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News Release

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FAIRPOINT'S VANTAGEPOINTSM CORE NETWORK COMPLETED

\$85 million invested; 368 miles of fiber

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (October 14, 2009) – FairPoint Communications has taken a huge step toward its goal of introducing enhanced services for business customers and expanding broadband service to its landline customers in northern New England. FairPoint has spent the last year and a half building a secure network infrastructure that will allow customers to transport data, voice and video content over a flexible and scalable network. Having invested nearly \$85 million in the network and built more than 368 miles of fiber, the core IP-based network across Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont is complete. This new core network is designed to carry large amounts of data quickly and efficiently and will provide the foundation for a new family of enhanced services. This advanced technology enables broadband to be delivered to additional neighborhoods more quickly and allows FairPoint to provide its customers with new products at faster speeds.

Marketed under the name VantagePointSM, FairPoint plans to introduce a new family of products to serve the residential, business, government and wholesale markets. The company plans to launch Ethernet Dedicated Internet Access (E-DIA), Ethernet Local Area Networking (E-LAN) and Ethernet Private Line (E-Line) in the next year, with some services available in certain areas by year's end.

Transport rings built out from the core network will connect cities and towns with the last mile network that delivers service to the residential customer. Targeted residential customers in Vermont are already enjoying advanced broadband service

that will begin to be introduced across Maine, New Hampshire and Vermont in the next few months.

FairPoint believes that this IP-based network infrastructure will form the foundation for FairPoint's future as it is extremely flexible and capable of integrating various technologies and services over the same secure network infrastructure.

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 symbols FRP and FRP.BC. Learn more at www.fairpoint.com.

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