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Helgesen Joins Welsh as Regional Real Estate Director in Chicago

MINNEAPOLIS, MN (February 6, 2008) Welsh Companies, a leading full-service commercial real estate company headquartered in the Twin Cities, today announced that Alissa Helgesen has joined the Company as Regional Real Estate Director. Based in Chicago, her primary responsibilities include growing the Company's market presence and identifying acquisition and development opportunities for commercial property in Illinois, Indiana and Wisconsin. With the addition of Helgesen, the Company plans to grow its Chicago office to its second largest Midwest presence.

Welsh was founded in the Twin Cities in 1977 and today has regional offices in Minnesota, Illinois, Michigan, and Missouri with over 300 employees providing services in all aspects of commercial real estate including; brokerage, property management, facility management, construction, architecture, financing, and investment services. In the three Midwest markets that Helgesen will focus on, the Welsh portfolio of owned commercial properties currently consists of 840,408 square feet in Illinois; 1,210,340 square feet in Indiana; and 545,927 square feet in Wisconsin.

Helgesen joins Welsh with over seventeen years of notable experience in the commercial real estate industry. Most recently she was President and Founder of Circle Realty Advisors, LLC in Lake Zurich, Illinois. She established the company in 2005 to provide investment services to small and midsize companies seeking to grow their presence in the Midwest.

Prior to forming Circle Realty Advisors, LLC, Helgesen served as Vice President of Acquisitions and Dispositions for Duke Realty Corporation's Midwest markets; including all of Ohio, Chicago, Indianapolis, St. Louis and the Twin Cities. During her six-year tenure with Duke, she completed transactions totaling more than \$734 million in office, industrial and retail property types. Helgesen was a member of Duke's management committee.

“Alissa’s market knowledge and industry relationships bring tremendous value to our Midwest portfolio,” said Jean Kane, President and Chief Operating Operator for Welsh Companies. “As the WelshInvest portfolio continues to grow to nearly 18,000,000 square feet valued over \$1.1 billion, we are thrilled to welcome another established leader to our group.”

Helgesen holds a bachelor’s degree in real estate finance from the University of Illinois-Champaign and a master’s degree in real estate appraisal and investment analysis from the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Welsh is a full-service commercial real estate company headquartered in the Twin Cities with regional offices in Minneapolis and St. Paul; Chicago, Illinois, St. Louis, Missouri and Detroit, Michigan. The Welsh organization consists of more than 300 professionals whose expertise extends into every aspect of commercial real estate including office, industrial and retail brokerage, corporate services, property management, facility management, construction, architecture, development, financing and investment services. The brokerage division, NAI Welsh, is an affiliate of NAI Global, a multinational network of skilled commercial real estate professionals strategically located in 375 markets worldwide. To learn more about Welsh, go to www.welshco.com.

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