

MAY 6  
2026

**NATE**  
ALWAYS ADVANCING<sup>SM</sup>

## NATE TOWER TECHNICIAN APPRECIATION DAY PROCLAMATION

**Whereas** communications tower technicians are the backbone of the wireless, broadband, broadcast, and data infrastructure ecosystem, and the work performed by tower technicians is of critical importance to homeland security, public safety, the nation's economy and global competitiveness, the expansion of broadband, and our nation's vital communications capabilities; and

**Whereas** communications tower technicians bear enormous responsibility in servicing, maintaining, and inspecting hundreds of thousands of communications towers, data center connectivity systems, and next-generation wireless and broadband networks throughout the United States and around the globe; and

**Whereas** tower technicians have been uniquely responsible for developing, deploying, and maintaining every generation of wireless networks, often in challenging environments and conditions, and their skills and productivity are essential to ensure the continued success of 5G deployment and the evolution toward future network technologies; and

**Whereas** tower technicians play a pivotal role in enabling the infrastructure that supports the rapid growth of Artificial Intelligence (AI) applications, which rely on robust, low-latency, high-capacity wireless networks, fiber backhaul, and edge computing architectures to process and transmit vast amounts of data in real time; and

**Whereas** tower technicians are critical contributors to the deployment and interconnection of data centers and edge data infrastructure, supporting the distributed computing environments necessary for AI, cloud services, content delivery, and mission-critical applications across industries; and

**Whereas** the tower technician workforce transforms valuable spectrum airwaves into action to enable connectivity, unleashing the full potential of advanced wireless networks to power innovation, economic growth, and emerging technologies; and

**Whereas** tower technicians will continue to play a vital role on the frontlines conducting "rip and replace" deployment work, removing untrusted equipment and components from the nation's wireless communications systems and strengthening the security and resilience of our broadband infrastructure; and

**Whereas** tower technicians are working with wireless internet service providers and contractor firms to deliver fixed wireless and hybrid deployment solutions that enable connectivity in challenging, hard-to-reach, and under-served locations; and

**Whereas** tower technicians possess diverse skill sets that enable them to conduct small cell installations on utility poles, streetlights, street furniture, and other structures located in both urban environments and along transportation corridors, supporting network densification and next-generation connectivity; and

**Whereas** the efforts, expertise, and diligence of tower technicians are essential to delivering next-generation networks and technologies vital for the continued growth of Smart Cities, the Internet of Things (IoT), telehealth applications, autonomous systems, and AI-driven services; and

**Whereas** tower technicians are advancing the deployment of Distributed Antenna Systems (DAS), in-building wireless technologies, and edge network nodes, which are critical to densifying network coverage, reducing latency, and enhancing in-building public safety communications in high-density environments such as stadiums, airports, campuses, healthcare facilities, and commercial buildings; and

**Whereas** tower technicians play an instrumental role in maintaining and, when necessary, restoring networks and related communications infrastructure in the aftermath of natural disasters and severe weather events; and

**Whereas** tower technicians are the "zero responders" who are called upon by 911 and public safety entities when emergency communication networks need to be restored, and they support the performance of FirstNet, the nationwide interoperable broadband network dedicated to public safety that provides first responders with critical communications capabilities; and

**Whereas** tower technicians must continuously study, train, and master innovations in safety practices, deployment techniques, and emerging technologies to promote the welfare of the workforce and infrastructure while advancing the quality, resilience, and efficiency of communications services; and

**Whereas** NATE: The Communications Infrastructure Contractors Association is committed to facilitating training and providing safety resources, standards, and best practices to ensure tower technicians perform their work safely and with the highest quality, while collaborating with key federal and state agencies and Members of Congress; and

**Whereas** tower technicians and their employers are committed to promoting and enhancing workforce safety, education, training, and competency-based apprenticeships through the Telecommunications Industry Registered Apprenticeship Program (TIRAP), as well as maintaining safe work environments by adhering to applicable codes, standards, and regulations; and

**Whereas** tower technicians are demonstrating their expertise and professionalism by obtaining national, portable, ANSI-accredited certifications through the National Wireless Safety Alliance (NWSA); and

**Whereas** the feature-length documentary Vertical Freedom highlights the dedication, resilience, and extraordinary work performed by tower technicians who operate at great heights to keep our world connected;

Now, therefore, be it resolved that NATE: The Communications Infrastructure Contractors Association hereby declares **Wednesday, May 6, 2026**, as **Tower Technician Appreciation Day**, to honor the men and women who deploy, maintain, and advance America's communications and digital infrastructure.



Victor Drouin, NATE Chairman  
May 6, 2026