

## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Horizons Communications Announces Barak Harlan as New Chief Executive Officer/General Manager**

*Lubbock, Texas* — Horizons Communications is proud to announce the appointment of Barak Harlan as its new Chief Executive Officer/General Manager, effective July 10, following the retirement of longtime leader Wade Maner.

Harlan brings more than two decades of telecommunications experience, with a strong background in network planning, design, and operations. A Lubbock native and graduate of Texas Tech University, he holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Industrial Engineering and has built a respected career supporting rural broadband and communications infrastructure across Texas and beyond.

Harlan began his career in 1998 with Hicks and Ragland Engineering—later acquired by CHR Solutions—as an intern and design engineer. In 2002, he joined Cap Rock Telephone Cooperative, Inc., where he served as Lead Engineer, Wireless Network Manager, and Special Projects Coordinator. During his time at Cap Rock, he led critical infrastructure initiatives and helped advance wireless and network capabilities in rural markets.

In 2008, Harlan returned to CHR Solutions, where he has since held a variety of technical and client-facing leadership roles, including Director of Equipment Engineering, Sales Engineer, Systems Engineer, and Engineering Account Director. Throughout his career, he has supported complex engineering projects and worked closely with telecommunications providers to deliver innovative, reliable solutions.

“Barak’s depth of experience, technical expertise, and passion for the industry make him an excellent fit to lead Horizons Communications into the future,” said Bryan Patterson, Horizons Board President. “He understands the unique needs of rural communities and brings a forward-thinking approach to connectivity and technology.”

Harlan succeeds Wade Maner, who will retire July 10th after a distinguished career spanning 36 years with South Plains Telephone Cooperative, now Horizons Communications. Maner’s leadership has been instrumental in shaping the organization’s growth and commitment to delivering high-quality service to its members and customers.

“Wade has dedicated his career to serving this community and building a strong foundation for Horizons,” said Patterson. “We are incredibly grateful for his leadership and the lasting impact he has made.”

Harlan and his wife, Sarah, have been married for 25 years and are proud parents to two children, Griffin and Lauren. Outside of work, Harlan enjoys working in his woodshop and cheering on the Red Raiders.

“I am honored to step into this role and continue the strong legacy built by Wade and the Horizons team,” said Harlan. “I look forward to working alongside our employees, board, and community to expand opportunities, strengthen our network, and deliver the services our customers rely on every day.”

Horizons Communications remains committed to investing in its network, supporting its communities, and advancing broadband solutions that keep rural Texas connected.