



EM-Assist Announces Partnership with Venatus Capital Partners

SACRAMENTO, CA – JULY 10, 2007

EM-Assist, a leading provider of environmental program management and technical support services to the U.S. Department of Defense and other Federal Government agencies, announced today that it has partnered with Venatus Capital Partners and Sterling Savings Bank to provide additional capital and resources to support growth initiatives. Jeremy Burr, Managing Partner of Venatus Capital Partners, will join EM-Assist as Executive Chairman to focus on strategic growth.

EM-Assist's outstanding achievements have earned it numerous awards, including the Department of Defense Nunn-Perry Award, the U.S. Army Reserve Challenge Coin for Excellence Award, and the Secretary of Defense Annual Environmental Award. EM-Assist, which was founded in 1996 and currently has approximately 120 employees, has also been nationally recognized by *Inc. Magazine* as one of the top 500 fastest-growing, privately-owned companies in the country. The company is locally recognized as among the Top 25 fastest-growing companies in the Sacramento region and as one of Utah's top 100 companies. EM-Assist is headquartered in Folsom, CA and has multiple offices in California, Utah, Colorado, and Washington, D.C.

EM-Assist co-founder and Chief Executive Officer Dana Curran said, "We credit a large part of our success to our ability to manage rapid growth without compromising our core customer-centric culture. Jeremy Burr and Venatus Capital Partners understand and embrace EM-Assist's culture and share our core values and vision, creating a long-term partnership that will strengthen our company and enhance our opportunities."

"EM-Assist's high-caliber management team, dedicated employees, and strong focus on helping its customers accomplish their mission combine to position the company well as a platform for continued growth, both organically and through targeted acquisitions," said Jeremy Burr, who will serve as the company's Executive Chairman. "Venatus Capital Partners stands ready to support EM-Assist's rapid growth with additional capital and resources. EM-Assist has a bright future, and we are excited to be a part of it."

Company President Lynn Meland said, "We are excited to have Jeremy joining the team. His background will enable EM-Assist to grow to the next level and help us become an even more effective partner to our customers." Co-founder and Executive Vice President Gregg Alex added, "We've grown more than five-fold over the last four years, and that growth has given our employees the chance to create new opportunities for themselves. This partnership enables us to make investments to accelerate our growth, such as key new hires, which will provide greater opportunities for our staff to find new ways to use their talents and creativity."

ABOUT EM-ASSIST

EMAssist, Inc. is a leading provider of environmental program management and technical support services to the U.S. Department of Defense and other Federal Government agencies. The company's outstanding achievements have earned it numerous awards, including the Department of Defense Nunn-Perry Award, the U.S. Army Reserve Challenge Coin for Excellence Award, and the Secretary of Defense Annual Environmental Award. EM-Assist has also been nationally recognized by *Inc. Magazine* as one of the top 500 fastest-growing, privately-owned companies in the country. The company is locally recognized as among the Top 25 fastest-growing companies in the Sacramento region and as one of Utah's top 100 companies. EM-Assist is headquartered in Folsom, CA and has multiple offices in California, Utah, Colorado, and Washington, D.C. Additional information can be found on the company's website located at www.emassist.com.

VENATUS CAPITAL PARTNERS



ABOUT VENATUS CAPITAL PARTNERS

Venatus Capital Partners, LLC is a Los Angeles-based private investment firm that invests to support the ongoing growth of successful privately-owned companies. The firm partners with high-integrity management teams to provide human capital and financial resources to support growth while providing for continuity of management and employees. Additional information can be found on the firm's website located at www.venatuscapital.com.

ABOUT STERLING SAVINGS BANK

Sterling Savings Bank is a Washington State-chartered commercial bank headquartered in Spokane, Washington. The bank conducts its business from 170 full-service offices located throughout Washington, Idaho, Oregon, Montana, and California. Sterling Savings Bank provides full-service banking, including FDIC-insured deposits and consumer and business banking, commercial real estate, and residential construction loans. Additional information can be found on the bank's website located at www.sterlingfinancialcorporation-spokane.com.