



For Immediate Release

### **Eventis Telecom Establishes \$10 Million Credit Facility with GE's Commercial Distribution Finance Unit**

HOFFMAN ESTATES, IL, April 7, 2006 – GE Capital Solutions, Commercial Distribution Finance (CDF), recently provided a \$10 million credit facility for Eventis Telecom, a subsidiary of Minnesota-based HickoryTech Corporation. Eventis Telecom provides businesses with telecommunications and network solutions in Minnesota, Wisconsin and South Dakota.

"This credit facility provides us with the inventory financing and working capital to continue to grow in our services area locations," said David Christensen, CFO of HickoryTech.

CDF provides financing that includes accounts receivable working capital loans, purchase order financing, inventory financing and other programs for various industries, including technology and telecommunications.

"CDF is pleased to provide working capital financing that enables HickoryTech Corporation to grow its business further," said Tom Grathwohl, managing director of CDF's Technology unit. "Through its Eventis Telecom Sector, HickoryTech is leveraging Cisco's channel support programs available through CDF. These programs enable HickoryTech to invest in the advanced technology products and services that are required to complete the complex solutions that HickoryTech delivers to their customers."

#### **About Eventis Telecom and HickoryTech Corporation**

Eventis Telecom, a wholly owned subsidiary of HickoryTech Corporation (NASDAQ: HTCO), specializes in providing telecommunications and network solutions for companies of all sizes – from international, multi-office organizations, to small and medium businesses. In addition to its regional, SONET-based transport network, Eventis provides innovative IP solutions that combine voice, video and data onto a single platform – reducing operational costs and enhancing performance. Eventis has offices in Duluth, Plymouth, and Rochester, Minn., and Sioux Falls, S.D.

HickoryTech Corporation is a diversified communications company headquartered in Mankato, Minn., with approximately 460 employees. In its 109th year of operation, HickoryTech offers a full array of telecommunications products and services to business and residential customers.

The Telecom Sector offers local voice, long distance, Internet, Broadband services, Digital TV, and IP networking. The Enterprise Solutions Sector provides IP Telephony, call center management, and data network solutions. The Enventis Telecom Sector provides IP-based voice and data services and network solutions on a state wide SONET-based network. The Information Solutions Sector develops telecom and carrier access billing solutions. To learn more about HickoryTech Corporation, visit the company's web site at [www.HickoryTech.com](http://www.HickoryTech.com).

#### About GE

Commercial Distribution Finance, a unit of GE Capital Solutions, is a leading provider of specialized financing products and services for various industries. Offerings include inventory financing, accounts receivable financing, asset-based lending, private label financing, collateral management, e-commerce services and related financial products. Additional information about CDF can be found online at [www.ge.com/cdf](http://www.ge.com/cdf).

GE Capital Solutions provides leasing, lending and capital investment products and services to help business customers grow. It has over \$90 billion in assets, serves more than 1 million clients around the world and is headquartered in Danbury, CT, USA. For more on GE Capital Solutions, go to [www.ge.com/capitalsolutions](http://www.ge.com/capitalsolutions). GE (NYSE: GE) is Imagination at Work - a diversified technology, media and financial services company focused on solving some of the world's toughest problems. For more information, visit the company's Web site at [www.ge.com](http://www.ge.com).

###