

**PRESS RELEASE** RELEASE DATE: January 13, 2009

# 5N Plus Inc. Reports Record Sales and Net Earnings for the Second Quarter Ended November 30, 2008

**Montreal, Québec, January 13, 2009** – 5N Plus Inc. (TSX: VNP) today announced financial results for the second quarter of fiscal 2009 ended November 30, 2008. Results continued to reflect a trend of strong financial performance with net earnings, sales and EBITDA<sup>1</sup> all reaching record levels. Net earnings for the second quarter of 2009 were of \$5,815,037 (\$0.13 per share), which represents a 376.8% increase over net earnings of \$1,219,548 (\$0.04 per share) for the second quarter of the previous fiscal year. Sales for the second quarter were of \$18,135,824 up by 166.9% compared with sales of \$6,795,743 for the second quarter of the previous fiscal year. EBITDA increased by 282.0% in the second quarter to \$8,871,494 up from \$2,322,589 during the second quarter of the previous fiscal year.

For the six month period ended November 30, 2008, net earnings increased by 337.5% to \$10,144,122 (\$0.22 per share) and sales by 143.9% to \$32,165,699. This compares with net earnings of \$2,318,804 (\$0.08 per share) and sales of \$13,190,216 for the same period of the previous fiscal year. EBITDA also increased during the six month period ended November 30, 2008 to \$15,477,014 up by 252.1% from \$4,395,074 for the corresponding period of the previous fiscal year.

"We are pleased to report the results of the second quarter of our 2009 fiscal year which has been characterized by continuing growth and record level profitability. This reflects the strong operational performance now at both of our facilities and the increasing demand for our products. In spite of the current financial world crisis, demand for our products remained strong during the quarter as we managed to increase sales and further strengthen our twelve month backlog of orders to a record level of \$54,722,363 as at November 30, 2008. The current quarter was the first throughout which our German facility was fully operational and we are extremely pleased by its performance and the rapid ramp up in production capacity that has been achieved there" commented Mr. Jacques L'Écuyer, President and Chief Executive Officer.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> EBITDA is not defined by Canadian generally accepted accounting principles and cannot be formally presented in financial statements. EBITDA means earnings before financing costs, interest income, income taxes, depreciation and amortization and start-up costs. The definition of EBITDA used by the Company may differ from that used by other companies. Please see management's discussion and analysis for more details.

He added, "We approved soon after the closing of the quarter a normal course issuer bid as we believe that the underlying value of 5N Plus may not be reflected in the market price of our common shares. Consequently we estimate that the repurchase of our shares under certain conditions may constitute an appropriate use of our financial resources and be beneficial to 5N Plus and its shareholders".

Mr. L'Ecuyer concluded, "We are monitoring closely the impact of the current financial turbulences on our customers and business. We are confident that we have both the operational and financial flexibility to make the necessary adjustments in our operating practices if the situation warrants. Furthermore, we continue to believe that our strong balance sheet with cash and cash equivalents of over \$60 million and our ability to generate positive cash flows position us uniquely to take advantage of both organic growth and in particular accretive acquisitions opportunities".

The interim consolidated financial statements of 5N Plus, as well as Management's Discussion and Analysis of this second quarter ended November 30, 2008 are available on the 5N Plus website, at <u>www.5nplus.com</u> and on the SEDAR website at <u>www.sedar.com</u>.

## Webcast Information

The Company will host a conference call at 10:00 Eastern Time on Wednesday January 14, 2009 with financial analysts to discuss the second quarter results. All interested parties are invited to participate to the live broadcast on the company's Web site at <u>www.5nplus.com</u>. A replay of the webcast and a recording of the Q&A will be available until January 28, 2009.

## **Forward-Looking Statements and Disclaimer**

Certain statements in this press release may be forward-looking. Forward-looking statements are based on the best estimates available to the Company at the time and involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties or other factors that may cause the Company's actual results, performance or achievements to be materially different from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements. The Company disclaims any intention or obligation to update or revise any forward-looking statements in order to account for any new information or any other event. The reader is warned against undue reliance on these forward-looking statements.

## About 5N Plus Inc.

5N Plus draws its name from the purity of its products, 99.999% (five nines or 5N) and more. 5N Plus, which has its head office in Montreal, Quebec, develops and produces high-purity metals and compounds for electronic applications and provides its customers with recycling solutions. The Company is an integrated producer with both primary and secondary refining capabilities. 5N Plus focuses on specialty metals such as tellurium, cadmium and selenium and on related compounds such as cadmium telluride and cadmium sulphide. The Company's products are critical precursors in a number of electronic applications, including the rapidly-expanding solar (thin-film photovoltaic) market, for which 5N Plus is a major supplier of cadmium telluride, and the radiation detector market.

#### Interim Consolidated Statements of Earnings

## Periods ended November 30, 2008 and 2007

(unaudited)		Three months				Six months			
(in Canadian dollars)	2008			2007		2008		2007	
Sales	\$	18,135,824	\$	6,795,743	\$	32,165,699	\$	13,190,216	
Cost of goods sold	•	8,905,646	Ŧ	3,519,364	•	15,303,697	Ŧ	6,936,403	
Gross profit		9,230,178		3,276,379		16,862,002		6,253,813	
Expenses									
Selling and administrative		1,075,795		708,607		2,263,062		1,180,568	
Research and development		259,415		249,661		484,627		661,376	
Foreign exchange (gain) loss		(976,526)		(4,478)		(1,362,701)		16,795	
Financial		118,006		137,121		202,894		252,615	
Interest income		(359,934)		-		(769,111)		-	
Depreciation of property, plant and equipment		576,682		242,867		950,034		484,169	
Amortization of deferred start-up costs		157,103		-		207,444		-	
		850,541		1,333,778		1,976,249		2,595,523	
Earnings before undernoted items		8,379,637		1,942,601		14,885,753		3,658,290	
Start-up costs, new plant		-		102,015		206,390		173,356	
Earnings before income taxes		8,379,637		1,840,586		14,679,363		3,484,934	
Income taxes									
Current		2,331,449		567,038		4,075,273		1,041,130	
Future		233,151		54,000		459,968		125,000	
		2,564,600		621,038		4,535,241		1,166,130	
Net earnings	\$	5,815,037	\$	1,219,548	\$	10,144,122	\$	2,318,804	
Earnings per share									
Basic	\$	0.13	\$	0.04	\$	0.22	\$	0.08	
Diluted	\$	0.13	\$	0.04	\$	0.22 \$	\$	0.07	
Weighted average number of common shares									
Basic		45,500,000		29,635,954		45,500,000		29,635,954	
Diluted		45,721,205		31,909,531		45,926,010		31,909,531	

5N Plus inc.	As		As at May 31,	
Interim Consolidated Balance Sheets			2008	
(in Canadian dollars)		(unaudited)		
Assets				
Current assets				
Cash and cash equivalents	\$	60,528,235	\$	59,576,743
Accounts receivable		6,772,128		10,164,562
Inventories		23,122,482		12,727,564
Prepaid expenses and deposits		394,990		348,504
Future income taxes		120,000		456,325
		90,937,835		83,273,698
Property, plant and equipment		25,850,925		21,220,889
Grant receivable		2,084,972		2,053,377
Future income taxes		800,821		909,536
Deferred start-up costs		1,076,280		821,008
Other assets		52,682		55,681
	\$	120,803,515	\$	108,334,189
Current liabilities	ć	2 956 610	ć	1 262 205
Bank loan	\$	2,956,610	\$	1,262,205
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities		8,844,149		7,486,227
Income taxes payable		1,094,121		1,754,114
Current portion of long-term debt		547,333		578,922
Current portion of other long-term liabilities		108,984		270,251
		13,551,197		11,351,719
Long-term debt		4,275,340		4,547,028
Other long-term liabilities		-		127,906
Deferred revenue		730,983		753,606
Shareholders' Equity		18,557,520		16,780,259
Share capital		81,788,694		81,788,694
Contributed surplus		520,623		242,136
Accumulated other comprehensive income		269,456		
Retained earnings		19,667,222		9,523,100
-		102,245,995		91,553,930
	\$	120,803,515	\$	108,334,189
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### **Reconciliation of EBITDA and Net Earnings**

(in Canadian dollars)

	Three months ended November 30			Six months ended November 30			
	2008	2007	Increase	2008	2007	Increase	
Net earnings	\$ 5,815,037	\$ 1,219,548	376.8 %	\$10,144,122	\$ 2,318,804	337.5 %	
Add (deduct):							
Income taxes	2,564,600	621,038		4,535,241	1,166,130		
Financial expenses <sup>1</sup> & Interest income	(241,928)	137,121		(566,217)	252,615		
Depreciation and amortization	733,785	242,867		1,157,478	484,169		
Start-up costs, new plant		102,015	_	206,390	173,356		
EBITDA	\$ 8,871,494	\$ 2,322,589	282.0 %	\$15,477,014	\$ 4,395,074	252.1 %	

<sup>1</sup>The foreign exchange gain or loss is presented independently from the financial expenses. This presentation differs from those of previous quarters.

#### **Cash Flow**

(in Canadian dollars)

		Three months ended November 30		is ended ber 30
	2008	2007	2008	2007
Operating activities <sup>1</sup>	\$ 6,927,426	\$ 1,522,557	\$ 12,005,773	\$ 2,979,654
Add (deduct):				
Net change in non-cash working capital items	2,864,639	(644,346)	(5,672,471)	(2,784,849)
Operating activities	9,792,065	878,211	6,333,302	194,805
Financing activities	1,730,328	1,867,982	1,087,042	3,758,173
Investing activities	(1,188,946)	(4,787,578)	(6,483,620)	(5,585,369)
Effect of changes in foreign exchange rate on cash	14,768	-	14,768	-
Increase ( decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	10,348,215	(2,041,385)	951,492	(1,632,391)
Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of period	50,180,020	1,935,926	59,576,743	1,526,932
Cash and cash equivalents, end of period	\$ 60,528,235	\$ (105,459)	\$ 60,528,235	\$ (105,459)

<sup>1</sup> Before net change in non-cash working capital items

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## Contact:

Jacques L'Écuyer President and Chief Executive Officer 5N Plus Inc. (514) 856-0644 jacques.lecuyer@5nplus.com