

**SOUTH DAKOTA PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION
LIFELINE/TRIBAL LINK UP ADVERTISING/OUTREACH
ANNUAL REPORT
JULY 1, 2016**

Company: TrioTel Communications, Inc

Address: 330 S. Nebraska St.

PO Box 630

Salem, SD 57058

Telephone number: 605-425-2238

Company contact: Heather Kranz

Study Area Code: 391669 and 391682

Lifeline/Tribal Link Up Advertising/Outreach Activities:

- Advertise in media of general distribution.* (See attached advertisement(s).)
- Letter to existing and new customers regarding the availability of Lifeline/ Tribal Link Up.* (See attached letter.)
- Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information in directory.
- Company's Lifeline/Tribal Link Up information available on Company website. (www.companywebsiteaddress.com)
- Company's information posted on USAC website.

Other (describe): _____

*Required

Assistance Available for Telephone Service

Lifeline telephone assistance is available for qualifying low-income subscribers, providing the consumer is not already receiving lifeline benefits from an alternate carrier (including wireless providers). This program provides for a monthly service discount on telephone service and allows subscribers to block or limit toll charges.

To qualify, a subscriber, one of the subscriber's dependents, or their household must participate in or receive assistance from one of the following programs:

- Medicaid
 - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) (Formerly Food Stamps)
 - Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
 - Federal Public Housing Assistance (FPHA)
 - National School Lunch (NSL) (Free Lunch Program)
 - Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF)
 - Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- OR
- Household income at or below 135% of Federal Poverty Guidelines

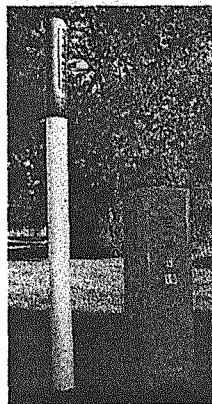
For details, please contact TrioTel at 425-2238.

Use Caution Around TrioTel Equipment

Please be aware of TrioTel equipment, such as pedestals and fiber markers, when burning ditches or foliage this fall.

Damage to TrioTel facilities will result in applied charges to those responsible for the damage, and may result in loss of service for customers. Pedestals and fiber markers may be located along intersections, alleyways, ditches, and/or fence lines. Pedestals are light green. Fiber markers are white with orange tops.

For questions or comments regarding damaged TrioTel equipment, please call 425-2238.



Pictured is a fiber marker and pedestal.



Quarterly newsletter for the members of TrioTel Communications, Inc.

THIS ISSUE:

- Directory Changes or Additions - Page 2
- The Trio Quiz - Page 3
- New TV Features - Page 4
- TrioVision's What's Hot Feature - Page 5
- Assistance for Phone Service - Page 6
- Curtis Gessner reaches 20 Years - Page 7

Connect with us!



Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA)

:SS

COUNTY OF HANSON)

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, on his oath says: THE ALEXANDRIA HERALD is a weekly newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in the City of Emery, Hanson County, South Dakota, by MATTHEW ANDERSON, and has been such newspaper during the times hereinafter mentioned: that it has bona fide circulation of more than 200 copies weekly; that it has been published within said County of Hanson in the English language and admitted to the United States mail under the second class mailing privilege for more than one year next prior to the publication of the notice hereinafter mentioned, and has been printed during such period and at the present time in part in an office maintained at the said place of a publication: that I, the undersigned, am either the publisher or an employee of the said publisher of said newspaper and have personal knowledge of all the facts stated in the affidavit: that the advertisement headed

Trio Tel Comm.

a printed copy of which is hereto attached, was printed and published in the said newspaper for one (1) successive weeks; that said notice was published in the issues of said paper on the dates as follows, to wit:

The first publication be made on 10-22-15

The second publication on _____

The third publication on _____

The fourth publication on _____

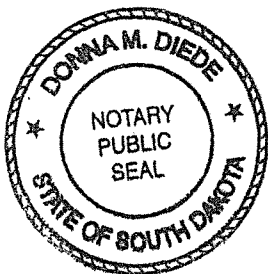
that \$28.47 Being the full amount of the fee for publication of the annexed notice, insured solely to the benefit of the publisher of the said newspaper, that no agreement or understanding for the division thereof have been made with any other person whatsoever, and that said newspaper is a legal newspaper under the law of the state of South Dakota.

Matthew Anderson

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23

day of October 2015

Donna M. Diede
Notary Public, South Dakota



My commission expires 2-2-2016

Communications, Inc.

TrioTel Communications, Inc. provides basic and enhanced telecommunications services within its service area. Basic services are offered at the following rates:

Single Party Residence Service \$16.00/month

Single Party Business Service \$17.00/month

Local residence and business service includes:

-Voice grade access to the public telephone network

-Minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge

-Access to 911 emergency services

-Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers

Lifeline Telephone Assistance Programs are available for qualifying subscribers. These programs provide a monthly service discount on telephone service. Toll blocking at no charge and reduced deposits are also available with the Lifeline Program.

To qualify for Lifeline, subscribers must either have a household income that is at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or the subscriber, one or more of the subscriber's dependents, or the subscriber's household must receive benefits from one of the following assistance programs:

-Medicaid

-Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)

-Low Income Housing Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)

-Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)

-Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF)

-National School Lunch Program Free Lunch Program

-Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

TrioTel Communications, Inc. voice service is a Lifeline-supported service. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the Lifeline program. Lifeline applicants must present documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs or through income-based means. Lifeline recipients are required to recertify their eligibility every year. The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline or wireless service. A household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or

service area. If you have any questions regarding telecommunications services, please contact TrioTel Communications, Inc. at 605-425-2238.

Affidavit of Publication

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA)
:SS
COUNTY OF McCOOK:)

The undersigned, being first duly sworn, on his oath says: THE EMERY ENTERPRISE is a weekly newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in the City of Canistota, McCook County, South Dakota, by MATTHEW ANDERSON, and has been such a newspaper during the times hereinafter mentioned; that it has a bona fide circulation of more than 200 copies weekly; that it has been published within said county of McCook in the English language and admitted to the United States mail under the second class mailing privilege for more than one year next prior to the publication of the notice hereinafter mentioned, and has been printed during such period and at the present time in part in an office maintained at the said place of a publication: that I, the undersigned, am either the publisher or an employee of the said publisher of said newspaper and have personal knowledge of all the facts stated in the affidavit: that the advertisement headed

Trio Tel Comm.

a printed copy of which is hereto attached, was printed and published in the said newspaper for one (1) successive weeks; that said notice was published in the issues of said paper on the dates as follows, to wit:

The first publication be made on 10-22-15

The second publication on _____

The third publication on _____

The fourth publication on _____

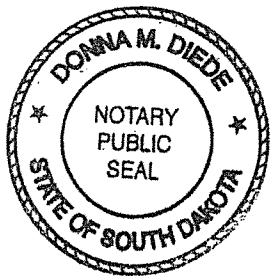
that 28.47 Being the full amount of the fee for publication of the annexed notice, insured solely to the benefit of the publisher of the said newspaper, that no agreement or understanding for the division thereof have been made with any other person who-sever, and that said newspaper is a local newspaper under the law of the state of South Dakota.

Matthew Anderson

Subscribed and sworn to before me this 23

day of October 2015

Donna M Diede
Notary Public, South Dakota



My commission expires 2-2-2016

TrioTel Communications, Inc.

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Single Party Residence Service \$16.00/month

Single Party Business Service \$17.00/month

Local residence and business service includes:

-Voice grade access to the public telephone network

-Minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge

-Access to 911 emergency services

-Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers

Lifeline Telephone Assistance Programs are available for qualifying subscribers. These programs provide a monthly service discount on telephone service. Toll blocking at no charge and reduced deposits are also available with the Lifeline Program.

To qualify for Lifeline, subscribers must either have a household income that is at or below 136 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or the subscriber, one or more of the subscriber's dependents, or the subscriber's household must receive benefits from one of the following assistance programs:

- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Low Income Housing Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF)
- National School Lunch Program Free Lunch Program
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

TrioTel Communications, Inc. voice service is a Lifeline-supported service. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the Lifeline program. Lifeline applicants must present documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs or through income-based means. Lifeline recipients are required to recertify their eligibility every year. The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline or wireless service. A household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or

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atchelltech.edu.

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Station

-5541 or
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letter by mail to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office
of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington,
D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program_intake@usda.gov.

TrioTel Communications, Inc.

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Single Party Residence Service \$16.00/month
Single Party Business Service \$17.00/month

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TrioTel Communications, Inc. voice service is a Lifeline-supported service. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the Lifeline program. Lifeline applicants must present documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs or through income-based means. Lifeline recipients are required to recertify their eligibility every year. The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline or wireless service. A household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

The basic services described above are offered to all consumers in the TrioTel Communications, Inc. service area.

If you have any questions regarding telecommunications services, please contact TrioTel Communications, Inc. at 605-425-2238.

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA, County of Miner: ss.

Carla Poulson of said County and State, being duly sworn, on her oath says: That the Miner County Pioneer is a legal newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Howard, said County and State, by Carla Poulson, and has been such newspaper during the time hereinafter mentioned: and that I, Carla Poulson the undersigned, am publisher of said newspaper, in charge of the advertising department thereof, and have personal knowledge of all the facts stated in this affidavit, and that the advertisement or notice headed

ETC

A printed copy of which is hereunto attached, was printed and published in the regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in a supplement, once each week for successive weeks, the first publication being made on the22 day of OCT 2015.....

And the last publication on the day of 20.....

The first publication being made on the day of 20.....

The second publication being made on the day of 20.....

The third publication being made on the day of 20.....

The fourth publication being made on the day of 20.....

The fifth publication being made on the day of 20.....

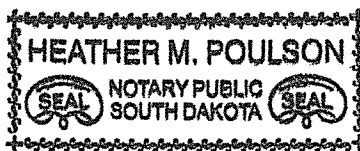
That said newspaper is a legal newspaper, and has a bona fide circulation of more than two hundred copies weekly, and has been published within the County of Miner, for more than fifty-two successive weeks next prior to the first publication of said notice, and is printed in on office maintained in Howard, South Dakota, the place of publication of said newspaper. That the full amount of fees for publication of the annexed notice is \$ 42.00 and insures solely to the benefit of said publisher; that no agreement or understanding for a division thereof has been made with any person and that no part thereof has been agreed to be paid to any person whomever.

C.R

Subscribed and sworn to me this ...22 day of OCT..... 2015.....

[Signature]

My commission expires the ...10... day of...OCT.... 2019...



AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA, County of Miner: ss.

Carla Poulson of said County and State, being duly sworn, on her oath says: That the Miner County Pioneer is a legal newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Howard, said County and State, by Carla Poulson, and has been such newspaper during the time hereinafter mentioned: and that I, Carla Poulson the undersigned, am publisher of said newspaper, in charge of the advertising department thereof, and have personal knowledge of all the facts stated in this affidavit, and that the advertisement or notice headed

Non Dis. Statement

A printed copy of which is hereunto attached, was printed and published in the regular and entire issue of said newspaper and not in a supplement, once each week for successive weeks, the first publication being made on the ...22 day of ...Oct. 2015

And the last publication on the day of 20.....

The first publication being made on the day of 20.....

The second publication being made on the day of 20.....

The third publication being made on the day of 20.....

The fourth publication being made on the day of 20.....

The fifth publication being made on the day of 20.....

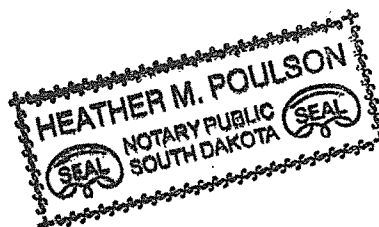
That said newspaper is a legal newspaper, and has a bona fide circulation of more than two hundred copies weekly, and has been published within the County of Miner, for more than fifty-two successive weeks next prior to the first publication of said notice, and is printed in an office maintained in Howard, South Dakota, the place of publication of said newspaper. That the full amount of fees for publication of the annexed notice is \$...17.50 and insures solely to the benefit of said publisher; that no agreement or understanding for a division thereof has been made with any person and that no part thereof has been agreed to be paid to any person whomever.

CR

Subscribed and sworn to me this ...22 day of ...Oct. 2015

[Signature]

My commission expires the ...10 day of ...Oct. 2019



Printer's Affidavit of Publication

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA)

)SS

COUNTY OF McCOOK)

TROY SCHWANS of said County and State, being first duly sworn on his oath, says THE COUNTRY TRADER is a weekly newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Salem, McCook County and State of South Dakota, and has been such newspaper during the times hereinafter mentioned; that the said newspaper is a legal newspaper, that it has a bonafide circulation of more than 200 copies weekly, that it has been published within said County of McCook for more than fifty-two successive weeks prior to the publication of the notice hereinafter mentioned and has been printed during said period and at the present time, in whole in an office maintained at said place of publication; and that I, the undersigned, am publisher or employee of said newspaper, in charge of the advertising department thereof, and have personal knowledge of all facts in this affidavit;

that the advertisement headed Lifeline

a printed copy of which is hereto attached, was printed and published in the newspaper for . . . weeks; that said notice was published in the issues of said paper on the dates as follows, to wit:

The first publication being made on

the second publication on ,20

the third publication on ,20

the fourth publication on ,20

the fifth publication on ,20

the sixth publication on ,20

and the last publication on ,20

that \$ 62.40 being the full amount of the fees for publication of the annexed notice, insures solely to the benefit of the publisher of the said newspaper; that no agreement or understanding for a division thereof has been made with any person; and that no part thereof has been agreed to be paid to any person whomsoever.

.....
Subscribed and sworn to before me this 2

day of November ,20 15

.....
Notary Public, Jill R Letcher County

My commission expires 12-17-20

TrioTel Communications, Inc.

TrioTel Communications, Inc. provides basic and enhanced telecommunications services within its service area. Basic services are offered at the following rates:

Single Party Residence Service	\$16.00/month
Single Party Business Service	\$17.00/month

Local residence and business service includes:

- Voice grade access to the public telephone network
- Minutes of use for local service provided at no additional charge
- Access to 911 emergency services
- Toll limitation for qualifying low-income consumers

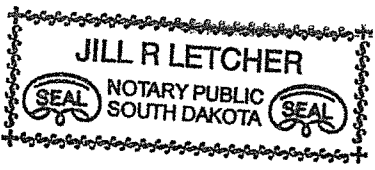
Lifeline Telephone Assistance Programs are available for qualifying subscribers. These programs provide a monthly service discount on telephone service. Toll blocking at no charge and reduced deposits are also available with the Lifeline Program.

To qualify for Lifeline, subscribers must either have a household income that is at or below 135 percent of the Federal Poverty Guidelines, or the subscriber, one or more of the subscriber's dependents, or the subscriber's household must receive benefits from one of the following assistance programs:

- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Low Income Housing Energy Assistance (LIHEAP)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)
- Temporary Aid to Needy Families (TANF)
- National School Lunch Program Free Lunch Program
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)

TrioTel Communications, Inc. voice service is a Lifeline-supported service. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the Lifeline program. Lifeline applicants must present documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs or through income-based means. Lifeline recipients are required to recertify their eligibility every year. The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline or wireless service. A household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

The basic services described above are offered to all consumers in the TrioTel Communications, Inc. service area. If you have any questions regarding telecommunications services, please contact TrioTel Communications, Inc. at 605-425-2238.



Printer's Affidavit of Publication

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF SOUTH DAKOTA)

)SS

COUNTY OF McCOOK)

TROY SCHWANS of said County and State, being first duly sworn on his oath, says THE SALEM SPECIAL is a weekly newspaper of general circulation, printed and published in Salem, McCook County and State of South Dakota, and has been such newspaper during the times hereinafter mentioned; that the said newspaper is a legal newspaper, that it has a bonafide circulation of more than 200 copies weekly, that it has been published within said County of McCook for more than fifty-two successive weeks prior to the publication of the notice hereinafter mentioned and has been printed during said period and at the present time, in whole in an office maintained at said place of publication; and that I, the undersigned, am publisher or employee of said newspaper, in charge of the advertising department thereof, and have personal knowledge of all facts in this affidavit;

that the advertisement headed Lifeline

a printed copy of which is hereto attached, was printed and published in the newspaper for . . . weeks; that said notice was published in the issues of said paper on the dates as follows, to wit:

- The first publication being made on 10/22, 2015
- the second publication on,20
- the third publication on,20
- the fourth publication on,20
- the fifth publication on,20
- the sixth publication on,20
- and the last publication on,20

that \$ 41.25 . being the full amount of the fees for publication of the annexed notice, insures solely to the benefit of the publisher of the said newspaper; that no agreement or understanding for a division thereof has been made with any person; and that no part thereof has been agreed to be paid to any person whomsoever.

Subscribed and sworn to before me this . . . 2

day of . . . November,20 15

Notary Public, Jill R. Letcher County

My commission expires 12-17-20

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TrioTel Communications, Inc.

TrioTel Communications, Inc. provide within its service area. Basic services a

Single Party Residence Service
Single Party Business Service

Local residence and business service

- Voice grade access to the public tr
- Minutes of use for local service prc
- Access to 911 emergency services
- Toll limitation for qualifying low-inc

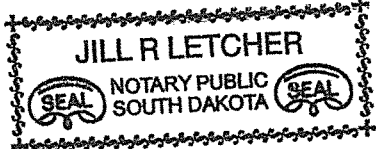
Lifeline Telephone Assistance Prog programs provide a monthly service c and reduced deposits are also availat

To qualify for Lifeline, subscribers r 135 percent of the Federal Pover subscriber's dependents, or the subr following assistance programs:

- Medicaid
- Federal Public Housing Assista
- Low Income Housing Energy Ad
- Supplemental Nutrition Assista
- Temporary Aid to Needy Famili
- National School Lunch Program
- Supplemental Security Income

TrioTel Communications, Inc. vo consumers may enroll in the Lifelin demonstrating eligibility either thro programs or through income-basi eligibility every year. The Lifeline p either wireline or wireless serv program, as an individual or grou share income and expenses. Life willfully make false statements; imprisonment or can be barred fr

The basic services described Communications, Inc. service an services, please contact TrioTel (



May 2015

TrioTel Communications, Inc. Annual Notice

Lifeline and Toll Blocking Assistance

Lifeline and Toll Blocking support is available from TrioTel Communications, Inc. These programs provide discounts to eligible low-income consumers to help them establish and maintain telephone service.

Lifeline assistance lowers the cost of basic, monthly local telephone service. Eligible consumers can receive \$9.25 per month in discounts. In addition, the Federal Universal Service Charge is not assessed to consumers participating in Lifeline.

Toll Blocking prevents the placement of all long distance calls for which a subscriber would be charged. Toll blocking is available to eligible consumers at no cost. Also, by choosing this option, consumers are usually not charged a deposit.

Customers are eligible if they, one of their dependents or their household participate in one of the following programs:

- Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)
- Federal Public Housing Assistance (Section 8)
- Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), f/k/a Food Stamps
- Medicaid
- National School Lunch Program's Free Lunch Program
- Supplemental Security Income (SSI)
- Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF)

In addition, consumers are eligible if their household income is at or below 135% of the federal poverty guidelines.

TrioTel Communications, Inc. voice service is a Lifeline-supported service. Only eligible consumers may enroll in the Lifeline program. Lifeline applicants must present documentation demonstrating eligibility either through participation in one of the qualifying federal assistance programs or through income-based means. Lifeline recipients are required to recertify their eligibility every year. The Lifeline program is limited to one benefit per household, consisting of either wireline or wireless service. A household is defined, for purposes of the Lifeline program, as an individual or group of individuals who live together at the same address and share income and expenses. Lifeline is a government benefit program, and consumers who willfully make false statements in order to obtain the benefit can be punished by fine or imprisonment or can be barred from the program.

To apply for this low-income assistance, please contact TrioTel Communications, Inc. at 605-425-2238 or 611.

Billing Name and Address Notification

The FCC requires TrioTel Communications, Inc., under certain circumstances, to release the Billing Name and Address (BNA) of telephone customers to telecommunications service providers. The main reason for releasing BNA information is to ensure proper billing for certain types of calls. For instance, calls such as collect, third-number billed or calling card calls may be carried by an interexchange carrier who is not your presubscribed interexchange carrier or who does not have a billing contract with our company. Under these circumstances, the carrier does not know who to bill the call to, and therefore, must request the BNA from our company in order to bill the call. We must provide the information to the requesting carrier.

BNA can also be released to telecommunications service providers for other reasons, such as verification for presubscription, servicing your account, to prevent fraud, or when you move from one location to another.

If you have an unlisted or non-published telephone number, you have a choice. If you do not want your BNA released by our company for third party billed calls, collect calls and calling card calls, we need affirmative notification from you within 30 days of this notice. If you provide us with such notification, your ability to make calling card calls or to receive collect calls or third number billed calls could be denied. Should you have questions regarding this matter, please contact TrioTel Communications, Inc. at 605-425-2238 or 611.