



Profiles of Technology
IN TENNESSEE

Sleepy Middle Tennessee Town Home to High-Tech Data Center

Name: Pulaski Electric

Location:
Pulaski/Giles County

Products/Services:
Electricity; fiber-optic
broadband Internet

Leadership:
Wes Kelley, Executive Vice
President

Reach:
County-wide

Innovative Insight: *“The community of Pulaski first got our name on the map in the early ‘90’s when we brought the first dial-up Internet to this area. This time we wanted to go a step further and provide fiber to all homes and businesses in Pulaski.”*

Importance of Broadband:
“Broadband access is very important because more and more resources and entertainment options are being moved online. Today, quality of life and entertainment value expect that you will have a higher speed connection.”

Pulaski, TN – The quaint town of Pulaski in Middle Tennessee might well be one of the last places one might expect to be home to a state-of-the-art, high tech data center capable of hosting data from businesses around the country. But take a trip downtown to Pulaski Electric’s “PES Energize” office located in the historic courthouse, and that’s exactly what you’ll find. The data center, housed in a tornado-proof bunker, can store any size data from any location in the country – and also serves as a hub for the city’s publically-owned fiber-optic network, which provides broadband Internet to every home, school and business within the city of Pulaski.

“The community of Pulaski first got our name on the map in the early ‘90’s when we brought the first dial-up Internet to this area,” explains Pulaski Electric’s Executive Vice President, Wes Kelley. “This time we wanted to go a step further and provide fiber to all homes and businesses in Pulaski.”

So far the response has been great and sales of the service have been strong. “Citizens get to vote with their wallets and purchase the service if they want it,” says Wes. Along with the fiber-optic network, the data center has also been met with a warm reception. “This data center provides a safe, protective environment for data from all across the state and even the country,” he says. “We have businesses from Memphis and Alabama already hosting their data here in Pulaski.”

Pulaski Electric, the state’s oldest municipal electric system, provides service to nearly everyone in Giles County. And now that all the citizens within the city limits of Pulaski have access to broadband, the time-honored company has set its sights on an even bigger goal – bringing high-speed Internet to all the smaller, more rural communities in Giles County.

“Broadband access is very important because more and more resources and entertainment options are being moved online,” notes Wes. “Today, quality of life and entertainment value expect that you will have a higher speed connection.”

For more information, visit Pulaski Electric online at www.pulaskielectric.org.

About TN 95:

Citizens across the state are using technology in innovative ways to ensure that Tennessee remains the place of choice to live, work and raise a family. Connected Tennessee is profiling businesses and Tennesseans in each of the state’s 95 counties to identify lessons learned on the path to successful innovation. For more information visit our Web site at www.connectedtn.org or call 615-242-9508.