

Media Release

Ohio-Midwest Fund Invests Final \$5 Million in SFW Capital Partners

\$51 Million Regional Program Fully Invests in Eight Private Equity Funds

Columbus, OH, January 23, 2007 **Credit Suisse and the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System (Ohio PERS) announced that the final \$5 million of the \$51 million regional program - the Ohio PERS/Credit Suisse Ohio-Midwest Fund - has been committed to SFW Capital Partners, which has offices in Rye, New York and Hudson, Ohio. Credit Suisse's Customized Fund Investment Group, which manages the Ohio-Midwest Fund, selected eight private equity funds from 31 total submissions.**

"The selection of SFW Capital Partners marks the final investment of the Ohio-Midwest Fund," said Mike Arpey, Managing Director of Credit Suisse's Customized Fund Investment Group. "Credit Suisse could not be more satisfied with the high quality of funds included in this investment program. They all have proven, successful experience working and investing in Ohio and the Midwest region, which played a significant role in our decision-making process. These eight unique funds represent a great diversification across various investment stages and industries, and most importantly, are poised to deliver strong returns for the members of the Ohio Public Employees Retirement System."

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

SFW Capital Partners has particular expertise in investing in Ohio companies. With a successful strategy of building lower middle-market businesses, the SFW principals' prior investments have been integral to the growth of Ohio-based CasTech Aluminum (Akron), Easco Aluminum (Girard) and Mettler-Toledo International (Columbus), among others. With investments in control buyouts of U.S.-based companies in the Test, Measurement and Control Instrumentation and Growth Industrial sectors, SFW emphasizes both operational improvement and revenue growth in every company in which it invests.

"Due to the high caliber of funds available to us for this program, we've been able to move expediently and this capital is already being put to work in Ohio," said Greg Uebele, Senior Investment Officer-External Management, Ohio PERS. "Over the past nine months, the Ohio-Midwest Fund has invested in eight funds - five of which are now actively investing more than \$35.4 million in 11 Ohio companies, which has impacted over 1,375 Ohio jobs. It's been very rewarding to see the effects the Ohio-Midwest Fund is having on local entrepreneurs and businesses."

The Ohio-Midwest Fund is comprised of the following investments:

- Riverside Micro-Cap Fund, with offices in Cleveland, New York, San Francisco and Dallas, received \$7 million;
- Draper Triangle Ventures II, with offices in Cleveland, Cincinnati and Pittsburgh, received \$5 million;
- Triathlon Medical Ventures, with offices in Cincinnati, Louisville, Indianapolis and St. Louis, received \$7 million;
- Blue Point Capital Partners II, with offices in Cleveland, Charlotte and Seattle, received \$8 million;
- Strength Capital Partners II, with offices in Cincinnati and Birmingham, MI, received \$8 million;
- Stonehenge Opportunity Fund II, with offices in Columbus, received \$7 million;
- Reservoir Venture Partners II, with offices in Columbus and Cleveland, received \$4 million; and
- SFW Capital Partners, with offices in Hudson, OH and Rye, NY, received \$5 million, for a total of \$51 million.

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 \$50 million, with the remaining \$1 million contributed by Credit Suisse.

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

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