



**8x8, Inc.**

## **Prometheus Real Estate Group Turns to 8x8 Virtual Office Phone Service for 16 Bay Area Locations**

SUNNYVALE, Calif., Jan 4, 2010 (GlobeNewswire via COMTEX News Network) -- 8x8, Inc. (Nasdaq:EGHT), provider of innovative communications solutions to small businesses, today announced that Prometheus Real Estate Group, an award-winning real estate developer with a portfolio of over 20,000 Bay Area, Seattle, Portland and Los Angeles metropolitan area apartments, has entrusted its business phone service needs for 16 San Francisco Bay Area locations to the 8x8 Virtual Office hosted VoIP phone solution.

Prometheus is one of a growing number of larger, distributed enterprises that are migrating away from traditional, on-premise PBX phone systems in favor of more flexible and economical hosted solutions, such as 8x8 Virtual Office, that utilize a company's existing Internet connection rather than dedicated phone lines to transmit business features and dial tone. Deploying phone service in this manner enables companies like Prometheus to operate more nimbly and efficiently by using a "plug and play" approach to modifying or expanding its existing telecommunications network.

"One of the reasons we selected the 8x8 Virtual Office solution is that the phones are truly portable and, in the event of a leasing office move for renovation or development, they can be moved much like a computer," said Craig Maness, vice president of technology for Prometheus. "We no longer need to wait for an ILEC or CLEC to move a phone number from one building to another. Our helpdesk staff can now simply pick up the phones along with the computers and plug them both into the same broadband Internet network."

Maness, like many IT professionals tasked with lowering costs and improving operational efficiency, values the hosted VoIP phone service alternative for a variety of reasons, including the minimal upfront technology investment, the reduction in management and maintenance time and expense, and the ability to count on a fixed monthly fee for service.

With the 8x8 Virtual Office solution, the only equipment Maness needed to install was an 8x8 IP (Internet Protocol) phone for each user, priced from \$149 to \$349. Feature settings and configuration changes that previously required an on-site visit from a phone tech are now quickly and easily implemented online using the service's centralized, web-based account management portal. Monthly service fees are predictable and fixed, depending on the calling volume of the individual employee. 8x8's most popular Virtual Office calling plan costs \$39.99 per month for unlimited local and long distance calling (United States, Canada and select overseas locations) plus extensive PBX calling features. Additionally, all 8x8 VoIP service plans provide free and unlimited calling between subscribers regardless of geographic location, another source of cost savings for companies with distributed offices.

Beyond the cost savings, Prometheus is also benefitting from Virtual Office calling features like auto attendants that allow callers to dial by name, extension, or company directory, voicemail functionality that lets users email voice mail messages in wav or other audio format to another person's inbox and ring groups that enable a group of extensions to share the distribution of incoming calls.

To learn more about 8x8 Virtual Office business phone service, visit [http://business.8x8.com/virtual\\_office/index.html](http://business.8x8.com/virtual_office/index.html)

About 8x8, Inc.

8x8, Inc. (Nasdaq:EGHT) offers voice, video, mobile and web conferencing communications solutions for business and residential customers. These solutions leverage existing broadband Internet connections and cellular networks to deliver advanced features and digital quality phone service at a fraction of the cost of legacy, copper wire alternatives. Businesses of any size, configuration or geographic location can benefit from the cost, performance and operational advantages of VoIP technology. All 8x8 communications solutions carry little or no upfront investment, no maintenance or upgrade fees and no change in user behavior. For additional information, visit [www.8x8.com](http://www.8x8.com).

About Prometheus

Prometheus is the largest private owner of multi-family properties in the San Francisco Bay Area with a growing portfolio of more than 18,000 metropolitan-area apartments in the Seattle, Portland, Ore., and Los Angeles communities. Since its inception in 1965, Prometheus has specialized in the acquisition, development and management of high quality residential and commercial properties throughout the Western United States. Prometheus has a long history of award-winning approaches to

development, management and general excellence. Recognition in 2008 includes seven prestigious awards: two Gold Nugget Awards and one Grand Award from the Pacific Coast Builder's Conference, First Place in Customer Service and Experience from For Rent Magazine, a California Landscape Association Trophy Award, a Rosey Award from the Portland Advertising Federation and the Multi-Housing News Design Excellence Award. For more information, visit <http://prometheusreg.com>.

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SOURCE: 8x8 Inc.

CONTACT: 8x8, Inc.

Joan Citelli

(408) 654-0970

[jcitelli@8x8.com](mailto:jcitelli@8x8.com)

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