



Take a Seat – and other wackiness

Any business sector has an inherent goofiness that makes little sense. In telecommunications, it's the fact that there are multiple names for basically the same thing or process. If Eskimos have 50 words for snow, we have about that many around "phone/phone line."

A "phone line" can be a strand of copper (POTS line), a circuit that splits into 24 lines (T1), a voice path that goes over an internet connection (SIP) and we haven't even touched on cloud/hosted phones - those "lines" are called "pathways" being delivered to "seats" or sometimes "user seats". Seats can be very simple, like a lobby phone that only allows out-bound calls. The other extreme is a supervisor seat that has access to every function and reporting within a contact center. There are seats for common areas, seats for hotel rooms (super cheap because 94% of a room phone activity is ordering pizza) classroom seats because schools have specific phone functions and high call volume isn't one of them.

We will bring sweet clarity your way. We'll save you a seat. Or drop you a line. (Sigh)

Good Bye Gordon After years of more reliable service than your granny's Maytag washer, Gordon Johnson is moving into the great unknown - figuring out what to do with himself at 7:00 AM. Our coordinator, Barbara Monihan, ran into Gordon a few weeks after his send-off and she asked what he had been doing; "Gardening and travel." "I've been to the dump four times already." God Speed, Mr. Johnson. And if we find ourselves lost with some ancient phone technology, don't think for a second that we won't be calling.



In this issue that won't hide the tears at the thought of not seeing that dear man, Gordon Johnson, in his office.

After 43 YEARS (!!)
Of awesomeness at DataTel, Gordon Johnson goes into retirement.



Take heart, Gordon - DataTel Alums Bill Smart and Tom Gohlke have never looked happier since they retired (hum?)

There's a gold watch in there, somewhere. Start eating, folks!

Renee Smith serves Dori, Gordon's daughter, as Gordon repairs a phone from the Carter Administration.



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Wow – who knew that Trivia would be so popular in the News of Dubious Merit? Well, here's more!

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Can your know-it-all Uncle answer these TV Trivia questions v.2

1. Who hosted "American Bandstand"? Bonus: What year did it begin?
2. In what town do the Simpsons live?
3. This TV show featured American television's first interracial kissing scene?
4. What was the name of the boat that wrecked by a storm in Gilligan's Island?
5. Wayne and Garth are friends in what classic SNL skit?



1. Dick Clark - 1952
2. Springfield
3. Star Trek
4. SS Minnow.
5. Wayne's world

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Idaho Legislation of 2019 **provides authority to use Sourcewell cooperative contracts.**

The new legislation was passed this year in the Idaho Legislature which provides **explicit authority** for political subdivisions to utilize cooperative purchasing agreements established by other government entities or associations located outside Idaho.

This change in the law allows political subdivisions the legal authority to access Sourcewell cooperative purchasing contracts in compliance with Idaho Code. The law became effective July 1, 2019.

(This is the School House Rock version)



The Bill: "Is everyone cool with agencies and sub-divisions within the state like schools, institutions, cities, and towns under State institutions getting into this awesome program...?"

The Legislators: "So, it saves time, saves money, a serious group has already done the homework of vetting the products and services, there's no RFP to produce, we get guaranteed best pricing, a water-tight contract, pre-approved for gear like super Mitel phone systems, including hosted phones? Are you kidding? We vote 'Heck Yeah!'"

So in 2019 it became the law –

Idaho Code
§ 67-2807



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