

**NEWS RELEASE**

May 10, 2005

**GTS COMMUNICATIONS WINS COSE'S INAUGURAL  
TEN UNDER 10 AWARD**

NORTH OLMSTED, OH—GTS Communications, an inner-connect telecommunications firm specializing in custom business phone systems, was recently awarded the Council of Smaller Enterprises' [COSE] first-ever **Ten Under 10 honor**. The accolade was bestowed in a ceremony celebrating COSE's Small Business Week 2005.

The COSE Ten Under 10 is a new annual small business awards program that recognizes the **outstanding achievements of ten northeast Ohio organizations** with ten or fewer full-time employees. Winners are COSE members selected for their best practices in innovation, growth/success, value to the community and environment, diversity promotion and customer service excellence. COSE is the small business arm of the Greater Cleveland Partnership.

GTS' average **annual growth rate of 25%** over its nine-year history, **100% employee retention rate** in the last five years and exceptional customer service record were among the performance measures that impressed Ten Under 10 judges. The notable expansion of the company's workforce, geographic service area, office space and service vehicle fleet also awed the COSE committee.

"For more than three decades, COSE members have worked hard to create jobs and improve the way they do business," said Jeanne Coughlin, COSE chairman and president of the Coughlin Group, Inc. "This year, we've started a tradition of recognizing the best among us. **GTS Communications stood out in the crowd.**"

Locally-owned and operated by Jerry and Victoria Stallard, GTS provides businesses nationwide with structured cabling for fiber, data and voice applications, **computer networking, Voice Over Internet Protocol [VoIP] technology**, voice mail, paging systems and a full line of phone accessories. GTS also offers business phone sales and service, installation and maintenance plans.

"We're thrilled that GTS has received this prestigious honor and are **grateful to our loyal and dedicated employees and clients** for making our success possible," says Jerry Stallard, GTS founder and president.

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