



For Immediate Release

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**Digium® Makes it Easy for Companies to
Benefit from Genuine Asterisk® with FreePBX User
Interface for AsteriskNOW™**

*Enhances the Most Accessible, Easy to Use Product Based on Open Source Asterisk;
Provides Asterisk Community and Users a New Graphical Choice*

HUNTSVILLE, Ala. – October 20, 2008 – [Digium](#)®, creators and primary corporate sponsors of the popular Asterisk® open source telephony platform, announced today the release of a new version of the award-winning [AsteriskNOW](#)™ software appliance. Designed to significantly simplify the process of installing, operating and managing an Asterisk-based telephony system, the new release includes the popular [FreePBX](#) web-based Asterisk management interface and an array of other open source components. AsteriskNOW 1.5 allows organizations of all sizes, as well as systems integrators and other solutions providers, to benefit from the power of genuine Asterisk while enjoying the ease of use of a software appliance.

Asterisk is the world's leading open source telephony engine and toolkit. It offers flexibility that is unheard of in the world of proprietary communications in order to empower developers and integrators to create advanced communication solutions. Licensed under the [GNU General Public License](#) (GPL), Asterisk is the most commonly used open source voice over IP (VoIP) software.

“Asterisk has always been a powerful platform for building telephony applications,” said Mark

Spencer, CTO of Digium and the creator of the Asterisk project. “The first version of AsteriskNOW made it really easy to get started. Now with the second release we’re responding to our community and adding a wealth of additional features and functions.”

AsteriskNOW 1.5, like its predecessor, installs in 15 to 30 minutes and requires no in-depth knowledge of telephony or Linux to get started. By including the FreePBX administrative interface, Digium has made AsteriskNOW easier to configure and maintain. FreePBX gives administrators the ability to graphically manage phones, VoIP services and add-on applications. The release also includes a change in platform with a move to the freely available CentOS Linux distribution, which is based on an extremely popular and stable enterprise Linux distribution. The addition of FreePBX and the move to CentOS give open source telephony users a familiar, stable, community-driven platform for application development.

“Since its beginning, FreePBX has been instrumental in the adoption of Asterisk by a segment of the community who may not have otherwise taken the plunge,” stated Philippe Lindheimer, leader of the FreePBX project. “We are delighted to extend our relationship with Digium and become part of this new AsteriskNOW distribution. We look forward to broadening our already excellent relationship with the Asterisk community as we expand the market for open telephony solutions.”

The new Digium platform is targeted at technically savvy users looking for an open source telephony development platform that is both easy to use and highly configurable. It is offered as an alternative to Digium’s Switchvox IP PBX.

“AsteriskNOW provides a distinct option for organizations that want the ability to create highly customized applications using Asterisk, along with the convenience of built-in Linux and other open source software,” said Bill Miller, Digium’s vice president of product management and strategy. “We’re committed to Asterisk as an open source platform for telephony development, and AsteriskNOW is a major part of that commitment. Our goal is to promote the global adoption of open source Asterisk into those channels comfortable with a completely open solution, and to offer Switchvox to those who need a world-class SMB IP PBX and support.”

AsteriskNOW 1.5 can be downloaded from the AsteriskNOW website: www.asterisknow.org.

About Digium

Digium®, Inc., the Asterisk® Company, created, owns and is the innovative force behind Asterisk, the most widely used open source telephony software. Since its founding in 1999,

Digium has become the open source alternative to proprietary communication providers, with offerings that cost as much as 80 percent less. Digium offers Asterisk software free to the open source community and offers Asterisk Business Edition and Switchvox IP PBX software to power a broad family of products for small, medium and large businesses. The company's product line includes a wide range of hardware to enable resellers and customers to implement turnkey solutions or to design their own voice over IP (VoIP) systems. More information is available at www.digium.com.

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