

Media Release

Ohio PERS Expands Ohio-Midwest Fund Program, Bringing Total Investment Capital to \$102 Million

Fund Manager, Credit Suisse, Will Continue Focus of Making Investments in Ohio

Columbus, OH, May 17, 2007 **The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (Ohio PERS) and Credit Suisse have expanded the regional investment program - Ohio PERS/Credit Suisse Ohio-Midwest Fund (Ohio-Midwest Fund) - by doubling the capital initially invested in the Fund when it launched in 2005. Managed by Credit Suisse's Customized Fund Investment Group, the Fund now totals \$102 million, with \$51 million of that money currently invested in eight private equity funds, all of which have strong economic ties to Ohio and the Midwest region.**

"The expansion of the Ohio-Midwest Fund is a testament to the success we've experienced with the program to date," said Greg Uebele, Senior Investment Officer-External Management, Ohio PERS. "We're pleased with the results the Fund has generated thus far - more than \$40 million has already been invested in Ohio companies, which has impacted over 1,450 local jobs. Ohio PERS made the strategic decision to expand the program, and we look forward to the positive impact and returns of investing more capital in our state and region."

The focus of the Ohio-Midwest Fund will continue to be on generating strong returns. As a fund-of-funds, the individual funds selected for the program are subject to a rigorous and comprehensive review process and are required to have a significant market presence in Ohio and the Midwest region and possess a strong track record of successful investing. Together, the selected funds represent a diverse portfolio of venture capital, growth capital and buyout funds that capitalize on the sectors in which Ohio has particular expertise.

"There's no question of the investment potential available in Ohio or the private equity infrastructure in place to be able to effectively put this additional capital to work for the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System, delivering strong returns to its members," said Mike Arpey, Managing Director and Co-Head of Credit Suisse's Customized Fund Investment Group. "We see a great opportunity to build on the success of the initial investments made, and we continue seeking partnerships that will provide the most benefit to Ohio."

To date, the Ohio-Midwest Fund is comprised of the following funds:

- Riverside Micro-Cap Fund, with offices in Cleveland, New York, San Francisco and Dallas
- Draper Triangle Ventures II, with offices in Cleveland, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh
- Triathlon Medical Ventures, with offices in Cincinnati, Louisville, Indianapolis and St. Louis
- Blue Point Capital Partners II, with offices in Cleveland, Charlotte and Seattle

- Strength Capital Partners II, with offices in Cincinnati and Birmingham, MI
- Stonehenge Opportunity Fund II, with offices in Columbus
- Reservoir Venture Partners II, with offices in Columbus and Cleveland
- SFW Capital Partners, with offices in Hudson, OH and Rye, NY

Prior to investment by the Ohio -Midwest Fund, the selected funds' principals have cumulatively made 153 investments in Ohio, representing more than \$1.2 billion of capital.

The Ohio Public Employees Retirement System and Credit Suisse established the Ohio-Midwest Fund in 2005. It is a fund-of-funds that invests in high quality, private equity funds that focus, in whole or in part, on making investments in the Ohio and Midwest regions. Ohio PERS contributed \$100 million, with Credit Suisse contributing approximately \$2 million.

Private equity fund managers interested in the Ohio-Midwest Fund program should contact Mel Carter, Credit Suisse's In-State Investment Specialist, at 614.220.4520 for more information.

For more information about the Ohio-Midwest Fund, visit www.ohioinvestmentfund.com.

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