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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Vision Solutions' MIMIX HA Keeps Staples® IT Systems Running Smoothly

MIMIX protects critical business systems running billions of transactions per day

IRVINE, Calif. (Jan. 22, 2008) Vision Solutions, the leading high availability (HA) and disaster recovery solutions provider in the IBM® System i™ and System p™ markets, today announced Staples® (NASDAQ: SPLS) and their IT team are realizing a significant return on their investment with [Vision Solutions' MIMIX HA software](#) which runs on their IBM System i machines.

"These past few months are one of the busiest times of year for us," says Senior Consultant, Systems Engineering/Ops at Staples, Jon Weigens. "Before Thanksgiving, MIMIX HA helped us complete an important role swap and the execution was 100% clean with no fallout whatsoever. Vision Solutions is truly a strategic infrastructure software partner for Staples today and the level of support we've received since rolling out MIMIX is world-class"

As the world's largest office products company, Staples operates more than 2,000 office superstores and also serves customers through mail order catalog, e-commerce and contract businesses ranging from home-based businesses to Fortune 500 companies.

The North American Delivery business is run on two partitions on a System i Model 595 server. The North American Retail business is run on three partitions on another Model 595. International operations are run in a partition on a Model 570 server located in the U.S. These six partitions generate more than two billion journal transactions per day. Additional partitions on other System i servers support other strategic business units. In addition to the billions of daily transactions, customer service representatives add considerable read-only query workloads to the systems.

Staples uses [MIMIX HA](#) to help guarantee uptime for their critical business operations. MIMIX HA replicates the five partitions (split across two System i servers) that run North American operations to five partitions on single System i server. This backup server is 20 miles from the production servers. The partition supporting International operations, running on a System i server in the same location as the North American backup server, is replicated to a partition on another System i server in the North American Production location. Additional System i partitions are planned for MIMIX HA implementation later in 2008.

Overall, Vision Solutions' MIMIX HA has helped Staples to:

- enhance business continuity confidence
- avoid millions of dollars of lost sales by switching to backup servers during downtime events
- reduce high availability administration requirements to minutes a day
- avoid considerable disaster recovery costs
- defer system upgrades by offloading backup and read-only workload tasks to replica servers.

MIMIX HA also provides Staples with a disaster recovery (DR) solution that ensures much shorter recovery times and lower data loss risks than the company's previous DR solution. And, because DR is inherent in the product, it comes at no additional cost. "If you are looking for an overall business resiliency solution, you can't do better than MIMIX," adds Weigens.

"Our products provide unsurpassed reliability, affordability and ease-of-use," says Vision Solutions' Vice President of Sales Bob Johnson. "We help companies like Staples all over the world to keep their systems up and running. To enhance revenue and customer satisfaction, every organization—no matter their size—should consider increasing their business resiliency...especially within today's competitive marketplace."

About Vision Solutions

Vision Solutions, Inc. is the world's leading provider of high availability, disaster recovery and data management solutions for the IBM® System i and System p markets. With a portfolio spanning the industry's most innovative and trusted HA solutions from **ORION™**, **MIMIX®** and **ITERA™** brands, Vision keeps critical businesses information continuously protected and available. Affordable and easy to use, Vision products help to ensure business continuity, increase productivity, reduce operating costs and satisfy compliance requirements. Vision also offers advanced cluster management and systems management solutions, and support for i5/OS®, Windows®, and AIX® operating environments. As IBM's largest high availability Premier Business Partner (NYSE: **IBM**), Vision Solutions oversees a global network of business partners and services and support professionals to help our customers achieve their business goals. Privately held by Thoma Cressey Bravo, Inc., Vision Solutions is headquartered in Irvine, California with offices worldwide. For more information visit www.visionsolutions.com or call 800.957.4511.

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