

## **MATTHEW M. POLKA**

President and CEO, American Cable Association

Matthew M. Polka is president and CEO of the American Cable Association (ACA). In this role, Polka is responsible for ensuring the organization fulfills its mission to support independent cable operators, their communities and their customers by promoting a legislative and regulatory environment that allows for a fair and competitive marketplace. Polka provides a strong voice for ACA's 1,100 member companies, testifying on Capitol Hill and at the FCC, writing articles for industry trade publications and speaking at numerous events. His contributions to the industry have consistently earned him inclusion in *CableFAX Magazine's* top 100 heavy hitters.

Prior to joining ACA, Polka was the vice president and general counsel of Star Cable Associates of Pittsburgh where he oversaw and managed compliance with federal, state and local laws that affected the cable operator's 37 cable systems in four states. While at Star, Polka became involved with the Small Cable Business Association, the former name of ACA. He served three years on the association's board of directors and two years on its executive committee prior to being named president.

Preceding his tenure at Star, Polka specialized in civil litigation and corporate practice with the Pittsburgh law firms of Buchanan Ingersoll Professional Corporation and Thorp, Reed & Armstrong. Polka represented a number of independent cable television clients in a variety of corporate transactions, contract negotiations and litigation matters.

Polka graduated magna cum laude with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Journalism from West Virginia University and was named Outstanding Graduate in Journalism by the Society of Professional Journalists. He is also a graduate of Pittsburgh's Duquesne University School of Law, where he was editor of the law school newsmagazine, JURIS, a member of the Order of the Barrister, and recipient of the Law School's Most Distinguished Graduate award.