comps remained challenging in the second quarter. Although there have been some positive data points for the homes market recently, we have not seen a meaningful change in the willingness of real estate agents to increase their investment in marketing. Conditions in the multifamily industry have softened with vacancy rates rising and average rents declining. During the quarter, we executed on our previously stated priorities of expanding customer relationships, introducing new products and services, managing cash and maintaining compliance with our debt covenants. We also achieved our goal of paying down our revolver draw during the quarter,” said Dan McCarthy, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of NCI.

### ***Financial Highlights***

#### ***FISCAL YEAR 2010 SECOND QUARTER***

**Revenue:** Second quarter revenue was \$35.6 million, a decrease of 23.9% from revenue of \$46.7 million in the same period of fiscal year 2009. Revenue from our resale and new sales product area was \$11.7 million, a decrease of \$8.3 million or 41.4% compared to \$20.0 million in the same period of fiscal year 2009. *The Real Estate Book* (“*TREB*”) had revenue of \$8.8 million for the quarter which was down \$5.8 million or 39.7% from the prior year quarter. Revenue for our *Unique Homes* publication was \$0.9 million for the quarter, down \$0.1 million or 10.0% from the second quarter of fiscal year 2009. By Design Publishing contributed \$0.8 million of revenue in the current quarter which was a decline of \$0.7 million versus the year ago quarter. Rental and leasing product area revenue decreased by \$0.3 million or 1.5% compared to the same period of fiscal year 2009. *Apartment Finder* (“*AF*”) posted revenue of \$18.7 million which was an increase of \$0.2 million or 1.1%. This growth was offset by year-over-year declines in revenue from our *Black’s Guide* and *Mature Living Choices* brands of \$0.4 million and \$0.2 million, respectively. The remodeling and home improvement product area posted revenue of \$4.5 million, a decrease of \$2.6 million or 36.4%, compared to the prior year quarter.

**Operating Profit:** Second quarter fiscal year 2010 operating profit was \$1.7 million compared to an operating profit of \$4.9 million in the same period of fiscal year 2009. The decrease resulted from the decline in revenue of \$11.2 million partially offset by a reduction of \$7.9 million in operating expenses.

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Depreciation and amortization expense for the second quarter of fiscal year 2010 was \$5.3 million, a decrease of \$0.3 million compared to \$5.6 million in the same period of fiscal year 2009.

Net Loss: Second quarter fiscal year 2010 net loss was \$(3.2) million compared to a net loss of \$(1.1) million in the same period of fiscal year 2009. The year-over-year decline was the result of lower revenue being partially offset by a decline in operating expenses and an increase in income tax benefit.

EBITDA<sup>1</sup>: EBITDA for the second quarter was \$6.9 million, a decrease of \$3.6 million or 34.3%, from the \$10.5 million a year ago. EBITDA is reconciled to Net Loss in the second table below.

Cash Flow: Network Communications, Inc. generated \$7.9 million in cash from operating activities during the second quarter of fiscal year 2010 compared to \$6.7 million in the same period of fiscal year 2009. Cash capital spending was \$1.4 million in the fiscal year 2010 second quarter, a decline of \$0.1 million compared to the cash capital spending of \$1.5 million during the same period in fiscal year 2009. The Company ended the quarter with a cash balance of \$2.2 million. During the second quarter, the Company paid off \$6.0 million on its revolving loan facility reducing the balance to zero at quarter end. The Company also paid \$1.8 million of senior secured term loan principal, including an excess cash flow payment of \$1.6 million, in the second quarter. At the end of the quarter, the outstanding balance on the senior secured term loan facility was \$68.7 million.

<b>Network Communications, Inc. Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations (unaudited, in thousands)</b>						
	Quarter Ended			Six Periods Ended		
	<u>9/13/09</u>	<u>9/14/08</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>9/13/09</u>	<u>9/14/08</u>	<u>Change</u>
<b>Revenue</b>	\$ 35,572	\$ 46,746	-23.9%	\$ 71,421	\$ 5,196	-25.0%
<b>Operating expenses</b>	<u>33,919</u>	<u>41,826</u>	-18.9%	<u>68,415</u>	<u>85,947</u>	-20.4%
<b>Operating profit</b>	1,653	4,920	-66.4%	3,006	9,249	-67.5%
<b>Other (expense) income:</b>						
<b>Interest expense, net</b>	(6,515)	(6,670)	-2.3%	(13,262)	(13,281)	-0.1%
<b>Other (expense) income, net</b>	<u>(2)</u>	<u>15</u>	—	<u>20</u>	<u>65</u>	-69.2%
<b>Loss before benefit from income taxes</b>	(4,864)	(1,735)	180.3%	(10,236)	(3,967)	158.0%
<b>Income tax benefit</b>	<u>(1,650)</u>	<u>(618)</u>	167.0%	<u>(3,573)</u>	<u>1,284)</u>	178.3%
<b>Net loss</b>	\$ (3,214)	\$ (1,117)	187.7%	\$ (6,663)	\$ (2,683)	148.3%

<b>Network Communications, Inc.</b>				
<b>EBITDA<sup>1</sup> Reconciliation</b>				
<b>(unaudited, in thousands)</b>				
	Quarter Ended		Six Periods Ended	
	<u>9/13/09</u>	<u>9/14/08</u>	<u>9/13/09</u>	<u>9/14/08</u>
<b>Net loss</b>	\$ (3,214)	\$ (1,117)	\$ (6,663)	\$ (2,683)
<b>Gain on disposal of fixed assets</b>	—	—	(5)	—
<b>Depreciation</b>	1,786	1,613	3,511	3,209
<b>Amortization</b>	3,493	3,996	7,059	8,027
<b>Interest expense, net</b>	6,515	6,670	13,262	13,281
<b>Income tax benefit</b>	<u>(1,650)</u>	<u>(618)</u>	<u>(3,573)</u>	<u>(1,284)</u>
<b>EBITDA<sup>1</sup></b>	\$ 6,930	\$ 10,544	\$ 13,591	\$ 20,550

<sup>1</sup> To supplement the consolidated financial results as determined in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (“GAAP”), we present non-GAAP financial measures for “EBITDA”. EBITDA is defined as earnings before interest, income taxes, depreciation, amortization, and gain/loss on disposal of assets. We believe that EBITDA is an accurate indicator of the Company’s results because it focuses on revenue and operating costs driven by operating managers’ performance. EBITDA is used by the Company’s chief operating decision maker, its Chairman and CEO, to make decisions and to assess the Company’s performance. EBITDA is not intended to represent cash flows from operating activities and should not be considered as an alternative to net loss as determined in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. EBITDA as presented may not be comparable to similarly titled measures reported by other companies since not all companies necessarily calculate EBITDA in an identical manner, and therefore, is not necessarily an accurate measure of comparison between companies.

<b>Network Communications, Inc.</b>						
<b>Revenue Summary by Area</b>						
<b>(unaudited, in thousands)</b>						
	Quarter Ended			Six Periods Ended		
	<u>9/13/09</u>	<u>9/14/08</u>	<u>Change</u>	<u>9/13/09</u>	<u>9/14/08</u>	<u>Change</u>
<b>Revenue</b>						
<b>Resale and new sales</b>	\$ 11,705	\$ 19,980	-41.4%	\$ 24,454	\$ 42,387	-42.3%
<b>Rental and leasing</b>	19,325	19,623	-1.5%	38,436	38,950	-1.3%
<b>Remodeling and home improvement</b>	<u>4,542</u>	<u>7,143</u>	-36.4%	<u>8,531</u>	<u>13,859</u>	-38.4%
<b>Total</b>	\$ 35,572	\$ 46,746	-23.9%	\$ 71,421	\$ 95,196	-25.0%

### **Conference Call**

Network Communications, Inc. will host a conference call discussing its fiscal year 2010 second quarter results on Monday, October 26, 2009, at 10:00 a.m. EST. The conference call number is (888) 554-7613 if you are in the U.S., or (973) 935-8644 if you are outside the U.S. The conference ID is 35809622. Please note that a replay of the Earnings Conference Call will be available after the conference call at (800) 642-1687 in the U.S., or (706) 645-9291, if you are outside the U.S. The conference ID is 35809622. The replay will be available for 10 days from the date of the call.

### **ABOUT NETWORK COMMUNICATIONS, INC.**

Network Communications, Inc. is the leading publisher of printed and online real estate information in North America. The Company was acquired by Court Square Capital Partners (formerly known as Citigroup Venture Capital Equity Partners, L.P) in January of 2005. Its magazines are read by 11 million readers in over 550 markets and deliver more than one million leads to advertisers each month. Network Communications, Inc. assets, *The Real Estate Book*®, *Apartment Finder / Blue Book*™, *Mature Living Choices*®, *Black's Guide*®, *New Home Finder*®, *Unique Homes*™, *Kansas City Homes & Gardens*™, *Atlanta Homes & Lifestyles*, *Atlanta Home Improvement*, *At Home In Arkansas*, *Relocating In Las Vegas*, *Colorado Homes & Lifestyles*, *St. Louis Homes & Lifestyles*, *Seattle Homes & Lifestyles*, *Mountain Living*, *New England Home*, and *Home by Design*, include publications that millions of readers around the country turn to when looking for the latest information about the real estate and home design markets. Network Communications, Inc. is on a March fiscal year end. Online magazine content can be accessed at [www.livingchoices.com](http://www.livingchoices.com). More information about NCI can be found at [www.nci.com](http://www.nci.com).

*Statements in this release and any exhibits hereto which are not purely historical facts, including statements about forecasted financial projections or other statements about anticipations, beliefs, expectations, hopes, intentions or strategies for the future, may be forward-looking statements within the meaning of Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended. Readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on forward-looking statements. All forward-looking statements are based upon information available to Network Communications, Inc. ("the Company") on the date this release was submitted. The Company undertakes no obligation to publicly update or revise any forward-looking statements, whether as a result of new information, future events or otherwise. Any forward-looking statements involve risks and uncertainties that could cause actual events or results to differ materially from the events or results described in the forward-looking statements, including, but not limited to, risks and uncertainties related to: the Company's revenue being dependent on the residential market for existing and new home sales; significant increases in paper, ink, printing plates or fuel costs; and other changes or events which impact the residential and commercial real estate markets or alter the manner in which consumers access housing related information. More information on potential risks and uncertainties is available in the Company's recent Quarterly Reports on Form 10-Q and Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended March 29, 2009 (SEC File No. 333-134701).*

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