

Fight Back Against Unwanted Phone Calls

(NAPS)—Nearly 30 percent of Americans rate privacy as one of their top concerns, and nowhere is this concern more evident than guarding against unwanted calls. From the telemarketer who calls during dinner to your teenage daughter's boyfriend who always calls well past bedtime, most Americans feel helpless to protect themselves from the non-stop ringing of unwanted phone calls.

Qwest Communications International makes screening calls easier and more effective than ever with the introduction of Qwest Security ScreenSM, a one-of-a-kind privacy product that virtually eliminates unidentified calls and gives Caller ID users even more control.

Qwest Security Screen intercepts all calls from blocked and unidentified numbers and requires these anonymous callers to supply their phone number or a numeric code before their call can be completed. Unidentified callers also hear a message telling them to hang up if they're a solicitor.

Qwest Security Screen was introduced in Utah late last year, where it met with excellent response from consumers. Qwest Security Screen is now being made available in Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Minnesota, Montana, North Dakota, Nebraska, Oregon, South Dakota, Washington and Wyoming.

Customers must have Caller ID to use Qwest Security Screen and the new service costs \$2.95 a month in addition to the basic price of \$5.95 to \$6.95 per month for Caller ID. Activation is free for orders placed by April 13. Qwest customers interested in ordering Qwest Security Screen can call 1-800-600-2800.

"Our customers like Qwest Security Screen because it cuts down on the number of undesirable calls and lets them know who's calling every time," said Alice Fawver, senior director of marketing for Qwest. "And, since



there's a message asking solicitors to hang up, Qwest Security Screen's an excellent way for customers who don't want to hear from telemarketers to get rid of those calls without even having their phone ring."

About two out of every five Qwest customers have Caller ID, making it the most popular calling feature offered by the company.

"I haven't talked to a telemarketer in two months and I really enjoy that," says Qwest Security Screen customer Jenny Carlson. "The telephone has ruled people's lives," says Angie Downward, another Qwest Security Screen customer. "Having Caller ID, and particularly Qwest Security Screen, gives me the opportunity to rule the phone."

Note to Editors: This product is available in Colorado, Idaho, Iowa, Oregon, Nebraska, Minnesota, Utah and Washington.