
**ROSTELECOM'S BOARD OF DIRECTORS APPROVED THE LISTS OF CANDIDATES
FOR THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS AND THE AUDIT COMMISSION**

Moscow – March 17, 2010 – Rostelecom (RTS, MICEX: RTKM, RTKMP; OTCQX: ROSYY) today announced the decision of its Board of directors following the absentee voting results.

The Board of Directors has decided to include in the list of candidates for the Company's Board of Directors for election at the Annual General Shareholders' Meeting after 2009 year results, the following individuals:

As proposed by Svyazinvest:

1. Yevgeny Yurchenko, General Director of Svyazinvest;
2. Alexander Provotorov, First Deputy General Director of Svyazinvest;
3. Alexey Lokotkov, Deputy General Director of Svyazinvest;
4. Yelena Umnova, Deputy General Director of Svyazinvest;
5. Viktor Savchenko, Deputy General Director of Svyazinvest;
6. Vladimir Bondarik, Deputy General Director of Svyazinvest;
7. Sergei Kuznetsov, Member of Independent Directors' National Register of the Russian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs;
8. Mikhail Leshchenko, Deputy General Director of Svyazinvest;
9. Valentina Veremyanina, Director of Corporate Governance and Legal Department of Svyazinvest;
10. Konstantin Malofeev, Managing Partner of MarCap Advisors Limited;
11. Ivan Rodionov, Professor of State University Higher School of Economics.

As proposed by the Russian Deposit Insurance Agency (RDIA):

1. Valery Miroshnikov, First Deputy General Director of RDIA;
2. Marina Zinovina, Deputy General Director of RDIA;
3. Larisa Kudryakova, Deputy Director of Asset Management Department of RDIA.

As proposed by Vnesheconombank (VEB):

1. Anatoly Tikhonov, Management Board member, First Deputy Chairman of Vnesheconombank;
2. Anatoly Ballo, Management Board member, Deputy Chairman of Vnesheconombank;
3. Mikhail Poluboyarinov, Director of Infrastructure Department of Vnesheconombank;
4. Yury Surkov, Deputy Director of Infrastructure Department of Vnesheconombank;
5. Yury Kudimov, General Director of VEB Capital Ltd.

According to Rostelecom's Charter the Board of Directors consists of 11 members.

Rostelecom's Board of Directors also decided to include the following individuals to the list of candidates to the Audit Commission of the Company.

As proposed by Svyazinvest:

1. Olga Koroleva, Chief Accountant of Svyazinvest;
2. Bogdan Golubitsky, Director of Economics and Finance Department of Svyazinvest;
3. Mikhail Batmanov, Deputy Director of Corporate Governance and Legal Department of Svyazinvest;
4. Svetlana Bocharova, Head of Division of Accounting, Tax and Statistics Department of Svyazinvest;
5. Alexei Maltsev, Deputy Director of Strategic Development Department of Svyazinvest.

As proposed by Vnesheconombank (VEB):

1. Vyacheslav Ulupov, Director of Internal Control Service of Vnesheconombank;
2. Georgy Chicherin, Head of Transport Management Group of Infrastructure Department of Vnesheconombank.

According to Rostelecom's Charter the Audit Commission consists of 5 members.

Rostelecom (www.rt.ru/en) is Russia's national telecommunications operator. The Company owns and operates a nationwide network (about 150,000 km in length), enabling Rostelecom to handle the majority of long-distance and international voice traffic transmission as well as TV and radio broadcasting channels in Russia. Additionally, the Company is the domestic market leader in the wholesale Internet services segment.

Certain statements in this press release are forward-looking statements within the meaning of the U.S. federal securities laws and are intended to be covered by the safe harbors created thereby.

Those forward-looking statements include, but are not limited to:

- *Management's assessment of the Company's future operating and financial results as well as forecasts of the present value of future cash flows and related factors;*
- *the Company's anticipated capital expenditures and plans to construct and modernize its network;*
- *the Company's expectations as to the growth in demand for its services, plans relating to the expansion of the range of its services and their pricing;*
- *the Company's plans with respect to improving its corporate governance practices;*
- *the Company's expectations as to its position in the telecommunications market and the development of the market segments within which the Company operates;*
- *economic outlook and industry trends;*
- *the Company's expectations as to the regulation of the Russian telecommunications industry and assessment of impact of regulatory initiatives on the Company's activity;*
- *other statements regarding matters that are not historical facts.*

Such forward-looking statements are subject to risks, uncertainties and other factors, which could cause actual results to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. These risks, uncertainties and other factors include:

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- risks relating to changes in political, economic and social conditions in Russia as well as changes in global economic conditions;
 - risks relating to Russian legislation, regulation and taxation, including laws, regulations, decrees and decisions governing the Russian telecommunications industry, securities industry as well as currency and exchange controls relating to Russian entities and their official interpretation by regulatory bodies;
 - risks relating to the Company, including the achievement of the anticipated results, levels of profitability and growth, ability to create and meet demand for the Company's services including their promotions, and the ability of the Company to remain competitive in a liberalized telecommunications market;
 - technological risks associated with the functioning and development of the telecommunications infrastructure, technological innovations as well as the convergence of technologies;
 - other risks and uncertainties. For a more detailed discussion of these and other factors, see the Company's Annual Report on Form 20-F for its most recently completed fiscal year and the Company's other public filings with The U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission.

Many of these factors are beyond the Company's ability to control or predict. Given these and other uncertainties, readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on any of the forward-looking statements contained herein or otherwise. The Company does not undertake any obligation to release publicly any revisions to these forward-looking statements (which are made as of the date hereof) to reflect events or circumstances after the date hereof or to reflect the occurrence of unanticipated events, except as may be required under applicable laws.

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