



News Release

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FAIRPOINT EXPANDS HIGH-SPEED INTERNET SERVICE TO 26 VERMONT COMMUNITIES

SOUTH BURLINGTON, Vt. (July 9, 2008) – 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 26 communities. Since January FairPoint has made the service available on 6,300 additional lines as a part of an aggressive plan to increase access to high-speed Internet service to 75 percent of its lines by the end of the year. As a result of this plan, FairPoint will offer for the first time or expand existing service in 90 Vermont communities in all 14 counties this year. This includes many lower density population areas where this will be the first broadband service available to many homes. (EDITORS NOTE: A complete list of communities where FairPoint has expanded or will add high-speed Internet service this year is attached.)

“FairPoint is focused on making broadband service available to as many Vermont customers as quickly as possible in order to achieve the governor’s goal of becoming the first e-state by 2010,” said Pamela Porell, vice president of government affairs for Vermont. “We’re off to a great start, and we’re continuing to expand high-speed Internet service to more neighborhoods each week.”

FairPoint is simultaneously building a next generation IP network based on MultiProtocol Label Switching (MPLS) connecting Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont. This fiber-based core network is scalable and flexible enough to support various technologies and services over the same network infrastructure. This IP-based (Internet Protocol) network will be the foundation for supporting applications such as virtual private networking for enterprise customers, Internet2 for higher education institutions, and television and high-speed Internet using fiber to the node, fiber to the home, digital subscriber line (DSL) or WiMax to deliver the service.

FairPoint will announce high-speed Internet expansion plans for 2009 and 2010 in the fall.

Qualified customers can sign up for FairPoint High-Speed Internet with a connection speed of up to 3 Mbps (megabits per second), or can choose FairPoint's Starter Plan for only \$17.99 per month for the first year with a one-year commitment. All plans include a dedicated connection with always-on access, nine email accounts, 10MB (Megabytes) of personal web space and technical support. FairPoint High-Speed Internet features live support 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and a 30-day money-back guarantee.

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 32 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.

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 Annual Report on Form 10-K 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., wwwFairPoint.com.

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FairPoint Communications High-Speed Internet 2008 Community Expansion List for Vermont

Addison: Leicester*, Middlebury*, Ripton and Salisbury

Bennington: Bennington, East Dorset*, Manchester**, North Bennington, Pownal, Searsburg, Shaftsbury**, Winhall*, Woodford and Stratton Mountain

Caledonia: Barnet, Concord, Danville, East Burke, Hardwick, Lunenburg, McIndoe Falls, St. Johnsbury, Waterford and West Burke

Chittenden County: Essex Town and Milton

Essex: Morgan

Franklin: Enosburg Falls, Georgia**, Highgate, Sheldon, St. Albans* and Swanton**

Grand Isle: North Hero**, South Hero*

Lamoille: Cambridge, Eden, Eden Mills, Elmore, Hyde Park**, Morristown**, Stowe** and Wolcott**

Orange: Brookfield, Fairlee, Randolph, Royalton*, Sharon and Thetford

Orleans: Craftsbury*, Derby, Jay, Jay Peak, North Troy and Troy

Rutland: Clarendon, Florence, Mendon, Poultney* and West Pawlet**

Washington: Calais*, Duxbury, Middlesex**, Montpelier and Worcester*

Windham: Bellows Falls, Brattleboro, Dummerston, Guilford, Marlboro, Putney, Rockingham, South Londonderry, Vernon, Wardsboro, West Dover, Weston, Whitingham, Wilmington* and Windham

Windsor: Bethel, Hartford, Hartland**, Norwich*, Pomfret**, Quechee, Reading, Stockbridge, West Windsor and Woodstock

*** Completed**

**** Partially Completed**