

MTC provides state-of-the-art communications

MTC, also known as Mutual Telephone Company was formed in January 1905 when 150 patrons gathered at Little River City Hall to organize an independent phone company. From starting out as a simple telephone company, MTC has evolved into one of the most state-of-the-art telecommunications providers in our area. MTC now serves many towns in several different counties throughout central Kansas. In fact, MTC now has a total of six store locations, three of which are in Rice County located in Little River, Lyons and Sterling.

MTC can offer a wide variety of services depending on the area you live. Some of the MTC services available include broadband internet, television services, local telephone service, a wide variety of

phone calling features, Nex-Tech Wireless cellular service, computer repair, PBX systems, Home and Business Security, Monitoring and Automation. Currently, 100 percent of MTC's Little River customers are connected to a "fiber to the home" network—the most advanced telecommunications technology available in the world. Besides Little River, MTC is also in the process of laying fiber throughout the communities of Lyons and Sterling.

Fiber Optics, best known as the next generation of broadband, is the only technology that offers virtually unlimited bandwidth. Producing up to 100 times faster Internet speeds, this also allows us to provide you with the most advanced services today. As technology advances your current equip-

ment may become inadequate or obsolete. That's why the "Future-Proof" aspect of the fiber network is so incredible. The system is built to grow and accommodate different applications and programs. As a matter of fact, it can adapt to applications and programs that haven't even been created yet. Fiber Optics can do it all!

All of us at MTC are consistently and diligently researching the latest products and services so we can provide you with all of the same technologies and services you can get in the "big city" at small town prices. Whether you need reliable Internet WAY out in the country, or you're looking for the latest and greatest phones and wire-

less plans, we've got you covered.

The staff and the board of MTC are also committed to the communities we serve. From sponsoring local sports teams, to being active in all of our local chambers, to supporting community events and local causes, we strive to grow with the communities we serve. You can always be sure when you call or stop by one of our offices; you'll talk to a local person who can help you right away.

At MTC, our mission is to provide local, reliable service to our customers. Offering the latest communication technologies to grow with the communities we serve. It is our genuine pleasure to serve you!



The new Central Prairie grain shed facility in Chase was completed in time for the 2015 wheat harvest. Max Mobley, operations manager, said the shed holds about 1.1 million bushels of grain.

CENTRAL PRAIRIE COOP

Recent infrastructure improvements have enhanced ability to serve area farms

By Ryan Carlson
Central Prairie Coop has made huge strides in 2015 with two projects to help Rice County farmers. The first major project was construction of a grain shed capable of holding 1.1 million bushels. The project started in September 2014 and was complete just in time for the 2015 wheat harvest. The decision to build the facility was mainly due to a surplus of gain in the organization. The added storage allows Central Prairie Coop to hold grain a bit longer until grain prices become favorable.

The grain shed is capable of sustaining winds of up to 90 miles an hour. The fans are also controlled via a wind vein at the top of the facility. "We didn't want to take any chances with our new investment," said Max Mobley, Operations Manager of Central Prairie Coop. Safety is an important feature of the new grain shed. Every motor in the facility has access. Walkways are three feet wide allowing safe walking room. All of the facility's equipment is explosion proof, something that takes away a common worry of grain facilities. "We have the most up to date technology that is feasible in our facility," said Mobley.

Speed was built in to the grain shed's construction. A long tunnel below contains a conveyor belt that dusts off grain and puts it back into the main leg

and out onto a truck. The facility's legs can move grain at over 20,000 bushels an hour. Mobley said there are several advantages to the Central Prairie grain shed design versus a bunker. Bunkers store grain directly on the ground with only a tarp to protect it. This could allow for increased spoilage or pests such as insects and mice. A storage shed by contrast keeps grain in-doors at all times with a highly controlled environment.

Another major improvement in 2015 was a grain treating facility at the Central Prairie Hub between Lyons and Sterling on Highway 96 in November of 2014. The project, which includes four 3000 bushel grain bins for bulk wheat and soy beans, cost the company \$300,000. "When we planned the new project we realized we already had a good grain facility at the Hub that was used for grain storage," said Central Prairie Coop Agronomy Manager Allen Shiv.

The facility includes four 3,000 bushel grain bins for bulk wheat and soy beans. Together they are able to hold a combined 12,000 bushels of grain. Shiv, said when they thought about the new project, they realized they already had a building located on the hub's ground which was already used for storing grain. Shiv said the facility is large enough to accommodate any size truck that their customers have.

The improvements

are part of the company's overall growth strategy as Seed Trade Manager Brent Werth said, "It's part of our growth movement throughout the company and it's a big logistics move throughout our company."



MTC came to Lyons in 2007, and is located at 125 W. Main. Call them at 620-509-2081.



MTC, in Sterling since 2008, can be reached at 620-904-0191 and is located at 107 South Broadway.



MTC began in Little River in 1905. The office is located at 365 Main St. They can be reached at 620-897-6200.

We are Proud to serve our partners and farmers in Rice County

Central Prairie Co-op



Sterling - Admin Office
225 S. Broadway
620-278-2141

Lyons Sales Office
321 N. Grand
620-257-2181

Today's Technology, Yesterday's Values

