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AIC VENTURES ACQUIRES WARREN, MICHIGAN FACILITIES OF PARAGON TECHNOLOGIES

AUSTIN, Texas – AIC Ventures announced today that it has completed a sale leaseback transaction with Paragon Technologies, one of North America's premier one stop service/repair centers for all of the most common types of industrial hydraulic and electronic controls. As an authorized repair contractor and dealer for hundreds of parts manufacturers, Paragon services a broad variety of machine components for multiple industries. The transaction includes Paragon's corporate headquarters in Warren, Michigan, a submarket of Detroit. The asset encompasses 99,000 square feet of office and manufacturing space situated on eight acres. AIC Ventures' real estate fund, NL Ventures VI, through an affiliate, acquired the properties and simultaneously entered into a long term absolute net lease with Paragon Technologies.

Eric Fornasiero, CFO of Paragon Technologies, said, "With 25 years of financial experience to speak from, I can confidently say that AIC Ventures is one of the most efficient and goal oriented organizations I have dealt with. We worked with individuals across departments and each demonstrated the utmost professionalism and a focus on service. Paragon opted to make changes to the deal along the way, something that would have hindered other firms, but AIC met those changes without interruption. We were equally impressed by how every foreseeable obstacle was immediately countered with an innovative solution. Their work ethic enabled us to close this complex deal during the holiday season when working days were limited."

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Peter Carlsen, President of AIC Ventures, noted that “Paragon is a profitable and growing company whose financially astute principals recognize the value of a sale leaseback opportunity as a tool to clear debt obligations; and they appreciate our perfect closing track record. Our organizational processes are designed to benefit companies like Paragon whose primary interests are to receive a fair value for their real estate and secure capital quickly. The company required a four week close in order to fulfill a year-end deadline; they selected AIC based on their confidence in our capacity to execute under this firm deadline. Our in-house legal team is a unique advantage that allows us to prioritize workflow and facilitate timely transactions.”

AIC Ventures is a leading provider of capital to middle-market companies. With over \$700 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 80 transactions nationwide. Whether sellers need to close quickly, have private equity interests, environmental or other challenges, AIC Ventures can help. For more information, please visit www.AICVentures.com.

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