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**Contact:**

Amy Bickel  
Marketing Project Manager  
[abickel@ideatek.com](mailto:abickel@ideatek.com) | 620-860-9433

## IdeaTek Acquires Liberal-based SWKO

Customers to soon experience faster speeds as IdeaTek crews upgrade tower equipment

BUHLER, Kansas – Residents of Seward and surrounding counties will soon have better internet infrastructure and speed upgrades thanks to IdeaTek Telcom's recent expansion.

IdeaTek announced this week that it acquired wireless internet provider SWKO, Inc., based in Liberal, Kansas. In the coming months, IdeaTek will begin an extensive upgrade to SWKO's wireless towers and infrastructure — which will bring faster, more reliable service to southwest Kansas homes, businesses, educational facilities and other enterprises.

The acquisition furthers the company's mission of providing internet freedom for Kansas communities, said Daniel Friesen, IdeaTek's co-founder and Chief Innovation Officer.

"We believe all Kansans should have affordable and reliable internet access no matter where they live," he said. "We will begin working immediately to upgrade and expand the SWKO network so that customers will be able to access lightning-fast internet by the end of 2021."

IdeaTek's wireless product, AirLight, delivers speeds of up to 100 Mbps. It was developed as a solution for remote areas. However, IdeaTek's ultimate goal is to connect every home in Kansas with high-speed, affordable fiber-optic internet.

Investment in fiber is a scalable solution for Kansas' future growth, Friesen said. "Our mission is not to build to the minimum standards of today, we want to build for the future."

IdeaTek was founded by Friesen and four high school friends in 1999. Today, the company employs over 120 Kansans and is continuing to grow. The team is dedicated to the mission of connecting underserved communities with affordable high-speed internet.

To date, IdeaTek has deployed more than 3,600 miles of fiber — plus built 70 fixed wireless towers — serving customers in 50 Kansas communities. The acquisition adds more than a dozen new towers — from the Kansas border to Fowler.

For more information about IdeaTek and its services, visit [ideatek.com](http://ideatek.com).



INTERNET FREEDOM FOR ALL

**About IdeaTek Telcom**

IdeaTek Telcom, LLC, is a Buhler, Kansas-based broadband service provider with the mission of “fighting for internet freedom.” IdeaTek uses a unique and innovative approach to deploy scalable long-term fiber optic infrastructures, bridging the broadband gap in rural communities. The company has already successfully built over 3,600 miles of fiber throughout Kansas. IdeaTek has long been at the forefront on broadband equity issues and is committed to enriching the communities in which they operate. They were recently named to Inc. 5000’s list of fastest-growing companies for the eighth time.