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ZimmComm New Media Rebrands AgNewsWire as Agriculture's Virtual Newsroom

ZimmComm World Headquarters – April 11, 2017 - ZimmComm New Media, a multimedia content producer and distributor, introduces <u>AgNewsWire</u> as *Agriculture's Virtual Newsroom* for organizations and companies to efficiently distribute materials such as photos and audio to media and other interested parties.

"Content is king in today's world and getting it out quickly to as many places as possible is the best way for a company or organization to amplify their message, whether it be a major announcement or a week long convention," said ZimmComm President Chuck Zimmerman. "We have actually been doing this since 2005, starting with the introduction of the Talking News Release distributed through AgNewsWire, but wanted to re-brand the concept and re-introduce it to the agricultural marketing community for 2017."

The virtual newsroom is a place where photos, audio, press releases and even video are hosted on a direct page with an individual url that can be updated as an event unfolds, continued after it concludes, and archived for future use. The content is promoted to 2,100 agricultural news media contacts via AgNewsWire email distribution, as well as amplification through social media networks including Twitter, Facebook and Instagram. In addition, AgNewsWire reaches non-traditional media sources such as bloggers and podcasters who are also always seeking fresh content.

<u>AgNewsWire</u> provides high quality photos and audio from over 50 agricultural industry events each year and serves as a source for multi-media content relating to current issues. All content on AgNewsWire is open source under Creative Commons license CC0 and available free of charge with no attribution necessary. As a virtual newsroom for agriculture, AgNewsWire includes a searchable archive of content dating back to 2005.

"This model is a win-win for everyone, especially with the current farm economy and budgets being tight," said ZimmComm General Manager Clint Underwood. "It allows media to get content from events they might not be able to attend, helps agencies and agribusinesses get their messages out more efficiently and gives ag organizations a way to aggregate multi-media materials from an event."

There are several ways AgNewsWire can host a virtual newsroom for an event or announcement, including on-site coverage with professional photography and audio production, or content can be provided by the company or organization. Content can include audio interviews with key event participants, audio from presentations, high-resolution photos, powerpoint presentations and video clips. The virtual newsroom model can be also used by agribusiness companies in the same way that they might host a physical newsroom at an industry event. Single news release announcements can provide more instant content and impact by including links to images and audio, distributed quickly by email, posted with a url on AgNewsWire, and shared via social media.

ZimmComm will be promoting the AgNewsWire virtual newsroom in their booth at the <u>National</u> <u>Agri-Marketing Association Conference</u> Connection Point trade show April 26-28 in Dallas with a 360 virtual reality theme in conjunction with the <u>U.S. Farmers and Ranchers Alliance</u>. Stop by to learn more or contact <u>Clint Underwood</u> for a customized virtual newsroom quote for your next event or announcement, and upcoming virtual newsroom sponsorship opportunities.

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ZimmComm New Media is a multi-media content producer and distributor, and publisher of the AgWired family of agricultural and renewable energy news websites.