

**ADTRAN Board Grants Chairman and CEO 4-Month Leave of Absence; Mark C. Smith Takes Leave for Health Reasons**

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HUNTSVILLE, Ala., June 8 /PRNewswire/ -- ADTRAN, Inc. (Nasdaq: ADTN) reported today that its Board of Directors granted Chairman and CEO Mark C. Smith a four month leave of absence effective today. The Board also directed President and COO Howard Thrailkill to assume Mr. Smith's duties and responsibilities for the duration of his leave of absence.

In remarks to management and employees after the Board meeting, Mr. Smith noted that, "It is precisely for events such as these that ADTRAN, its shareholders and employees are fortunate to have the strength, depth and stability of management that will be called upon during my temporary absence. During these next months I will devote appropriate energy to a recommended course of radiation and chemotherapy. My doctors have informed me that I have a highly treatable form of cancer discovered in its early stages in my throat, and they have prescribed a thorough 15-week course of treatment, which my current leave should amply accommodate. While I will continue to be actively involved with the corporation, our board and senior managers concur with me that my first priority at this time must be to give proper attention to my medical situation."

Mr. Smith concluded his remarks by saying, "I have worked with Howard Thrailkill for many years, and no one has more experience or better qualifications to assume my duties during this period. Our General Managers, Tom Stanton and Danny Windham will continue the process, begun over a year ago, of assuming greater responsibilities. Those privileged to work with our CFO, John Cooper, will see no change in the pivotal role he plays in ADTRAN's continuing growth and prosperity. ADTRAN is off to a great start for the year, and all indications point to a continuation of these trends. For the interim time it will take to get my current difficulties behind me, ADTRAN is in capable hands."

This press release contains forward-looking statements that reflect management's best judgment based on factors currently known. However, these statements involve risks and uncertainties including the successful development and market acceptance of new products, the degree of competition in the market for such products, the product and channel mix, component costs, manufacturing efficiencies, and other risks detailed in our annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 1999. Such risks and uncertainties could cause actual results to differ materially from those in the forward-looking statements included in this press release.

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