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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**GRASS VALLEY COMPANY, SMARTERBROADBAND, AWARDED
\$2.5 MILLION GRANT TO EXPAND HIGH SPEED INTERNET IN NEVADA COUNTY**

GRASS VALLEY, CA: 4th August 2010

Local wireless internet company SmarterBroadband, Inc. has been awarded \$2.5 million of American Recovery & Reinvestment Act stimulus funds to expand its high-speed internet coverage in rural western Nevada County over the next three years. This grant will bring affordable, state-of-the-art internet to many more residents, as well as greatly enhancing Nevada County's attractiveness to both businesses and residents. SmarterBroadband is one of only four companies in California to be awarded a grant in this round of funding.

SmarterBroadband, Inc. has been providing high-speed internet to this area from its south county base since 2005 and has nearly 800 residential and business customers. President and CEO, Adam Brodel, said "The RUS Broadband Initiatives Program has clearly recognized our achievements to date, and the viability of our plan for Nevada County, with this award. We know how frustrating slow dial-up and satellite internet can be, and are delighted that we will now have the funds to expand our high speed service coverage further." Brodel explained that

work would start as soon as funds become available, and the project is expected to be fully implemented within three years.

SmarterBroadband operates a network of Wireless Access Points spanning multiple towers throughout the proposed funded service area. The company utilizes the latest in advanced fixed wireless technology to deliver cost-effective carrier-class broadband service supporting Data and IP Telephony that can be installed in hours rather than weeks. A number of new towers are planned in order to reach into previously under-serviced areas.

SmarterBroadband has been chosen for this grant by the Department of Agriculture Rural Utilities Service (RUS) Broadband Initiatives Program (BIP). The grant is part of a \$7.2 billion program to support broadband access and adoption through the USA. The President and the State Governor have both stressed their commitment to getting all Americans 'on-line', but right now a high percentage of Nevada County inhabitants are out of reach for broadband service, and have to use slower and less reliable systems for email and web browsing. For Nevada County businesses, realtors, students, artists and countless others who depend on being connected to the outside world via internet, the news that high-speed internet is to become readily available will be very welcome.

As one of SmarterBroadband's longstanding customers put it, "Satellite solutions are not suitable for my work. I connect through a VPN which requires a robust connection with no latency – which is just the connection I have with SmarterBroadband. This connection saves me a trip to Sacramento every day at a cost of 35,000 miles and 500 hours on the road each year. By reducing pollution, you may literally be a Life Saver!" Another customer added, "As a small business, having my internet working to capacity is inherent to my success. SmarterBroadband does not let me down."

About SmarterBroadband, Inc:

The company is the brainchild of Adam Brodel and his wife Fran. The idea grew from research Adam did to find the best way to get reliable high-speed internet to his neighbors and his home in the south county, and he soon recognized the need for such a service throughout the county and started the company. SmarterBroadband currently offers Service Plans for small business and residential customers, together with high-speed symmetrical Plans for larger business. For more information, the company website is www.SmarterBroadband.com .

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