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From the Wires

FIX8 Secures \$2M in Series A Financing From SK Telecom, Plus Contract to Develop Interactive Avatar Technology for SKT's 20M+ Users

Growth in User Generated Content and Interactive Communication Delivers Additional Funding, Closing Out Initial Round Now Totali

By: PR Newswire
 Apr. 3, 2008 01:05 PM
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NEW YORK, April 3, 2008 /PRNewswire/ -- VIRTUAL WORLDS -- FIX8, a division of Mobinex, Inc., a leader in virtual communications technology, today announced the company has secured an additional \$2 million in Series A financing from SK Telecom, the top wireless communication provider in Korea, with revenue of KRW 11.28 trillion (\$11.4 Billion US). FIX8 now closes its initial round of financing having successfully raised over \$5 million. In addition, SKT has awarded FIX8 with a contract to lead the development of SKT's 3D avatar animation technology, which will enhance mobile and online communications.

(Logo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20071016/LATU082LOGO>)

"SKT's investment is a testament to FIX8's growing consumer popularity and expanding interest in video and mobile User Generated Content," said FIX8 CEO, Linh Duy Tang. "We are proud to partner with a world-renowned telecom company that shares in our commitment to delivering innovative solutions for virtual communications across Internet, TV and mobile phones."

FIX8's premium content offerings include virtual communications technology that digitizes human expressions via webcam in real time. Users can animate live video on IM services including MSN, Yahoo, AIM and Skype. FIX8 videos can also be saved and posted across Facebook, MySpace and YouTube. FIX8 Mobile will soon offer animated video chat and sharing on camera phones.

"Investing in FIX8 was a strategic decision based on the company's pioneering vision and technology leadership in the area of virtual communications coupled with explosive growth in mobile User Generated Content," stated the investment manager of SK Telecom. "We also look forward to continued collaboration with FIX8 as SKT introduces additional mobile UGC services across Korea."

In addition to SKT's \$2 million investment in FIX8, the wireless operator also awarded the company a contract to lead the development of SKT's 3D avatar animation technology to enhance mobile and online communications. The FIX8 solution will allow users to communicate using interactive avatars that map to their facial movements and expressions.

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Each socially interactive character will offer characteristics of personal identity, lifelike emotions and other fun features.

"Not only did SKT invest in FIX8, but we contracted the company to develop our interactive avatar technology. FIX8 is a true innovator in the Web 2.0 and now 3.0 space. The technology will be central to social interactivity and media-enhanced communication for our users," added the project manager of SKT's 3D avatar animation project.

About FIX8

FIX8 is a new media company that blends Internet and mobile platforms with rich streaming video creation, editing and sharing capabilities. FIX8 is a FUN, creative new way of communicating. Developed in response to rapid growth in video sharing, social networking and user-generated content, FIX8 is the future of rich interactive communication. Headquartered in Los Angeles, FIX8 has offices in China and Vietnam. FIX8 is a division of Mobinex. <http://www.fix8.com/>

About SK Telecom

SK Telecom is the top wireless communication provider in Korea, where it has over 22 million subscribers and more than 50% of the total market. Established in 1984, the company reached KRW 11.28 trillion in revenue in 2007. SK Telecom was the first to launch and commercialize CDMA, CDMA 2001x, CDMA EV-DO and HSDPA networks, and currently provides cellular, wireless Internet, mobile media, global roaming services and more. For more information, please visit <http://www.sktelecom.com/> or email press@sktelecom.com.

FIX8

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By Maureen O'Gara



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Want to Learn How to Write iPhone Applications?

By Kevin Hoffman



If you're like me, you've probably been spending every waking moment you have eating, living, and breathing the iPhone SDK. Since March 6th, that's pretty much all I can think about once I get home. So, what do you do if you want to learn how to write iPhone apps, but you want to becom

Web 2.0 Is Fundamentally About Empowering People

By Jeremy Geelan



'Unlocking content to be remixed into new business value' is the driver of Web 2.0 in the enterprise, says Rod Smith, IBM VP of Emerging Internet Technologies, in this Exclusive Q&A with Jeremy Geelan on the occasion of IBM's release of a new technology created by IBM researchers, code

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