

MEDIA ALERT

For Immediate Release

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SPEEDREAD ANNOUNCES APPROVAL OF ITS REMOTE UTILITY METER READING SYSTEMS AT TWO MAJOR U.S. MILITARY BASES

(Indianapolis, IN) October 13, 2004 — **SPEEDREAD** Technologies today announced that its strategic partner, Minol USA of Addison, Texas has been authorized to install **SPEED-READ** AMR (*automatic meter reading*) systems at both the Quantico Marine Corps Base in Quantico, Virginia and the Fort Lewis Army Base in Fort Lewis, Washington.

SPEEDREAD has pioneered “fixed network” wireless meter-reading systems throughout the US and provides the ability to remotely read utility meters without having to send out a meter reader. The systems employ high-powered radio signals traveling over FCC licensed frequencies to send the usage data several times a day to a collection box that can be located several miles away. These “concentrator” boxes collect and consolidate the data and then typically pass it on to a computerized billing system. The Fort Lewis and Quantico installations represent the company’s first foray into military territory.

At the Quantico installation, Minol has been authorized to attach **SPEEDREAD** transmitters to 3429 water, gas and electric meters throughout the base. This will require 1143 transmitters, each one attached to all three meters at a given home. A unique feature of the **SPEEDREAD** system is that a single transmitter may easily be connected to three different types of meters.

“Their multi-port transmitter is the main reason we went with **SPEEDREAD**,” explained Scott Bolin of Minol. “With other systems we would have needed a separate transmitter for each of the three meters. That would have essentially tripled our installation costs.” Minol will also be installing all of the above ground-level meters plus two repeater boxes that will help boost the radio signals along. Some transmitters are located over 4 miles from the collection box.

“Only needing two repeaters for an installation of this size is pretty amazing,” commented Bolin. “Other systems we looked at would have forced us to use at least a dozen.”

The meters will be going into individual single-family homes on the Marine Base. After installation is complete, Minol will continue to operate the system — collecting regular readings for gas, water and electricity consumption. Initially, this data will be used to establish realistic baselines for approved usage. After the baselines are set up, residents will be billed for consumption beyond the baseline. They will also be credited if they consume less. This way, base residents will be given a true financial incentive to conserve resources.

“The base’s housing properties are operated by a management company in behalf of the military, “ explained Bolin. “They will be using the **SPEEDREAD** System to help promote conservation and to gain control of utility expenses at the same time.”

Preliminary pilot installations have been going at Quantico since May, 2004. These have proved successful and the program has now been given the green light for the entire base.

At Fort Lewis, Minol will be installing 3637 electricity meters, each of which will be attached to its own **SPEEDREAD** transmitter. With distances well over five miles between some transmitters and the single central collection unit, five repeater boxes have been planned. Minol will perform a similar function at Ft. Lewis; first establishing a electricity consumption baseline for each home and then monitoring kilowatts used from that point on. The system will assist the Army in assessing the energy impact of a planned major renovation of the camp’s housing facilities.

“The Army is interested in demonstrating the boost in efficiency that will result from the planned renovations,” said Bolin. “With the **SPEEDREAD** system, specific consumption patterns, both before and after the renovations, can be easily tracked. This data will then be presented to Congress in order to show how much of an energy saving can be generated by this type of renovation.” As of now, only ten percent of the base’s homes have individual electric meters. These are being visually read by a human meter reader each month. The new system will make this practice unnecessary.

Work is slated to begin in November, 2004 with completion expected by March 2005.

“The Ft. Lewis installation, involving only electricity meters, will go much more quickly than the Quantico job where three separate types of meters need to be installed at each point,” explained Bolin.

SPEEDREAD Technologies LLC was founded in 1999 as an exclusive AMR submeter marketer (Automatic Meter Reading) for North America. Since then, **SPEEDREAD** has grown into a nationally recognized leader in AMR submetering product technology and service.

SPEEDREAD has evolved into a leader in advanced AMR submetering solutions for water, gas, and electricity measurement and monitoring. **SPEEDREAD** provides efficient utility monitoring services that are backed by uninterrupted meter reading transmissions with greater signal travel capacity which require fewer transmitters to provide reliable and robust solutions for their customers.

Minol USA offers a full range of services, covering all aspects of energy management, conservation and billing. They draw upon over 50 years of experience in the energy and property management business. They offer complete reliability with a wide range of services and advanced technology. Minol is one of only a few companies in the energy industry to offer a complete range of services and self-manufactured equipment.

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