



Contact: Melissa Anthony
anthonyBarnum Public Relations
Tel: 512-329-2766
Melissa@anthonyBarnum.com

AIC Ventures Acquires Two Great Escape Facilities in Chicago

AUSTIN, TX, April 3, 2009 - AIC Ventures acquired two Chicago-based facilities owned by The Great Escape, a leading retailer of indoor/outdoor recreational and leisure products. The properties, totaling more than 350,000 square feet, are located on nearly 20 acres at 300 West Armory and 2 West 166th Street, respectively.

AIC Ventures, an investment fund manager providing alternative finance solutions to middle-market companies across the United States through office and industrial sale-leasebacks and net leased acquisitions, recently completed three commercial real estate sale leaseback transactions, representing 1.3 million square feet of commercial real estate and totaling \$37.2 million in value, in the first two-months of 2009, in regions throughout the U.S.

"The Great Escape is a strategic fit for us in terms of their industry niche and geographic location. We are very pleased to have completed this transaction at the terms we originally promised. We like the long term investment characteristics provided by Chicago and are looking for additional investment opportunities in the city." said David Steinwedell, managing partner, AIC Ventures.

In 2008, AIC Ventures nearly doubled its transactions to \$250 million with its seventh fund. In each transaction, the company acquired the facility and property according to the original terms outlined. The capital infusion is used by companies to strengthen their corporate balance sheet fundamentals, fund growth initiatives or acquisitions and/or support other strategic investments. With fewer restrictions and requirements in comparison to more traditional financing options, sale leasebacks offer sellers flexible capital that can be redeployed at the company's discretion.

About AIC Ventures, L.P.

AIC Ventures is a leading provider of capital to middle-market companies. With nearly \$900 million in completed transactions, AIC Ventures structures innovative corporate finance solutions for companies facing limited, short-term or expensive alternatives for capital. The company has closed more than 100 transactions in 28 states. Whether sellers need to close quickly, have private equity interests, environmental or other challenges, AIC Ventures can help. For more information, visit www.AICVentures.com.