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UNICO INVESTMENT GROUP AND THE LAIRD NORTON COMPANY COMMIT \$50 MILLION TO UNICO DIVERSIFIED FUND I

THE LAIRD NORTON COMPANY WILL COMMIT \$40 MILLION AS LEAD INVESTOR

SEATTLE, Wash. (September 13, 2010) – Unico Investment Group LLC, a real estate investment and operating company, announced today that the Laird Norton Company has committed \$40 million as the lead investor for Unico Diversified Fund I, a newly formed real estate investment fund. The Laird Norton Company (LNC), a seventh-generation family business whose members were instrumental in the founding of Weyerhaeuser Company, The Potlatch Corporation, and Boise-Payette Lumber (now known as Boise Cascade Corporation), will commit \$20 million to the fund and an additional \$20 million toward joint venture acquisitions with the fund. LNC's commitment of \$40 million combined with Unico's commitment of \$10 million represents a total of \$50 million of equity from both companies to launch the \$100 million fund.

"Laird Norton evaluated numerous regional and national firms before we chose Unico as our real estate investment partner," said Jeff Vincent, CEO & President of the Laird Norton Company. "Unico Diversified Fund I is a natural collaboration of two of Seattle's most established and respected companies."

The Unico Diversified Fund I is specifically designed to provide high-net-worth investors the unique opportunity to joint venture with institutional partners to acquire a portfolio of large premium office and multi-family properties located throughout the western United States, a market niche traditionally reserved for institutions. Unico will serve as the fund manager, overseeing all acquisitions, dispositions, property management, and day-to-day operations.

Unico is highly respected by its partners as a real estate operating company with a nationally recognized reputation in tenant satisfaction and sustainability achievements.



“This investment relationship gives credence to the strength and experience of Unico’s operating platform,” said Quentin Kuhrau, Unico’s President & CEO. “Laird Norton is a top-tier partner and we see this as a prime opportunity to merge our collective expertise and leverage our capital and industry relationships.”

About Unico

Unico Investment Group LLC, and its subsidiary Unico Properties LLC, is a real estate investment and operating company with a 10-million-square-foot-portfolio of premier properties in the western United States. Founded in 1953, Unico is a third generation family- and privately-owned company headquartered in Seattle, Wash. Unico produces superior returns for its partners by anticipating and addressing the real estate needs of its customers with environments that enhance the success of the people, business and communities it serves.

Unico is a proven operating partner. The company is a leader in sustainable practices, reducing energy consumption by 12 percent per year across its 10 million square foot portfolio. Unico has earned LEED and LEED®-EB (Existing Buildings) certifications for more than 40 percent of the eligible buildings within its portfolio. In 2008 and in 2009, tenants ranked Unico’s customer service in the top one percent nationally among 6,000 comparable buildings surveyed – earning a “Best in the Industry” distinction from CEL & Associates, a national, independent real estate consulting firm. For more information about Unico, please visit the firm’s website at www.unicoprop.com.

About The Laird Norton Company

Founded in 1855, Laird Norton is a seventh generation, family-owned company headquartered in Seattle, Wash. Earlier in its history, Laird Norton family members were instrumental in the founding of Weyerhaeuser Company, The Potlatch Corporation and Boise-Payette Lumber which later became Boise Cascade Corporation. Its current operations include a real estate holding and management company; Laird Norton Tyee, a wealth management firm; and Wentworth Hauser and Violich, an investment advisory firm. For more information, visit www.lairdnorton.com.

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