RECEIVED

MAY 2 2 1992

Federal Communications Commissio
Office of the Secretary

ProNet Inc.

ProNet Inc.
PP NO.23, RM-7784

PROGRESS REPORT

ProNet Inc. requested a Pioneer's Preference (PP No. 23) for its wholly owned subsidiary, Electronic Tracking Systems, Inc., which operates a state-of-the-art Electronic Tracking Service ("ETS") under experimental authority throughout the United States.

Local, State and Federal law enforcement agencies use ETS regularly for their criminal tracking operations. A mini "tag" transmitter is secretly attached to bundles of currency, jewelry or other valuables. When a "tagged" valuable is stolen, the transmitter is activated. Law enforcement agencies, equipped with specially-designed tracking devices, are able to follow and capture the suspect quickly, recover the stolen goods, and obtain sufficient evidence so conviction rates increase while robbery rates decrease significantly.

ProNet filed the above-referenced rulemaking (RM-7784) requesting establishment of an ETS in the Business Radio Service, under Part 90 of the Commission's Rules, and a permanent allocation of spectrum in the 216-220 MHz band, for provision of ETS on a nationwide basis. ProNet filed the above-referenced Request for Pioneer's Preference because ETS is a proven unique and innovative application of the radio spectrum.

Currently, ProNet operates its ETS, under Experimental License, in the following geographic markets:

<u>Call Sign KA2-XAP</u>

1. Shreveport/Bossier City, Louisiana

<u>Call Sign KKA-XJV</u>

2. San Francisco, California
3. Las Vegas/North Las Vegas, Nevada
4. Anchorage/Eagle River, Alaska
5. Austin, Texas
6. Sacramento, California
7. Sacramento County, California
8. Los Angeles County, California
9. Dallas/Highland Park/University Park/Richardson/Addison Farmers Branch/Carrollton, Texas
10. Reno/Sparks, Nevada
11. Long Beach, California
12. Orange County, California
13. Portland, Oregon
14. Carson/Minden, Nevada
15. Oakland/Berkeley, California
16. Henderson, Nevada
17. Irvine, California
18. San Clemente, California
19. Glendale/Pasadena/Burbank, California
20. Phoenix, Arizona

No. of Copies rec'd 0+4
List A B C D E

600 Data Drive Suite 100 Plano, Texas 75075 (214) 964-9500 FAX (214) 964-9570

21. Bellingham, Washington
22. Houston, Texas
23. Gresham and Multinoma Counties, Oregon

ProNet anticipates seeking Commission authority to operate ETS in the following markets within the next 6 to 8 months:

1. San Jose, California
2. Fresno, California
3. San Juan, Puerto Rico
4. Tacoma, Washington
5. Scottsdale/Tempe/Mesa, Arizona
6. Tucson, Arizona
7. Plano, Texas
8. San Antonio, Texas
9. Ft. Worth, Texas

.e ETS in San Juan, Puerto Rico, will be particularly noteworthy. For the first time, the FBI will install and operate tracking units in its own vehicles. The FBI has formed a joint task force with the local Puerto Rican Police to combat a severe bank robbery problem. Unless the bank robbery problem in Puerto Rico is curtailed, they are on a record setting pace of having over $3 million stolen in 1992. In recognition of ETS' effectiveness, these law enforcement agencies will be installing the tracking system to facilitate solving this problem.

ProNet deserves grant of its Request for Pioneer's Preference because ETS is a unique application of low-power radiolocation technology which adds functionality to and provides different uses for the radio spectrum; its low ERP maximizes spectrum use and facilitates spectrum sharing; and its effectiveness in reducing and deterring crime serves the public interest. During the past few months, since filling its Request for Pioneer's Preference, ProNet has improved its ETS, as follows:

1. ProNet has developed and implemented a thinner battery, which decreases the size of the transmitter tag. With this reduction in size, the tag now can be sandwiched between two single currency bills. This allows the tag to be folded and handled much easier and eliminates the need to install the miniature transmitter in a cutout section of a bundle of currency. More importantly, the smaller size reduces the possibility of detection.

2. The new battery uses lithium technology instead of mercury oxide. Thus, ProNet's new battery also is environmentally safe.

3. The tag is more useful for jewelry store "smash and grab" robberies because the smaller size facilitates attachment to such valuables and decreases the likelihood of detection by robbers. These types of robberies are particularly violent and usually involve gangs.

4. ProNet has developed a tag especially for automated teller machine ("ATM") use. These robberies involve "jerking" or removing the entire ATM out of the wall and taking the ATM to

a "safe" location where the entire cash contents can be removed. Typically, an ATM contains between $20,000-80,000 in cash. When the ATM is removed, the tag is activated and local law enforcement authorities are notified immediately and can track the signal to the missing ATM before the robbers have the chance to break into the unit.

5. ProNet is developing a miniature "tag" designed for college campus security. For example, this tag could be worn by women walking on campus. It would be triggered in the case of an assault or rape, alerting campus security who could respond immediately. This could potentially reduce the incidence of violent crimes on college and universities throughout the country.

In its Request for Pioneer's Preference and in its Reply Comments ereon, ProNet provides convincing anecdotal evidence that its ETS works in solving and reducing crime. Recently, another capture of note occurred because ProNet's innovative technology was available to local law enforcement agencies.

For several months, Las Vegas area banks had been plagued by a robber who had knowledge of the "tag." While robbing a bank this criminal would vault over the counter and take all of the money out of the teller's cash drawer, discarding the tag before leaving the bank. The bandit would then make his escape on a motorcycle, which he then would drive into a waiting truck or van, and escape undetected. Although discovery of the ETS tag, which is an uncommon occurrence, made arrest by the Las Vegas Police more difficult, the high risk of capture eventually forced the criminal out of Las Vegas and into Phoenix, where he continued his crime spree. On his first bank robbery attempt in Phoenix, this criminal was apprehended because the stolen currency in Phoenix was also "tagged" with an ETS transmitter and the robber had no knowledge of the system's existence in Arizona.

Jeff Owens
Vice President-Engineering
ProNet Inc.

May 20, 1992