



Windstream Offers ESPN360.com to Internet Customers

High-Speed Customers Gain Access to More Than 3,500 Live Events Online, Including Hundreds of College Football Games

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. & BRISTOL, Conn. & ATLANTA--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- Windstream (NYSE: WIN) and ESPN today announced that Windstream high-speed Internet customers now have access to ESPN360.com. ESPN360.com is ESPN's 24/7 broadband sports network, which offers more than 3,500 live, global sports events annually. It is available through www.windstream.net at no cost to fans who receive their high-speed Internet service from Windstream. With the addition of Windstream, ESPN360.com's total distribution will exceed 50 million subscribers.

"ESPN360.com enhances the value of Windstream high-speed Internet service and provides our more than 1 million broadband customers more options and control over how and when they watch sports," said Roger Wozniowski, vice president of strategic business development for Windstream. "ESPN is the recognized leader in sports programming, covering sporting events around the world, and now we are bringing many of those events to our customers' computers."

"We're in the midst of the Fall football season, which is the perfect time for Windstream to launch ESPN360.com," said David C. Preschlack, executive vice president, Disney and ESPN Media Networks. "Windstream customers will have thousands of live events at their finger tips and the deal represents a tremendous step forward in serving fans while growing our collective businesses."

ESPN360.com features live online sports coverage from a broad array of global events including (but not limited to):

- Basketball: NBA, Euroleague, FIBA, NCAA Men's and Women's basketball, WNBA;
- Football: NCAA College Football, AFL;
- Global Soccer: FIFA World Cup events and global qualifiers, Confederations Cup, Football League (UK), Carling Cup (UK), La Liga (Spain), Italian Serie A, Portuguese Liga Sagres, MLS, US National team, international "friendlies" and more;
- Global Baseball: MLB, World Baseball Classic, College World Series, Little League World Series;
- Tennis: Multi-court coverage of all four "grand slam" events and select other tennis events;
- Golf: Extensive coverage of the US Open, The Masters, The Open Championship and more;
- Lacrosse: Major League Lacrosse, NCAA College Lacrosse; and
- Misc. Sports: X Games and Winter X Games, NCAA Hockey and Softball, Open-wheel Racing, Professional Racquetball, International Polo and more.

Through a sleek, simple video player accessible via ESPN360.com, the service gives consumers control over their broadband sports viewing experience - providing reliable, high-quality video and the ability to pause, rewind and fast-forward live events. With the ability to deliver up to 15 simultaneous live events, fans are able to toggle between events in a main viewing window, and with a single click, jump to another event. Video can be viewed in widescreen (16:9) and normal (4:3) views and can be expanded to full screen or reduced to a compact size. Recently completed events are archived and available for on-demand replay.

About Windstream

Windstream Corporation is an S&P 500 company that provides phone, high-speed Internet and high-definition digital TV services to customers in 16 states. The company also offers a wide range of IP-based voice and data services and advanced phone systems and equipment to businesses and government agencies. The company has approximately 3 million access lines and about \$3.1 billion in annual revenues. Windstream is ranked 4th in the 2009 BusinessWeek 50 ranking of the best performing U.S. companies. For more information about Windstream, visit www.windstream.com.

About ESPN

ESPN, Inc. is the world's leading multinational, multimedia sports entertainment company featuring a portfolio of over 50 multimedia sports assets. The company is comprised of six domestic television networks (ESPN, ESPN2, ESPN Classic, ESPNEWS, ESPN Deportes, ESPNU), ESPN, ESPN2, ESPNEWS and ESPNU HD simulcast services, ESPN Regional Television, ESPN International (46 networks, syndication, radio, web sites), ESPN Radio, ESPN.com, ESPN The Magazine, ESPN Enterprises, ESPN PPV, ESPN Zones (sports-themed restaurants), and other growing new businesses including ESPN360.com (Broadband), ESPN Mobile Properties, ESPN on Demand and ESPN Interactive. Based in Bristol, Ct., ESPN is 80 percent owned by ABC, Inc., which is an indirect subsidiary of The Walt Disney Company. The Hearst Corporation holds a 20 percent interest in ESPN.