

## **NEC Unified IP Communications Offered Nationwide Through Agreement with Premier Healthcare Alliance**

*Hospitals, healthcare providers to unify business communications with NEC UNIVERGE® 360*

**IRVING, TX, November 17, 2008** — NEC Unified Solutions, Inc. (NEC), a leader in enterprise business communications, today announced an agreement with Premier Purchasing Partners, L.P., the group purchasing unit of Premier Inc, to offer NEC's complete IP telephony line under the UNIVERGE®360 framework to more than 2,000 hospitals and over 50,000 healthcare provider members of the Premier healthcare alliance. NEC will leverage its communications tools, applications and services to unify business communications for members of the Premier healthcare alliance.

As the sole provider in the Telecommunications Equipment Manufactures category for Premier members, NEC offers the right tools to help members easily collaborate and communicate more efficiently through unified business communications. Premier healthcare alliance members will have access to special pricing and terms pre-negotiated by Premier for NEC's complete line of IP telephony products and applications, including the UNIVERGE SV8000 series of communication servers, UC for Business (UCB) and the UNIVERGE family of terminals. NEC also provides professional services for installation and ongoing maintenance.

"This agreement with Premier further illustrates NEC's leadership in the healthcare market," said Lance Mehaffey, director, healthcare market, NEC Unified Solutions. "NEC recognizes the need for communications based on the role, especially in the healthcare industry where each individual's job has certain responsibilities that may require immediate and critical responses. NEC helps to identify the role, whether it is a physician, lab technician, emergency room nurse or receptionist, and assists in choosing the right communications for that role."

### **About Premier Inc.**

Serving more than 2,000 U.S. hospitals and 53,000-plus other healthcare sites, the Premier healthcare alliance and its members are transforming healthcare together. Owned by not-for-profit hospitals, Premier operates one of the leading healthcare purchasing networks and the nation's most comprehensive repository of hospital clinical and financial information. A subsidiary operates one of the nation's largest policy-holder owned, hospital professional liability risk-retention groups. A world leader in helping healthcare providers deliver dramatic improvements in care, Premier is working with the United Kingdom's National Health Service North West and the Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services to improve hospital performance. Headquartered in San Diego, Premier has offices in Charlotte, N.C., Philadelphia and Washington. For more information, visit [www.premierinc.com](http://www.premierinc.com).

**About NEC Unified Solutions**

NEC Unified Solutions helps companies unify their business communications through innovative software, applications, development tools, and services. NEC offers a complete portfolio for unified communications, wireless, voice, data and managed services, as well as systems integration and application development. NEC Unified Solutions serves as the North American communications integration arm of global giant NEC Corporation for Fortune 1000, as well as small to mid-sized businesses in vertical markets such as hospitality, education, government, and healthcare. For more information, visit [www.necunified.com](http://www.necunified.com)

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