



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **FAIRPOINT COMMUNICATIONS OUTLINES TIMELINE RELATED TO NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND SYSTEMS CUTOVER**

**CHARLOTTE, N.C. (February 2, 2009)** – FairPoint Communications, Inc. (NYSE: FRP) today outlined the timeline relating to its systems cutover in northern New England following last March's acquisition of Verizon Communications' wireline operations in Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. The cutover process has commenced following extensive preparations with the assistance of Capgemini U.S. LLC, FairPoint's lead integration partner.

Commencing on Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup>, Verizon began to extract data from their 600-plus legacy systems and transfer that data to FairPoint to be imported into approximately 60 new, state-of-the-art, fully-integrated systems. FairPoint anticipates that the systems cutover process will take approximately nine days and that FairPoint will be independently operating on its new systems beginning on February 9<sup>th</sup>. During this period, customer orders and non-emergency service requests will be manually recorded and fulfilled after the new systems are operating.

The systems cutover from Verizon's legacy systems to FairPoint's new systems will enable FairPoint to offer new products and services, including customizable product bundles, as well as business services that leverage the Company's new MPLS (Multi-Protocol Label Switching) data network which is now under construction. FairPoint will also be able to provide its customers with online bill payment.

Gene Johnson, chairman and CEO of FairPoint stated, "The transition to the new FairPoint systems and business processes is now underway. As I have said many times, a tremendous effort was put forth over the last two years to get us to this point. FairPoint and our technology partners have logged over three million hours preparing for one of the most complex systems transitions in telecommunications history. While our work is not done, I again want to thank the employees of FairPoint and Capgemini U.S. LLC and Verizon for their hard work in helping us reach this momentous occasion. We look forward to further improving our service to the residents and businesses of Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont."

#### **About FairPoint**

FairPoint Communications, Inc. is an industry leading provider of communications services to communities across the country. Today, FairPoint owns and operates local exchange companies in 18 states offering advanced communications with a personal touch, including local and long distance voice, data, Internet, television and broadband services. FairPoint is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol FRP. Learn more at [www.fairpoint.com](http://www.fairpoint.com).

This press release may contain forward-looking statements by FairPoint that are not based on historical fact, including, without limitation, statements containing the words “expects,” “anticipates,” “intends,” “plans,” “believes,” “seeks,” “estimates” and similar expressions and statements. Because these forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks and uncertainties, there are important factors that could cause actual results, events or developments to differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements. Such factors include those risks described from time to time in FairPoint’s filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission (“SEC”), including, without limitation, the risks described in FairPoint’s most recent Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q on file with the SEC. These factors should be considered carefully and readers are cautioned not to place undue reliance on such forward-looking statements. All information is current as of the date this press release is issued, and FairPoint undertakes no duty to update this information.

Source: *FairPoint Communications, Inc.*, [www.fairpoint.com](http://www.fairpoint.com).

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