March 10, 2016

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SmartSky Networks announces Matthew Petzold has joined as CFO

CHARLOTTE, N.C. – SmartSky Networks, a next-generation airborne communications provider, today announced that Matthew Petzold has joined the company as Chief Financial Officer. Petzold's successful track record in operations, fundraising, mergers and acquisitions positions him to add important strategic value to SmartSky in this key leadership role.

"Matt's combination of deep experience in telecommunications, internet, and satellite, his background in successful high growth companies, and his financial acumen will accelerate SmartSky's development," said Haynes Griffin, Chairman and CEO.

Petzold is an industry veteran with more than 20 years of communications and technology experience. Petzold most recently served as the CFO of Sprout Pharmaceuticals, where he was instrumental in the sale of Sprout to Valeant Pharmaceuticals for an initial cash consideration of \$1 billion. Previously he was CFO of Motricity where he helped to complete one of the largest private equity funding rounds in North Carolina history.

Petzold's career in the communications industry began at UUNET Technologies, where he was vice president and CFO of the then-largest worldwide internet service provider. At UUNET, Petzold provided strategic and operational financial management during a period of financial growth from \$20 million to \$4 billion in annual sales and an increase in employees from 150 to more than 10,000. Prior to that, Petzold served as an audit manager at Arthur Andersen, assisting corporate clients with accounting and business advisory services.

"SmartSky is transforming communications by bringing the first authentic 4G network to the aviation industry," said Petzold. "I look forward to adding my experience and expertise to an impressive management team with proven successes."

ABOUT SMARTSKY NETWORKS

SmartSky Networks, formed in 2011, is composed of seasoned aviation and telecommunications executives seeking to transform aviation using disruptive communications technologies. In conjunction with leading aerospace and technology partners, SmartSky plans to roll out its innovative, beamforming based air-to-ground network, SmartSky 4G, later this year with nationwide coverage slated for 2017. www.smartskynetworks.com.