



Stu Stiles to Lead Avista Advantage

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Stiles Will Take Over as Avista Advantage President on Feb. 7. He Has Most Recently Served as Executive General Manager of XO Communications in Spokane.

SPOKANE, Wash., Jan. 10 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Avista Advantage, a subsidiary of Avista Corp. (NYSE: AVA), has hired Stu Stiles to assume leadership of the technology based, facility intelligence company. Stiles comes to Avista from XO Communications and will assume the position of president and chief executive officer of Avista Advantage on Feb. 7, 2005.

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The search for a new Avista Advantage president has been underway since early 2004. Since that time, Avista Corp. Board Chairman, President and Chief Executive Officer Gary Ely and Avista Utilities President Scott Morris have both served in interim leadership roles at Advantage. Ely said the company is pleased to have found someone as well qualified as Stiles.

"Stu is a terrific fit for this position," said Ely. "He has an excellent track record in executive management and business development as well as marketing and sales, and we expect that his skills will help move Avista Advantage to an even greater level of performance."

"I'm excited to be joining a world class organization like Avista Advantage and look forward to working with the outstanding team already in place," Stiles said.

Stiles has most recently served as executive general manager at XO Communications in Spokane, Wash., where he has worked since 1999. His current responsibilities include oversight of XO's Seattle, Portland and Spokane markets. His experience also includes executive positions with Teknon Corporation and with Ernest and Julio Gallo.

Active in the community, Stiles is a current member of the board for the Spokane Intercollegiate Research and Technology Institute (SIRTI) and served as SIRTI's board chairman from July 2002 to June 2004. He also serves on the board for the Spokane Regional Chamber of Commerce and has been a part of the executive committee for that organization. He is a past board member of the Spokane Economic Development Council and served as a member of the board of INTEC of Spokane.

Stiles is a graduate of the University of South Dakota, where he earned a bachelor of science degree in business administration.

Facility IQTM by Avista Advantage is the leading provider of comprehensive facility intelligence and cost management services. Their patented technology and services provide multi-site companies with critical, yet easy-to-access intelligence that enables them to proactively manage and reduce facility-related expenses. For more information about Avista Advantage, visit the company's website at <http://www.avistaadvantage.com> .

Avista Corp. is an energy company involved in the production, transmission and distribution of energy as well as other energy-related businesses. Avista Utilities is a company operating division that provides service to 325,000 electric and 300,000 natural gas customers in four western states. Avista's non-regulated subsidiaries include Avista Advantage and Avista Energy. Avista Corp.'s stock is traded under the ticker symbol "AVA." For more information about Avista, please visit www.avistacorp.com.

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/CONTACT: Media, Hugh Imhof, +1-509-495-4264, or hugh.imhof@avistacorp.com, or investor, Jason Lang, +1-509-495-2930, or jason.lang@avistacorp.com, both of Avista Corp./

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