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## **UVI RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY PARK ANNOUNCES AVAILABILITY OF “CARRIER-NEUTRAL” CROSS CONNECTIONS**

**St. Croix, USVI (May 20, 2008)** - The University of the Virgin Islands Research and Technology Park (RTPark) announced today support for “carrier-neutral” cross-connections for local service providers, from RTPark’s data center inside the Global Crossing fiber switching facility on St. Croix.

In a first for the territory, RTPark secured the right to interconnect its data center to local service providers in the USVI as part of the definitive agreement it reached with Global Crossing for high capacity broadband connectivity and collocation space in 2007.

“RTPark’s economic development incentives, global connectivity and presence inside the Global Crossing facility provide a compelling draw for stateside and foreign knowledge-based and e-commerce businesses,” stated David M. Zumwalt, Executive Director of RTPark. “These businesses are looking for competitive advantage in considering expansion strategies here, but the picture is not complete without facilitating interconnections to local service providers who continue to make substantial investments in our community.”

A typical cross-connection employs an optical fiber link between RTPark’s network interconnection routers inside the Global Crossing fiber hub, and the local service provider’s designated “demarcation” terminal, generally in a nearby facility. Once installed, the cross-connection allows RTPark tenants and partners to utilize the local service provider for “last mile” connectivity, and local service providers to thus reach potential new customers.

“Carrier-neutral cross-connections provide a level playing field for stimulating the growth of local service providers in the USVI,” added Zumwalt. “We look forward to supporting many such connections for our tenants and partners.”

### **About The University of the Virgin Islands Research and Technology Park (RTPark)**

The University of the Virgin Islands (UVI) Research and Technology Park (RTPark) is a center for e-commerce and technology with a focus on providing an enabling environment for transaction-oriented, knowledge-based, and technology-driven businesses. Headquartered on St. Croix in the United States Virgin Islands (USVI), the RTPark provides a competitive environment to confidently conduct business backed by the U.S. legal system and applicable commercial, intellectual property and tax laws. Qualifying RTPark tenants and strategic partners with USVI-sourced income can receive significant income tax credits as well as other financial incentives.

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