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## **BARRETT XPLORE ACQUIRES WIRELESS CUSTOMERS AND ASSETS FROM STORM INTERNET SERVICES CONTINUES AGGRESSIVE CANADIAN ROLLOUT OF RURAL BROADBAND**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**APRIL 1, 2008**

**WOODSTOCK, N.B.** – Barrett Xplore Inc. (BXI) is pleased to announce its acquisition of more than 2,400 rural wireless customers and associated network assets from Ottawa-based Storm Internet Services. The transfer of wireless customers and assets provides Barrett Xplore – through its Xplornet brand – with a significant fixed wireless subscriber network in the rural Ottawa region. This acquisition increases Xplornet’s footprint in Ontario and brings the company one step closer in its mission to provide broadband Internet access and applications to every rural Canadian resident and business owner.

“BXI’s acquisition of wireless customers and assets from Storm Internet Services is consistent with our focused mission to provide urban-quality broadband to rural Canada,” said Barrett Xplore CEO John Maduri, “To all of Storm’s rural wireless customers, welcome to Xplornet. We’re excited to serve you in the near future and hope that you’ll give us a call toll-free at 1-866-841-6001 to find out what Xplornet can do for you.”

The transaction with Storm significantly increases BXI’s residential and commercial wireless customer base in the Ottawa region and positions Xplornet as the “go to” Internet services provider for rural residents and businesses in the Ottawa area.

Storm will continue to operate and grow its wireless Internet services in the core Ottawa area and Lanark County and will work with BXI on new business opportunities in the region. Storm Internet Services will continue to support the wireless customers being transferred for the next few months while BXI works with them to convert customers and upgrade the Storm network. This transfer of rural wireless services to BXI marks a shift in Storm’s business operations away from some of the now well served rural markets to focus on core business and new products.

“Over the years, Storm has built up a solid rural residential and business customer base and we’re proud of our contribution to closing the digital divide. I’m grateful to each and every customer for their loyal patronage,” said Barry Williams, President and CEO of Storm Internet Services. “in partnering with BXI Storm is confident that our history of superior quality products and services to our customers will be well-served by Xplornet. Storm customers are getting a broadband provider that is truly committed to customer service, which includes free technical support 24 hours a day, seven days a week. Storm will continue to grow in new areas both in geographies and services provided. Storm is providing Fibre, DSL as well as wireless to many customers, we have introduced innovative technology on a regular basis to assist our customers in their communications requirements.”



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**Barrett Xplore – through its Xplornet brand – is**

Canada's largest and fastest growing wireless broadband service provider, with customers and dealers in every province and territory. BXI's mission is to bridge the urban/rural digital divide, ensuring that every rural Canadian has access to fast, affordable and reliable broadband services, regardless of where they live, work, or play. BXI has worked with Motorola to complete in excess of 200 wireless broadband deployments across rural Canada, reaching 300 rural communities and covering 350,000 homes and businesses. In addition to its extensive wireless broadband coverage, it has also partnered with Telesat Canada to deliver high-speed Internet access using satellite technology everywhere in Canada.

[www.xplornet.com](http://www.xplornet.com)

**Storm Internet Services** – Founded in Ottawa in 1996 Storm Internet has built a reputation of providing consistent and reliable Internet connectivity in urban and rural communities for thousands of clients. An industry leader in fixed-wireless connectivity, Storm currently maintains one of the largest broadband wireless networks in North America, covering approximately 35,000 square kilometers, spanning more than 50 communities and municipalities.

[www.storm.ca](http://www.storm.ca)

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To schedule an interview with John Maduri, or for more information on rural broadband, contact:

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