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FAIRPOINT EXPANDS HIGH-SPEED INTERNET SERVICE IN THE UPPER VALLEY *Company Exceeds 75 Percent Broadband Goal*

SOUTH BURLINGTON, Vt. (July 24, 2009) – More Vermonters can quickly e-mail photos, download music and surf the Internet now that FairPoint Communications has expanded access to high-speed Internet service in Orange and Windsor Counties. The service was recently made available for the first time to eligible customers in Brookfield, Quechee, Reading, South Strafford and Stockbridge, and expanded to reach more customers in the towns of Bethel, Fairlee, Hartford, Randolph, Royalton and Sharon.

In 2008, FairPoint increased access to high-speed Internet service from 65 to 76 percent of its Vermont lines exceeding its commitment to the state for 75 percent broadband availability.

“We understand the importance of access to broadband to the residents and businesses in the state and this demonstrates our commitment to expanding broadband availability in Vermont,” said Michael Brown, vice president of network architecture for FairPoint. “With our \$9.99 special pricing, it’s a good time for customers to check to see if high-speed Internet service is available in their neighborhood.”

Qualified customers who sign up for an annual plan with a one-year commitment can choose FairPoint High-Speed Internet for a special promotional rate of \$9.99 a month for 6 months, then \$33.99 after that for download speeds up to 3 Mbps. All plans include a dedicated connection with always-on access, a 30-day money back guarantee, free router, free FairPoint Security Suite, 9 email accounts, and 10MB (Megabytes) of personal web space. FairPoint High-Speed Internet features live support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Other speeds are available at other promotional rates.

For additional information about FairPoint High-Speed Internet prices and bundled plans, residential consumers can call **1-866-984-2001** or visit www.FairPoint.com.

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.

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