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**Cogent Communications Reports Third Quarter 2017 Results
and Increases Regular Quarterly Dividend on Common Stock**

Financial and Business Highlights

- Cogent approves a 4.3% increase of \$0.02 per share to its regular quarterly dividend to \$0.48 per common share to be paid on December 4, 2017 to shareholders of record on November 17, 2017
- Service revenue for Q3 2017 increased by 2.7% from Q2 2017 to \$123.0 million and on a constant currency basis increased from Q2 2017 by 1.2%
- Service revenue for Q3 2017 increased by 8.8% from Q3 2016 and on a constant currency basis increased from Q3 2016 by 7.7%
- Capital expenditures decreased by 7.5% from the nine months ended September 30, 2016 to the nine months ended September 30, 2017 from \$38.0 million to \$35.2 million
- Cash flow from operations increased by 2.6% from Q2 2017 to \$28.8 million and increased from Q3 2016 by 26.1%

[WASHINGTON, D.C. November 2, 2017] Cogent Communications Holdings, Inc. (NASDAQ: CCOI) today announced service revenue of \$123.0 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017, an increase of 8.8% from the three months ended September 30, 2016 and an increase of 2.7% from the three months ended June 30, 2017. Foreign exchange positively impacted service revenue growth from the three months ended June 30, 2017 to the three months ended September 30, 2017 by \$1.7 million and positively impacted service revenue growth from the three months ended September 30, 2016 to the three months ended September 30, 2017 by \$1.3 million. On a constant currency basis, service revenue grew by 1.2% from the three months ended June 30, 2017 to the three months ended September 30, 2017 and grew by 7.7% from the three months ended September 30, 2016 to the three months ended September 30, 2017.

On-net service is provided to customers located in buildings that are physically connected to Cogent's network by Cogent facilities. On-net revenue was \$87.9 million for the three months

ended September 30, 2017; an increase of 2.7% from the three months ended June 30, 2017 and an increase of 7.4% over the three months ended September 30, 2016.

Off-net customers are located in buildings directly connected to Cogent's network using other carriers' facilities and services to provide the last mile portion of the link from the customers' premises to Cogent's network. Off-net revenue was \$34.9 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017; an increase of 2.6% over the three months ended June 30, 2017 and an increase of 12.6% over the three months ended September 30, 2016.

GAAP gross profit is defined as total service revenue less network operations expense, depreciation and amortization and equity based compensation included in network operations expense. GAAP gross margin is defined as GAAP gross profit divided by total service revenue. GAAP gross profit increased by 10.6% from the three months ended September 30, 2016 to \$50.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 and increased by 1.0% from the three months ended June 30, 2017. GAAP gross margin was 40.9% for the three months ended September 30, 2017, 40.2% for the three months ended September 30, 2016 and 41.5% for the three months ended June 30, 2017. Excise taxes, including Universal Service Fund fees, recorded on a gross basis and included in service revenue and cost of network operations expense were \$2.7 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017, \$2.7 million for the three months ended June 30, 2017 and \$2.4 million for the three months ended September 30, 2016.

Non-GAAP gross profit represents service revenue less network operations expense, excluding equity-based compensation and amounts shown separately (depreciation and amortization expense). Non-GAAP gross margin is defined as non-GAAP gross profit divided by total service revenue. Non-GAAP gross profit increased by 8.0% from the three months ended September 30, 2016 to \$69.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 and increased by 1.1% from the three months ended June 30, 2017. Non-GAAP gross profit margin was 56.6% for the three months ended September 30, 2017, 57.0% for the three months ended September 30, 2016 and 57.4% for the three months ended June 30, 2017.

Cash flow from operating activities increased by 26.1% from the three months ended September 30, 2016 to \$28.8 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 and increased by 2.6% from the three months ended June 30, 2017.

Earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (EBITDA) increased by 8.2% from the three months ended September 30, 2016 to \$40.2 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 and increased by 0.3% from the three months ended June 30, 2017. EBITDA margin was 32.7% for the three months ended September 30, 2017, 32.9% for the three months ended September 30, 2016 and 33.5% for the three months ended June 30, 2017.

EBITDA, as adjusted, increased by 7.2% from the three months ended September 30, 2016 to \$40.6 million for the three months ended September 30, 2017 and decreased by 1.3% from the three months ended June 30, 2017. EBITDA, as adjusted, margin was 33.0% for the three months ended September 30, 2017, 33.5% for the three months ended September 30, 2016 and 34.3% for the three months ended June 30, 2017.

Basic and diluted net income per share was \$0.08 for the three months ended September 30, 2017, \$0.08 for the three months ended September 30, 2016 and \$0.10 for the three months ended June 30, 2017.

Total customer connections increased by 16.2% from September 30, 2016 to 69,417 as of September 30, 2017 and increased by 3.6% from June 30, 2017. On-net customer connections increased by 16.2% from September 30, 2016 to 59,357 as of September 30, 2017 and increased by 3.6% from June 30, 2017. Off-net customer connections increased by 17.7% from September 30, 2016 to 9,724 as of September 30, 2017 and increased by 4.2% from June 30, 2017.

The number of on-net buildings increased by 138 on-net buildings from September 30, 2016 to 2,472 on-net buildings as of September 30, 2017 and increased by 34 on-net buildings from June 30, 2017.

Quarterly Dividend Increase Approved

On November 1, 2017, Cogent's board approved a regular quarterly dividend of \$0.48 per common share payable on December 4, 2017 to shareholders of record on November 17, 2017.

This fourth quarter 2017 regular dividend represents a 4.3% increase of \$0.02 per share from the third quarter 2017 regular dividend of \$0.46 per share.

The payment of any future dividends and any other returns of capital will be at the discretion of Cogent's board of directors and may be reduced, eliminated or increased and will be dependent upon Cogent's financial position, results of operations, available cash, cash flow, capital requirements, limitations under Cogent's debt indenture agreements and other factors deemed relevant by Cogent's board of directors.

Conference Call and Website Information

Cogent will host a conference call with financial analysts at 8:30 a.m. (ET) on November 2, 2017 to discuss Cogent's operating results for the third quarter of 2017 and to discuss Cogent's expectations for full year 2017. Investors and other interested parties may access a live audio webcast of the earnings call in the "Events" section of Cogent's website at www.cogentco.com/events. A replay of the webcast, together with the press release, will be available on the website following the earnings call.

About Cogent Communications

Cogent Communications (NASDAQ: CCOI) is a multinational, Tier 1 facilities-based ISP. Cogent specializes in providing businesses with high speed Internet access, Ethernet transport, and colocation services. Cogent's facilities-based, all-optical IP network backbone provides services in over 195 markets globally.

Cogent Communications is headquartered at 2450 N Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20037. For more information, visit www.cogentco.com. Cogent Communications can be reached in the United States at (202) 295-4200 or via email at info@cogentco.com.

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COGENT COMMUNICATIONS HOLDINGS, INC., AND SUBSIDIARIES

Summary of Financial and Operational Results

	<u>Q1 2016</u>	<u>Q2 2016</u>	<u>Q3 2016</u>	<u>Q4 2016</u>	<u>Q1 2017</u>	<u>Q2 2017</u>	<u>Q3 2017</u>
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<u>Metric (\$ in 000's, except share and per share data) – unaudited</u>							
On-Net revenue	\$78,705	\$79,539	\$81,846	\$83,511	\$83,586	\$85,586	\$87,898
% Change from previous Qtr.	2.9%	1.1%	2.9%	2.0%	0.1%	2.4%	2.7%
Off-Net revenue	\$29,356	\$30,149	\$30,972	\$31,861	\$33,386	\$33,980	\$34,865
% Change from previous Qtr.	3.3%	2.7%	2.7%	2.9%	4.8%	1.8%	2.6%
Non-Core revenue (1)	\$230	\$267	\$239	\$224	\$231	\$211	\$206
% Change from previous Qtr.	-5.3%	16.1%	-10.5%	-6.3%	3.1%	-8.7%	-2.4%
Service revenue – total	\$108,291	\$109,955	\$113,057	\$115,596	\$117,203	\$119,777	\$122,969
% Change from previous Qtr.	3.0%	1.5%	2.8%	2.2%	1.4%	2.2%	2.7%
Constant currency total revenue quarterly growth rate – sequential quarters (4)	3.0%	0.9%	3.1%	2.9%	1.6%	1.7%	1.2%
Constant currency total revenue quarterly growth rate – year over year quarters (4)	12.2%	11.1%	9.7%	10.2%	8.7%	9.6%	7.7%
Network operations expenses (2)	\$47,156	\$47,727	\$48,666	\$49,943	\$50,551	\$50,974	\$53,405
% Change from previous Qtr.	3.2%	1.2%	2.0%	2.6%	1.2%	0.8%	4.8%
GAAP gross profit (3)	\$43,261	\$43,479	\$45,426	\$45,434	\$48,003	\$49,765	\$50,238
% Change from previous Qtr.	4.7%	0.5%	4.5%	0.0%	5.7%	3.7%	1.0%
GAAP gross margin (3)	39.9%	39.5%	40.2%	39.3%	41.0%	41.5%	40.9%
Non-GAAP gross profit (4) (6)	\$61,135	\$62,228	\$64,391	\$65,653	\$66,652	\$68,803	\$69,564
% Change from previous Qtr.	2.8%	1.8%	3.5%	2.0%	1.5%	3.2%	1.1%
Non-GAAP gross margin (4) (6)	56.5%	56.6%	57.0%	56.8%	56.9%	57.4%	56.6%
Selling, general and administrative expenses (5)	\$27,472	\$27,278	\$27,220	\$28,576	\$28,925	\$28,704	\$29,360
% Change from previous Qtr.	11.1%	-0.7%	-0.2%	5.0%	1.2%	-0.8%	2.3%
Depreciation and amortization expense	\$17,753	\$18,604	\$18,804	\$20,073	\$18,538	\$18,897	\$19,147
% Change from previous Qtr.	-1.4%	4.8%	1.1%	6.7%	-7.6%	1.9%	1.3%
Equity-based compensation expense	\$2,181	\$2,687	\$2,991	\$2,876	\$2,647	\$3,225	\$3,734
% Change from previous Qtr.	-15.2%	23.2%	11.3%	-3.8%	-8.0%	21.8%	15.8%
Operating income	\$15,675	\$17,511	\$16,063	\$14,795	\$18,666	\$19,000	\$17,891

% Change from previous Qtr.	-3.1%	11.7%	-8.3%	-7.9%	26.2%	1.8%	-5.8%
Interest expense	\$10,065	\$10,243	\$9,891	\$10,602	\$11,891	\$12,090	\$12,266
% Change from previous Qtr.	-2.1%	1.8%	-3.4%	7.2%	12.2%	1.7%	1.5%
Net income	\$3,354	\$4,224	\$3,459	\$3,892	\$4,136	\$4,317	\$3,650
Basic net income per common share	\$0.08	\$0.09	\$0.08	\$0.09	\$0.09	\$0.10	\$0.08
Diluted net income per common share	\$0.08	\$0.09	\$0.08	\$0.09	\$0.09	\$0.10	\$0.08
Weighted average common shares – basic	44,402,640	44,491,899	44,574,583	44,577,826	44,649,645	44,717,372	44,767,163
% Change from previous Qtr.	0.2%	0.2%	0.2%	0.0%	0.2%	0.2%	0.1%
Weighted average common shares – diluted	44,593,710	44,757,494	44,816,860	44,803,782	44,917,014	44,988,655	45,118,607
% Change from previous Qtr.	0.2%	0.4%	0.1%	0.0%	0.3%	0.2%	0.3%
EBITDA (6)	\$33,663	\$34,950	\$37,171	\$37,077	\$37,727	\$40,099	\$40,204
% Change from previous Qtr.	-3.1%	3.8%	6.4%	-0.3%	1.8%	6.3%	0.3%
EBITDA margin	31.1%	31.8%	32.9%	32.1%	32.2%	33.5%	32.7%
Gains on asset related transactions	\$1,946	\$4,439	\$687	\$667	\$2,124	\$1,023	\$397
EBITDA, as adjusted (6)	\$35,609	\$39,389	\$37,858	\$37,744	\$39,851	\$41,122	\$40,601
% Change from previous Qtr.	-3.1%	10.6%	-3.9%	-0.3%	5.6%	3.2%	-1.3%
EBITDA, as adjusted, margin	32.9%	35.8%	33.5%	32.7%	34.0%	34.3%	33.0%
Fees – net neutrality	\$493	\$1,036	\$1,315	\$432	\$2	\$188	\$824

Net cash provided by operating activities	\$27,557	\$23,698	\$22,833	\$33,879	\$23,514	\$28,045	\$28,783
% Change from previous Qtr.	25.3%	-14.0%	-3.7%	48.4%	-30.6%	19.3%	2.6%
Capital expenditures	\$15,034	\$14,260	\$8,745	\$7,195	\$12,249	\$12,007	\$10,927
% Change from previous Qtr.	203.0%	-5.1%	-38.7%	-17.7%	70.2%	-2.0%	-9.0%
Principal payments on capital leases	\$3,369	\$3,935	\$2,354	\$2,808	\$3,854	\$2,194	\$3,320
% Change from previous Qtr.	2.9%	16.8%	-40.2%	19.3%	37.3%	-43.1%	51.3%
Dividends paid	\$16,171	\$16,671	\$17,169	\$18,199	\$18,999	\$19,946	\$20,879
Purchases of common stock	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,666	\$ 2,826	\$ -	\$ 1,829	\$ -
Gross Leverage Ratio	4.39	3.94	3.89	4.73	4.64	4.62	4.57
Net Leverage Ratio	2.97	2.88	2.90	2.90	2.94	2.98	3.00
<u>Customer Connections – end of period</u>							
On-Net	47,252	49,243	51,079	52,874	54,805	57,307	59,357
% Change from previous Qtr.	3.9%	4.2%	3.7%	3.5%	3.7%	4.6%	3.6%
Off-Net	7,654	7,971	8,259	8,598	9,055	9,355	9,724
% Change from previous Qtr.	5.2%	4.1%	3.6%	4.1%	5.3%	3.1%	4.2%
Non-Core (1)	450	349	386	350	383	340	336
% Change from previous Qtr.	12.5%	-22.4%	10.6%	-9.3%	9.4%	-11.2%	-1.2%
Total customer connections	55,356	57,563	59,724	61,822	64,243	66,982	69,417
% Change from previous Qtr.	4.1%	4.0%	3.8%	3.5%	3.9%	4.3%	3.6%
<u>On-Net Buildings – end of period</u>							
Multi-Tenant office buildings	1,545	1,560	1,577	1,592	1,601	1,618	1,635
Carrier neutral data center buildings	675	686	706	729	752	767	784
Cogent data centers	51	51	51	52	53	53	53
Total on-net buildings	2,271	2,297	2,334	2,373	2,406	2,438	2,472
Square feet – multi-tenant office buildings – on-net	834,341,216	840,042,330	847,266,071	858,958,167	864,432,176	872,293,092	881,184,145
<u>Network – end of period</u>							
Intercity route miles	56,183	56,183	56,684	57,213	57,213	57,403	57,403
Metro fiber miles	28,316	28,874	29,326	29,536	30,190	30,516	31,071

Connected networks – AS's	5,617	5,700	5,834	5,927	5,949	5,983	6,076
<u>Headcount – end of period</u>							
Sales force – quota bearing	398	397	394	422	432	434	444
Sales force - total	517	519	516	542	554	559	565
Total employees	855	854	858	887	900	909	919
Sales rep productivity – units per full time equivalent sales rep (“FTE”) per month	6.3	5.9	5.7	6.1	6.1	6.5	5.7
FTE – sales reps	373	373	377	384	416	410	420

- (1) Consists of legacy services of companies whose assets or businesses were acquired by Cogent, primarily including voice services (only provided in Toronto, Canada).
- (2) Network operations expense excludes equity-based compensation expense of \$121, \$145, \$161, \$146, \$111, \$141 and \$179 in the three month periods ended March 31, 2016 through September 30, 2017, respectively. Network operations expense includes excise taxes, including Universal Service Fund fees of \$2,003, \$2,156, \$2,362, \$2,549, \$2,604, \$2,672 and \$2,691 in the three month periods ended March 31, 2016 through September 30, 2017, respectively.
- (3) GAAP gross profit is defined as total service revenue less network operations expense, depreciation and amortization and equity based compensation included in network operations expense. GAAP gross margin is defined as GAAP gross profit divided by total service revenue.
- (4) Non-GAAP gross profit represents service revenue less network operations expense, excluding equity-based compensation and amounts shown separately (depreciation expense). Non-GAAP gross margin is defined as non-GAAP gross profit divided by total service revenue. Management believes that Non-GAAP gross profit and Non-GAAP gross profit margin are relevant metrics to provide investors, as they are metrics that management uses to measure the margin available to the company after network service costs, in essence a measure of the efficiency of the Company's network.
- (5) Excludes equity-based compensation expense of \$2,060, \$2,542, \$2,830, \$2,730, \$2,536, \$3,084 and \$3,555 in the three month periods ended March 31, 2016 through September 30, 2017, respectively.
- (6) See schedule of non-GAAP metrics below for definitions and reconciliations to GAAP measures below.

Schedules of Non-GAAP Measures

EBITDA and EBITDA, as adjusted

EBITDA represents net cash flows from operating activities plus changes in operating assets and liabilities, cash interest expense and cash income tax expense. Management believes the most directly comparable measure to EBITDA calculated in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles in the United States, or GAAP, is cash flows provided by operating activities. The Company also believes that EBITDA is a measure frequently used by securities analysts, investors, and other interested parties in their evaluation of issuers. EBITDA, as adjusted, represents EBITDA plus net gains (losses) on asset related transactions.

The Company believes that EBITDA, and EBITDA, as adjusted, are useful measures of its ability to service debt, fund capital expenditures and expand its business. EBITDA, and EBITDA, as adjusted are an integral part of the internal reporting and planning system used by management as a supplement to GAAP financial information. EBITDA, and EBITDA, as adjusted are not recognized terms under GAAP and accordingly, should not be viewed in isolation or as a substitute for the analysis of results as reported under GAAP, but rather as a supplemental measure to GAAP. For example, these metrics are not intended to reflect the Company's free cash flow, as it does not consider certain current or future cash requirements, such as capital expenditures, contractual commitments, and changes in working capital needs, interest expenses and debt service requirements. The Company's calculations of these metrics may also differ from the calculations performed by its competitors and other companies and as such, its utility as a comparative measure is limited.

EBITDA, and EBITDA, as adjusted, are reconciled to cash flows provided by operating activities in the table below.

	<u>Q1</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>Q2</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>Q3</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>Q4</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>Year</u> <u>2016</u>	<u>Q1</u> <u>2017</u>	<u>Q2</u> <u>2017</u>	<u>Q3</u> <u>2017</u>
(\$ in 000's) – unaudited								
Net cash flows provided by operating activities	\$27,557	\$23,698	\$22,833	\$33,879	\$107,967	\$23,514	\$28,045	\$28,783
Changes in operating assets and liabilities	(3,681)	1,755	4,737	(6,781)	(3,968)	3,192	950	721

Cash interest expense and income tax expense	<u>9,787</u>	<u>9,497</u>	<u>9,601</u>	<u>9,979</u>	<u>38,861</u>	<u>11,021</u>	<u>11,104</u>	<u>10,700</u>
EBITDA	\$33,663	\$34,950	\$37,171	\$37,077	\$142,860	\$37,727	\$40,099	\$40,204
PLUS: Gains on asset related transactions	<u>1,946</u>	<u>4,439</u>	<u>687</u>	<u>667</u>	<u>7,739</u>	<u>2,124</u>	<u>1,023</u>	<u>397</u>
EBITDA, as adjusted	\$35,609	\$39,389	\$37,858	\$37,744	\$150,599	\$39,851	\$41,122	\$40,601
EBITDA margin	31.1%	31.8%	32.9%	32.1%	32.0%	32.2%	33.5%	32.7%
EBITDA, as adjusted, margin	32.9%	35.8%	33.5%	32.7%	33.7%	34.0%	34.3%	33.0%

Constant currency revenue is reconciled to service revenue as reported in the tables below.

Constant currency impact on revenue changes – sequential periods

(\$ in 000's) – unaudited	<u>Q1 2016</u>	<u>Q2 2016</u>	<u>Q3 2016</u>	<u>Q4 2016</u>	<u>Year 2016</u>	<u>Q1 2017</u>	<u>Q2 2017</u>	<u>Q3 2017</u>
Service revenue, as reported – current period	\$108,291	\$109,955	\$113,057	\$115,596	\$446,900	\$117,203	\$119,777	\$122,969
Impact of foreign currencies on service revenue	<u>(10)</u>	<u>(709)</u>	<u>273</u>	<u>749</u>	<u>892</u>	<u>195</u>	<u>(531)</u>	<u>(1,701)</u>
Service revenue - as adjusted for currency impact (1)	<u>\$108,281</u>	<u>\$109,246</u>	<u>\$113,330</u>	<u>\$116,345</u>	<u>\$447,792</u>	<u>\$117,398</u>	<u>\$119,246</u>	<u>\$121,268</u>
Service revenue, as reported – prior sequential period	<u>\$105,177</u>	<u>\$108,291</u>	<u>\$109,955</u>	<u>\$113,057</u>	<u>\$404,234</u>	<u>\$115,596</u>	<u>\$117,203</u>	<u>\$119,777</u>
Constant currency increase	<u>\$3,104</u>	<u>\$955</u>	<u>\$3,375</u>	<u>\$3,288</u>	<u>\$43,558</u>	<u>\$1,802</u>	<u>\$2,043</u>	<u>\$1,491</u>
Constant currency percent increase	3.0%	0.9%	3.1%	2.9%	10.8%	1.6%	1.7%	1.2%

- (1) Service revenue, as adjusted for currency impact, is determined by translating the service revenue for the current period at the average foreign currency exchange rates for the prior sequential period. The Company believes that disclosing quarterly sequential revenue growth without the impact of foreign currencies on service revenue is a useful measure of sequential revenue growth. Service revenue, as adjusted for currency impact, is an integral part of the internal reporting and planning system used by management as a supplement to GAAP financial information.

Constant currency impact on revenue changes – prior year periods

(\$ in 000's) – unaudited	<u>Q1 2016</u>	<u>Q2 2016</u>	<u>Q3 2016</u>	<u>Q4 2016</u>	<u>Year 2016</u>	<u>Q1 2017</u>	<u>Q2 2017</u>	<u>Q3 2017</u>
Service revenue, as reported – current period	\$108,291	\$109,955	\$113,057	\$115,596	\$446,900	\$117,203	\$119,777	\$122,969
Impact of foreign currencies on service revenue	<u>855</u>	<u>(168)</u>	<u>(68)</u>	<u>276</u>	<u>892</u>	<u>503</u>	<u>743</u>	<u>(1,257)</u>
Service revenue - as adjusted for currency impact (2)	<u>\$109,146</u>	<u>\$109,787</u>	<u>\$112,989</u>	<u>\$115,872</u>	<u>\$447,792</u>	<u>\$117,706</u>	<u>\$120,520</u>	<u>\$121,712</u>
Service revenue, as reported – prior year period	<u>\$97,242</u>	<u>\$98,799</u>	<u>\$103,017</u>	<u>\$105,177</u>	<u>\$404,234</u>	<u>\$108,291</u>	<u>\$109,955</u>	<u>\$113,057</u>
Constant currency increase	<u>\$11,904</u>	<u>\$10,988</u>	<u>\$9,972</u>	<u>\$10,695</u>	<u>\$43,558</u>	<u>\$9,415</u>	<u>\$10,565</u>	<u>\$8,655</u>
Percent increase	12.2%	11.1%	9.7%	10.2%	10.8%	8.7%	9.6%	7.7%

- (2) Service revenue, as adjusted for currency impact, is determined by translating the service revenue for the current period at the average foreign currency exchange rates for the comparable prior year period. The Company believes that disclosing year over year revenue growth without the impact of foreign currencies on service revenue is a useful measure of revenue growth. Service revenue, as adjusted for currency impact, is an integral part of the internal reporting and planning system used by management as a supplement to GAAP financial information.

Non-GAAP gross profit and Non-GAAP gross margin

Non-GAAP gross profit and Non-GAAP gross margin are reconciled to GAAP gross profit and GAAP gross margin in the table below.

	<u>Q1 2016</u>	<u>Q2 2016</u>	<u>Q3 2016</u>	<u>Q4 2016</u>	<u>Year 2016</u>	<u>Q1 2017</u>	<u>Q2 2017</u>	<u>Q3 2017</u>
(\$ in 000's) – unaudited								
Service revenue total	\$108,291	\$109,955	\$113,057	\$115,596	\$446,900	\$117,203	\$119,777	\$122,969
Minus - Network operations expense including equity-based compensation and including depreciation and amortization expense	<u>65,030</u>	<u>66,476</u>	<u>67,631</u>	<u>70,162</u>	<u>269,299</u>	<u>69,200</u>	<u>70,012</u>	<u>72,731</u>
GAAP Gross Profit (1)	<u>\$43,261</u>	<u>\$43,479</u>	<u>\$45,426</u>	<u>\$45,434</u>	<u>\$177,601</u>	<u>\$48,003</u>	<u>\$49,765</u>	<u>\$50,238</u>
Plus - Equity-based compensation – network operations expense	121	145	161	146	573	111	141	179
Plus – Depreciation and amortization expense	<u>17,753</u>	<u>18,604</u>	<u>18,804</u>	<u>20,073</u>	<u>75,234</u>	<u>18,538</u>	<u>18,897</u>	<u>19,147</u>
Non-GAAP Gross Profit (2)	<u>\$61,135</u>	<u>\$62,228</u>	<u>\$64,391</u>	<u>\$65,653</u>	<u>\$253,408</u>	<u>\$66,652</u>	<u>\$68,803</u>	<u>\$69,564</u>
GAAP Gross Margin (1)	<u>39.9%</u>	<u>39.5%</u>	<u>40.2%</u>	<u>39.3%</u>	<u>39.7%</u>	<u>41.0%</u>	<u>41.5%</u>	<u>40.9%</u>
Non-GAAP Gross Margin (2)	<u>56.5%</u>	<u>56.6%</u>	<u>57.0%</u>	<u>56.8%</u>	<u>56.7%</u>	<u>56.9%</u>	<u>57.4%</u>	<u>56.6%</u>

(1) GAAP gross profit is defined as total service revenue less network operations expense, depreciation and amortization and equity based compensation included in network operations expense. GAAP gross margin is defined as GAAP gross profit divided by total service revenue.

(2) Non-GAAP gross profit represents service revenue less network operations expense, excluding equity-based compensation and amounts shown separately (depreciation and amortization expense). Non-GAAP gross margin is defined as non-GAAP gross profit divided by total service revenue. Management believes that non-GAAP gross profit and non-GAAP gross margin are relevant metrics to provide to investors, as they are metrics that management uses to measure the margin and amount available to the Company after network service costs, in essence these are measures of the efficiency of the Company's network.

Gross and Net Leverage Ratios

Gross leverage ratio is defined as total debt divided by the trailing last 12 months EBITDA, as adjusted. Net leverage ratio is defined as total debt (total debt minus cash and cash equivalents) divided by the trailing last 12 months EBITDA, as adjusted. Cogent's gross leverage ratio was 4.62 at June 30, 2017 and 4.57 at September 30, 2017 and Cogent's net leverage ratio was 2.98 at June 30, 2017 and 3.00 at September 30, 2017 and as shown below.

(\$ in 000's) – unaudited	<u>As of June 30, 2017</u>	<u>As of September 30, 2017</u>
Cash and cash equivalents	\$256,492	\$250,765
Debt		
Capital leases – current portion	7,635	6,698
Capital leases – long term	142,155	147,623
Senior unsecured notes	189,225	189,225
Senior secured notes	375,000	375,000
Note payable	9,445	9,915
Total debt	<u>723,460</u>	<u>728,461</u>
Total net debt	<u>466,968</u>	<u>477,696</u>
Trailing 12 months EBITDA, as adjusted	156,575	159,318
Gross leverage ratio	4.62	4.57
Net leverage ratio	2.98	3.00

Cogent's SEC filings are available online via the Investor Relations section of www.cogentco.com or on the Securities and Exchange Commission's website at www.sec.gov.

COGENT COMMUNICATIONS HOLDINGS, INC., AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEETS
AS OF SEPTEMBER 30, 2017 AND DECEMBER 31, 2016
(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE DATA)

	September 30, 2017 (Unaudited)	December 31, 2016
Assets		
Current assets:		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 250,765	\$ 274,319
Accounts receivable, net of allowance for doubtful accounts of \$2,044 and \$1,734, respectively	39,118	33,598
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	20,427	19,706
Total current assets	310,310	327,623
Property and equipment, net	381,010	361,641
Deferred tax assets, net	32,668	42,241
Deposits and other assets - \$727 and \$128 restricted, respectively	5,872	6,387
Total assets	<u>\$ 729,860</u>	<u>\$ 737,892</u>
Liabilities and stockholders' equity		
Current liabilities:		
Accounts payable	\$ 12,314	\$ 11,551
Accrued and other current liabilities	47,449	47,149
Installment payment agreement, current portion, net of discount of \$309 and \$204, respectively	7,090	2,587
Current maturities, capital lease obligations	6,698	6,626
Total current liabilities	73,551	67,913
Senior secured 2022 notes, net of unamortized debt costs of \$1,969 and \$2,257, respectively and including premium of \$402 and \$462, respectively	373,433	373,205
Senior unsecured 2021 notes, net of unamortized debt costs of \$2,200 and \$2,575, respectively	187,025	186,650
Capital lease obligations, net of current maturities	147,623	135,335
Other long term liabilities	28,351	28,043
Total liabilities	<u>809,983</u>	<u>791,146</u>
Commitments and contingencies:		
Stockholders' equity:		
Common stock, \$0.001 par value; 75,000,000 shares authorized; 45,946,226 and 45,478,787 shares issued and outstanding, respectively	46	45
Additional paid-in capital	452,369	442,799
Accumulated other comprehensive income — foreign currency translation	(5,912)	(17,193)
Accumulated deficit	(526,626)	(478,905)
Total stockholders' deficit	(80,123)	(53,254)
Total liabilities and stockholders' deficit	<u>\$ 729,860</u>	<u>\$ 737,892</u>

COGENT COMMUNICATIONS HOLDINGS, INC., AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2017 AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2016
(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE AND PER SHARE AMOUNTS)

	<u>Three Months Ended September 30, 2017 (Unaudited)</u>	<u>Three Months Ended September 30, 2016 (Unaudited)</u>
Service revenue	\$ 122,969	\$ 113,057
Operating expenses:		
Network operations (including \$179 and \$161 of equity-based compensation expense, respectively, exclusive of depreciation and amortization shown separately below)	53,584	48,827
Selling, general, and administrative (including \$3,555 and \$2,830 of equity-based compensation expense, respectively)	32,915	30,050
Depreciation and amortization	19,147	18,804
Total operating expenses	105,646	97,681
Gains on equipment transactions	397	687
Operating income	17,720	16,063
Interest income and other, net	1,632	207
Interest expense	(12,266)	(9,891)
Income before income taxes	7,086	6,379
Income tax provision	(3,436)	(2,920)
Net income	<u>\$ 3,650</u>	<u>\$ 3,459</u>
Comprehensive income:		
Net income	\$ 3,650	\$ 3,459
Foreign currency translation adjustment	3,790	688
Comprehensive income	<u>\$ 7,440</u>	<u>\$ 4,147</u>
Net income per common share:		
Basic and diluted net income per common share	\$ 0.08	\$ 0.08
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 0.46	\$ 0.38
Weighted-average common shares – basic	44,767,163	44,574,583
Weighted-average common shares - diluted	45,118,607	44,816,860

COGENT COMMUNICATIONS HOLDINGS, INC., AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF COMPREHENSIVE INCOME
FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2017 AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2016
(IN THOUSANDS, EXCEPT SHARE AND PER SHARE AMOUNTS)

	Nine Months Ended <u>September 30, 2017</u> (Unaudited)	Nine Months Ended <u>September 30, 2016</u> (Unaudited)
Service revenue	\$ 359,949	\$ 331,304
Operating expenses:		
Network operations (including \$431 and \$427 of equity-based compensation expense, respectively, exclusive of depreciation and amortization shown separately below)	155,362	143,976
Selling, general, and administrative (including \$9,175 and \$7,432 of equity-based compensation expense, respectively)	96,165	89,403
Depreciation and amortization	<u>56,583</u>	<u>55,161</u>
Total operating expenses	308,110	288,540
Losses on debt purchases and installment loan repayment	—	(587)
Gains on equipment transactions	<u>3,543</u>	<u>7,071</u>
Operating income	55,382	49,248
Interest income and other, net	3,502	677
Interest expense	<u>(36,245)</u>	<u>(30,200)</u>
Income before income taxes	22,639	19,725
Income tax provision	<u>(10,536)</u>	<u>(8,688)</u>
Net income	<u>\$ 12,103</u>	<u>\$ 11,037</u>
Comprehensive income:		
Net income	\$ 12,103	\$ 11,037
Foreign currency translation adjustment	11,281	2,795
Comprehensive income	<u>\$ 23,384</u>	<u>\$ 13,832</u>
Net income per common share:		
Basic and diluted net income per common share	\$ 0.27	\$ 0.25
Dividends declared per common share	\$ 1.32	\$ 1.11
Weighted-average common shares - basic	44,787,067	44,563,279
Weighted-average common shares - diluted	45,083,765	44,796,259

COGENT COMMUNICATIONS HOLDINGS, INC., AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE THREE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2017 AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2016
(IN THOUSANDS)

	Three months Ended September 30, 2017 (Unaudited)	Three months Ended September 30, 2016 (Unaudited)
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income	\$ 3,650	\$ 3,459
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	19,148	18,804
Amortization of debt discount	332	183
Equity-based compensation expense (net of amounts capitalized)	3,734	2,991
Gains — equipment transactions and other, net	(766)	(645)
Deferred income taxes	3,209	2,820
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(3,976)	(1,033)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	1,845	179
Accounts payable, accrued liabilities and other long-term liabilities	673	(4,265)
Deposits and other assets	934	340
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>28,783</u>	<u>22,833</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchases of property and equipment	(10,927)	(8,745)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(10,927)</u>	<u>(8,745)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Dividends paid	(20,879)	(17,169)
Purchases of common stock	—	(1,666)
Proceeds from exercises of stock options	433	264
Principal payments on installment payment agreement	(1,232)	—
Principal payments of capital lease obligations	(3,320)	(2,354)
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(24,998)</u>	<u>(20,925)</u>
Effect of exchange rates changes on cash	<u>1,415</u>	<u>21</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	<u>(5,727)</u>	<u>(6,816)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	256,492	154,967
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	<u>\$ 250,765</u>	<u>\$ 148,151</u>

COGENT COMMUNICATIONS HOLDINGS, INC., AND SUBSIDIARIES
CONDENSED CONSOLIDATED STATEMENTS OF CASH FLOWS
FOR THE NINE MONTHS ENDED SEPTEMBER 30, 2017 AND SEPTEMBER 30, 2016
(IN THOUSANDS)

	Nine months Ended September 30, 2017 (Unaudited)	Nine months Ended September 30, 2016 (Unaudited)
Cash flows from operating activities:		
Net income	\$ 12,103	\$ 11,037
Adjustments to reconcile net income to net cash provided by operating activities:		
Depreciation and amortization	56,583	55,161
Amortization of debt discount and premium	899	879
Equity-based compensation expense (net of amounts capitalized)	9,606	7,859
Losses on debt purchases and installment loan repayment	—	587
Gains — equipment transactions and other, net	(4,394)	(7,124)
Deferred income taxes	9,835	8,453
Changes in operating assets and liabilities:		
Accounts receivable	(4,317)	(2,478)
Prepaid expenses and other current assets	645	(3,256)
Accounts payable, accrued liabilities and other long-term liabilities	(1,411)	4,499
Deposits and other assets	793	(1,529)
Net cash provided by operating activities	<u>80,342</u>	<u>74,088</u>
Cash flows from investing activities:		
Purchases of property and equipment	(35,183)	(38,039)
Net cash used in investing activities	<u>(35,183)</u>	<u>(38,039)</u>
Cash flows from financing activities:		
Dividends paid	(59,824)	(50,011)
Purchases of common stock	(1,829)	(1,666)
Purchases of senior secured 2021 notes	—	(10,775)
Proceeds from exercises of stock options	919	894
Principal payments on installment payment agreement	(2,183)	(21,203)
Principal payments of capital lease obligations	(9,368)	(9,658)
Net cash used in financing activities	<u>(72,285)</u>	<u>(92,419)</u>
Effect of exchange rates changes on cash	<u>3,572</u>	<u>930</u>
Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents	<u>(23,554)</u>	<u>(55,440)</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	<u>274,319</u>	<u>203,591</u>
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	<u>\$ 250,765</u>	<u>\$ 148,151</u>

Except for historical information and discussion contained herein, statements contained in this release constitute forward-looking statements within the meaning of the Private Securities Litigation Reform Act of 1995. Such statements include, but are not limited to statements identified by words such as “believes,” “expects,” “anticipates,” “estimates,” “intends,” “plans,” “targets,” “projects” and similar expressions. The statements in this release are based upon the current beliefs and expectations of Cogent’s management and are subject to significant risks and uncertainties. Actual results may differ from those set forth in the forward-looking statements. Numerous factors could cause or contribute to such differences, including future economic instability in the global economy or a contraction of the capital markets which could affect spending on Internet services and our ability to engage in financing activities; the impact of changing foreign exchange rates (in particular the Euro to USD and Canadian dollar to USD exchange rates) on the translation of our non-USD denominated revenues, expenses, assets and liabilities; legal and operational difficulties in new markets; the imposition of a requirement that we contribute to the US Universal Service Fund on the basis of our Internet revenue; changes in government policy and/or regulation, including net neutrality rules by the United States Federal Communications Commission and in the area of data protection; increasing competition leading to lower prices for our services;

our ability to attract new customers and to increase and maintain the volume of traffic on our network; the ability to maintain our Internet peering arrangements on favorable terms; our reliance on an equipment vendor, Cisco Systems Inc., and the potential for hardware or software problems associated with such equipment; the dependence of our network on the quality and dependability of third-party fiber providers; our ability to retain certain customers that comprise a significant portion of our revenue base; the management of network failures and/or disruptions; and outcomes in litigation as well as other risks discussed from time to time in our filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission, including, without limitation, our report on Form 10-Q for the quarter ended September 30, 2017 to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Cogent undertakes no duty to update any forward-looking statement or any information contained in this press release or in other public disclosures at any time.

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