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8x8 Assembles World-Class Engineering Team to Accelerate Innovation in Cloud Communications, Contact Center and Collaboration Technologies

SVP of Global R&D Dejan Deklich leads advanced engineering initiative to dominate industry with next generation cloud communications technologies

SAN JOSE, Calif.--(BUSINESS WIRE)-- [8x8, Inc.](#) (NASDAQ:EGHT), provider of the world's first Communications Cloud, today announced the evolution of the company's next generation engineering initiative bolstered by recent high-caliber hires from some of the most respected technology companies in Silicon Valley. With these additional resources and expertise, 8x8 is accelerating its strategy to dominate the industry with the most advanced enterprise cloud communications solutions available.

"8x8 is clearly becoming the engineering destination to develop cutting-edge technology, and this is enabling us to increase our velocity of development and innovation," said [Dejan Deklich, Senior Vice President of global research and development \(R&D\)](#) at 8x8. "Our team is attracting top engineers across the globe that are bringing years of industry expertise building leading cloud and mobile platforms and apps from companies like Amazon Web Services, Oracle, VMWare and Cisco. They're joining 8x8 ready to solve some of the biggest business communications and collaboration problems that midmarket and enterprise companies face today."

Recognized as an industry leader, 8x8 has been awarded [137 patents](#) in the United States and United Kingdom, covering a variety of voice and video communications, signaling, processing, contact center and storage technologies. The 8x8 engineering organization has been at the forefront of innovation and development for the company's products and services, such as 8x8 Virtual Office®, 8x8 Virtual Contact Center®, 8x8 ContactNow™ and the superior voice quality delivered by the 8x8 Communications Cloud™ cited recently by the [Tolly Group](#). By incorporating leading-edge technologies into 8x8's industry-leading product portfolio, such as big data, microservices, machine learning, artificial intelligence, SD-WAN, and WebRTC, the company is well-positioned for continued growth and success driving global midmarket and enterprise adoption for its solutions.

The engineering team, under the leadership of Dejan Deklich, who has vast experience overseeing engineering efforts to develop next-generation microservices architectures, big data computational platforms and large scale systems, is scaling globally to meet the challenging business requirements of the company's growing midmarket and enterprise customer base. Recent enhancements to the 8x8 engineering organization include:

- 1 **Boris Strongin, VP of Platform Engineering:** Boris Strongin is a seasoned technologist, executive, entrepreneur, leader and mentor with more than 20 years of experience working with big data, microservices and machine learning technologies, while building cutting-edge, game-changing products and leading global engineering teams at companies such as Amazon Web Services, VMWare, Oracle and HyTrust. At 8x8, he oversees global and analytics platform engineering, in addition to the move to microservices, APIs, Script8 and other core services at scale. He holds a doctorate in Physics from MIT.
- 1 **Jared Smith-Mickelson, VP of Applications:** Jared Smith-Mickelson has nearly 20 years of experience in enterprise software, overseeing API, mobile, integration, and big-data teams. He previously held executive engineering positions at Jive Software and Cisco Systems. At 8x8, he runs all global application development, which includes support for 8x8's contact center solutions, mobile and desktop clients. He holds bachelor's and master's degrees in computer science and electrical engineering from MIT.
- 1 **Ramana Sampangi, Senior Director of Global Quality Effort:** Ramana Sampangi is an accomplished business executive with experience in core technologies such as LAN, storage, virtualization, security and cloud. Prior to joining 8x8, he held senior-level engineering roles at Riverbed Technology, Cisco, IBM, Hewlett Packard and others. At 8x8, Sampangi oversees all quality efforts worldwide for the 8x8 platform, apps and analytics. Sampangi has a bachelor's degree in computer science and engineering from University of Mysore.
- 1 **Edgar Nidome, Principal Architect:** Edgar Nidome is a talented engineering architect with years of experience working with large, distributed systems, microservices, machine learning and big data technologies for enterprise customers at companies such as Marketo, Merced Systems, CollabNet, IBM and others. At 8x8, he is responsible for developing and refining 8x8's robust product offering.

- 1 **Haim Tebeka, Director of Mobile Engineering:** Haim Tebeka is a seasoned software engineer and leader with more than 30 years of experience in mobile and embedded software development at companies including Microsoft, VMWare and Broadcom, among others. He's passionate about delivering the best mobile user experience and created one of the first apps available in the App Store. At 8x8, Tebeka leads the development of mobile apps.

In the past year, 8x8 has significantly grown its engineering organization by approximately one-third to more than 200 full-time employees worldwide. This comes at the heels of 8x8's announcement of the [Cluj, Romania office](#) last year, which has quickly become an incubator for specialized engineering and programming talent from local universities in the region.

About 8x8, Inc.

8x8, Inc. (NASDAQ:EGHT) is the provider of the world's first Communications Cloud that combines unified communications, team collaboration, contact center, and analytics in a single, open and real-time platform. 8x8 eliminates information silos to expose vital, real-time intelligence across multiple clouds, applications and devices to improve individual and team productivity, business performance and customer experience. For additional information, visit www.8x8.com, or connect with 8x8 on [LinkedIn](#), [Twitter](#), [Google+](#) and [Facebook](#).

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