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## **AIC Ventures Acquires Signature Aluminum's Minneapolis-based Real Estate in \$6 Million Deal**

**AUSTIN, TX November 3, 2008** – AIC Ventures acquired Greenville, Pennsylvania-based Signature Aluminum's 150,000-square-foot office and light-industrial facility located at 4375 Willow Drive Minneapolis, Minnesota for \$6 million. Signature Aluminum, a subsidiary of WXP Holdings, Inc., a H.I.G. Capital, LLC portfolio company, conducted the transaction to access capital embedded in its real estate assets for strategic reinvestment into its current operations.

AIC Ventures is an investment fund manager providing alternative finance solutions to middle-market companies across the United States through office and industrial sale-leasebacks. Upon the sale, AIC Ventures simultaneously entered into a long-term lease with Signature Aluminum. The company's Minneapolis-based operations are not slated to be impacted by the acquisition.

"This is a strategic transaction executed in collaboration with AIC Ventures," said Craig Kahler, Senior Associate, H.I.G. Capital. "We saw the sale-leaseback as a creative financing solution. The resulting capital enables us to focus on the key fundamentals of the company and continue to forward the growth of Signature Aluminum."

Signature Aluminum is one of the largest independent aluminum extrusion suppliers in North America with eight facilities in the U.S. and Canada. The company specializes in custom, high-value products, utilizing leading tool and die technology and advanced extrusion processes.

"We are very pleased to complete another transaction with H.I.G.," said David Steinwedell, managing partner, AIC Ventures. "Signature Aluminum is a well-established supplier serving diverse markets. The company's key facility in Minneapolis is located in a robust market well positioned for long-term growth."

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### **About AIC Ventures**

AIC Ventures is a leading provider of capital to middle-market companies. With over \$800 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 100 transactions in 27 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](http://www.AICVentures.com).

### **About Signature Aluminum**

Signature Aluminum has over 50 years experience as a niche supplier of aluminum products and services in North America. With eight manufacturing locations, a broad distribution network and extensive industry experience, Signature Aluminum is uniquely positioned to serve both regional and North American customers with complete, custom supply chain solutions that maximize total value and returns.

Signature offers a wide range of aluminum alloys, fabricated aluminum and services to over 2,000 current satisfied customers within the electrical, automotive, recreation, telecommunication, medical, building product, distribution, defense and specialized equipment markets. Signature is an affiliate of H.I.G. Capital, L.L.C., a leading global private equity investment firm with more than \$7.5 billion of equity capital under management. For more information, visit [www.signaturealuminum.com](http://www.signaturealuminum.com).

### **About H.I.G. Capital**

H.I.G. Capital is a leading global private investment firm with over \$7.5 billion of capital under management. H.I.G.'s family of funds includes private equity, venture capital, distressed debt and public equities. The firm aligns with committed management teams and entrepreneurs to help build businesses of significant value. H.I.G. Capital has over 150 investment professionals with substantial operating, consulting, technology and financial management experience. The firm invests in companies throughout the U.S. and Europe and has offices in Miami, Atlanta, Boston, and San Francisco in the U.S., and affiliate offices in London, Hamburg and Paris in Europe. For more information, visit [www.higcapital.com](http://www.higcapital.com)

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