



507 G St.
Rupert, ID 83350



PMT Connection

FALL 2016



\$313,134 to be Returned to Members

PMT Board of Directors approved \$313,134 to be paid back to member customers in the form of patronage dividends.

Checks will be mailed the first part of December. Members with a dividend payout of \$10 or less, will have the credit applied to their December statement.

Message from the President

I would like to spend a few moments and talk about recent marketing scams being exposed to the residents of our Magic Valley serving areas. Recently, we have experienced numerous complaints from our customers regarding advertisements on Internet, phone and cable TV scams. These fraudulent marketing gimmicks use PMT in various ways to make our customers believe the ad originated from a PMT office or representative. PMT does not solicit customer information over the Internet or through marketing emails. PMT considers our customers' personal information to be completely confidential. Please notify a local PMT office immediately should you receive an email or Internet ad requesting your personal information for service inquires, service changes, billing inquires, or credit card information. PMT takes these types of scams seriously and we want to know when our name is being used or targeted by the fraudulent individuals to gain access to your personal information.



We at PMT thank you for your business and support.

Dan Hoover
President and CEO, PMT

Business Highlight – PerforMix Nutrition Systems



A new business to the Mini-Cassia area is PerforMix Nutrition Systems. They are located at 235 West 71 Lane South in Rupert, and can be reached by phone at (208) 436-1724. You can also find them online at www.performixnutrition.com. Operating throughout Idaho, Oregon, Washington, and parts of Utah, California, Nevada, Montana and Wyoming, PerforMix offers custom liquid blends and dry feed supplements, as well as equipment, transportation, inventory management and the quality control, customer service and support to back it all.

Consistency and efficiency are keywords for PerforMix as the company strives to deliver greater value in the final product for producers. PerforMix has offered liquid and dry feed supplements and livestock nutrition support from its home base in Nampa, Idaho since 1985. In 1995, PerforMix began to make moves further into the Pacific Northwest, setting up a location in Moses Lake, Washington. The move was made to service Agri Beef's feeding operations, as well as local beef and dairy producers.

Jim Keppen, president of PerforMix, said, "We're focused on the profitability of our customers, whether that's the dairy or beef industry."

PerforMix is able to manufacture thixotropic suspensions for their customers. They have the ability to suspend vitamins, minerals and medications into liquids assuring uniform delivery to customer's animals.

PerforMix made the decision to build a state-of-the-art liquid facility in Rupert, Idaho as part of their growth strategy. PerforMix relies on high speed Internet to link their facilities together, as well as operational software, and PMT has successfully delivered this service.

Derek Bedke, Facilities Manager at PerforMix said, "PMT's broadband service is the backbone of our operations. We wouldn't be able to run without your services."

PMT is glad to welcome PerforMix to the area.

BLOWOUT SALE!



1/2 off select Smartphones

Verizon compatible
No service plan required
While supplies last

Area Code Overlay Approved for the Idaho 208/986 Area Code

To ensure a continuing supply of telephone numbers, the new 986 area code will be added to the area served by 208. This is known as an area code overlay. Get ready to change the way you dial your local calls!

What is an area code overlay?

An overlay is the addition of another area code 986 to the same geographic region as an existing area code 208. An overlay does not require customers to change their existing area code.

Who will be affected?

The 208 area code covers the State of Idaho. The new 986 area code will serve the same geographic area currently served by the existing 208 area code.

What will be the new dialing procedure?

To complete local calls, the new dialing procedure requires callers to dial the 10-digit telephone number (area code + the 7-digit telephone number). This means that all calls in the 208 area code that are currently dialed with seven digits will need to be dialed using 10-digit telephone number. The same dialing procedure will apply to telephone numbers assigned to the new 986 area code. Calls that are currently local will continue to be local, even though 10-digit dialing will be required.

When will the change begin?

Effective November 5, 2016, you should begin using the new dialing procedures whenever you place a call from the 208 area code. If you forget and dial just seven digits, your call will still be completed.

Beginning August 5, 2017, you must use the new dialing procedures, as described above for all calls. After this date, if you do not use the new dialing procedures, your calls will not be completed and a recording will instruct you to hang up and dial again.

Beginning September 5, 2017, new telephone lines or services may be assigned numbers using the new 986 area code.

What will you need to do?

In addition to changing your dialing procedures, all services, automatic dialing equipment, or other types of equipment that are programmed with a 7-digit number will need to be reprogrammed to use the new dialing procedures. Some examples are life safety systems, PBXs, fax machines, Internet dial-up numbers, alarm and security systems, gates, speed dialers, call forwarding settings, voicemail services, etc. You may also want to check your website, business stationery, printed checks, contact information, pet ID tags, or advertising materials to ensure the area code is included.

Important safety and security equipment, such as medical alert devices, and alarm and security systems must be programmed to use 10-digit dialing. Many systems operate on 10-digit dialing by default but some older equipment may still use 7-digits. Please contact your medical alert or security provider if you don't know whether your equipment needs to be reprogrammed to accommodate the upcoming change to 10-digit dialing.



What will remain the same?

- Your telephone number, including current area code, will not change.
- The price of a call, coverage area, or other rates and services will not change due to the overlay.
- What is a local call now will remain a local call regardless of the number of digits dialed.
- You will still have to dial 1 + area code + telephone number (11-digit dialing) to place long-distance calls within the 208/986 area code
- You can still dial just three digits to reach 911.
- If 211, 311, 411, 511, 611, 711 or 811 are currently available in your community, you will still dial these codes with just three digits.

Who may you contact with questions?

If you have any questions regarding information provided in this notice, please call PMT at (208) 436-7151, (208) 878-7151, (208) 933-7151 or access the following websites for more information: www.puc.idaho.gov or www.pmt.org.

PMT Foundation Awards Community Grants

The PMT Foundation awarded nearly \$15,000 to organizations in the Magic Valley, each seeking to help sustain and improve our community.

"It's our privilege to award grants to local organizations," states Alan Johnson, PMT Foundation Chairman. "Much of this year's grant money is helping the youth in our area excel in their educational experience through the purchase of technology, and also to help organizations with necessary updates and repairs so they can focus on their patrons. The PMT Foundation is happy to contribute money to these organizations to further their good works in the Magic Valley."

As a customer owned cooperative, PMT pays patronage dividends back to customers based on services used. When those monies go unclaimed for a number of years, they are transferred over to the PMT Foundation, which focuses on furthering education through a scholarship program, and supporting community projects through grant awards. PMT Grant Applications are awarded once a year and will become available again in the summer of 2017.

Recipients:



- **Minico High School Pre-Engineering Academy:** \$4,950 to purchase a 3-D printer and update Computerized Numeric Control (CNC) machining equipment.



- **DeMary Memorial Library:** \$3,400 to acquire tablets for use in the children and teen room to help patrons learn and succeed in their education.



- **Paul American Legion Post 77:** \$4,000 to help renovate the Legion's 60+ year old building, Wilbur C. Hall, so Veterans can have a safe and up-to-code building to meet in.



- **Magic Valley Rehabilitation:** \$2,500 to help address facility repairs and safety measures for continued safe and productive operations in support of persons with disabilities.

Community Rewards Winners

PMT is giving away \$1,000 each month in 2016; \$500 to a customer and \$500 to a local organization or charity. Why? Because community matters and at PMT, that's not just something we talk about, it's something we are committed to doing together. For more information, visit our website at www.pmt.org.

September



Winner: KC Prewitt
Non-Profit: United Way of South Central Idaho

August



Winner: Melba Rohne
Non-Profit: Meals on Wheels, Burley

July



Winner: Megan Gillette
Non-Profit: Community Chest

June



Winner: Jimmy Tuckness
Non-Profit: Birthright of Rupert

May



Winner: Paula Goodsell
Non-Profit: Mini-Cassia Christmas Council

April



Winner: Marible Navarrete
Non-Profit: Mini-Cassia Shelter

March



Winner: Dezirae Garcia-Moore
Non-Profit: Waggin' Tales Rescue

February



Winner: Randy Hardy
Non-Profit: Minidoka County Senior Center's Meals on Wheels Program

January



Winner: Edith Neaderhiser
Non-Profit: Grace Community Church

Five Ways to Make your Wi-Fi Faster!



Why is my Internet still slow when I've just upgraded to a new speed? PMT is offering lightning fast speeds, but if your Wi-Fi router is out of date or is not set up correctly, you will not get the speed you are supposed to be getting. Here are some tips that will save you time and headaches.

1. Choose the Right Channel and Frequency

Routers have numerous channels. Sometimes, just changing the channel can make a huge difference. Channel 6 is the default channel of most routers, so we would advise against using this channel as you run the highest risk of it being congested, especially in apartments. The safer bet would be to use a channel closer to 1 or to 11. Routers also have different frequencies. Generally speaking, 2.4 GHz is better for bigger homes with multiple floors because the signal travels farther and through walls. 5 GHz is great for smaller rooms or homes because it offers faster speed, at a shorter range.

2. Move your router to its ideal position.

Keep your router centrally located and keep away from thick walls made of brick or concrete, water and windows. The true fix for Wi-Fi issues is to install a wireless access point in the locations which have issues. A wireless access point helps "boost" or "repeat" the signal in the areas in which it is installed. Installation involves running an Ethernet cable from your router to the location of the access point. Once connected, traffic will run from the router, through the Ethernet cable, and be broadcasted wirelessly from the new access point.

3. Make sure your router is secure.

Putting a password on your router or limiting which devices can access your network will keep other people from using your network and slowing it down.

4. Get a newer router.

There are so many consumers that don't understand how many devices they actually are trying to run on a home network. You may only have 3 people in your house, but if each of you has a computer, phone, tablet, plus a gaming console, that will easily exceed your entry level router's capacity. One of the main things we see with a customer's slow Wi-Fi, and Internet for that matter, is that their router is causing the issue. This is essentially the brain of your network as EVERYTHING runs through it. A HIGH Wi-Fi signal is not an indicator of FAST Wi-Fi speed. You may have the correct channel selected, a security key, and a fast Internet speed package, but if your router cannot handle the amount of traffic you are trying to put through it, you will see no improvement.

5. Check your PC.

WiFi technology advances quickly and if you upgrade your router to the "latest and greatest" but your PC is 5+ years old, chances are it cannot utilize the latest technology of the router. For example, if your router is an AC router capable of 1300Mbps and your laptop has a wireless G card capable of 54Mbps, you will always be limited by your laptop no matter what router you have. If the router and laptop combo is of a recent generation, and other devices are fast on your network, you should also check to see if any malware/viruses may be causing speed issues on the PC itself.