

## Press release



July 14, 2015

## AEW Europe acquires Celsius Portfolio in partnership with CIC

**AEW Europe** has completed the acquisition of the Celsius Portfolio, which comprises 10 shopping centres across France and Belgium, The portfolio was acquired from the CBRE Retail Property Fund France Belgium CV ("RPFFB") on behalf of a newly established partnership between a subsidiary of China Investment Corporation ("CIC") and affiliates of **AEW Europe** (the "Partnership").

Totalling circa 221,000 sqm, the Celsius Portfolio comprises interests in the Waasland and Wijnegem shopping centres, two dominant regional shopping centres located near Antwerp in Belgium. The remaining eight assets are located across France, including large urban shopping centres La Vache Noire in Paris and Centre Mayol in Toulon, as well as some smaller retail parks and factory outlets.

A number of leading brands, such as H&M, Zara, Hollister, FNAC, Monoprix and Peek & Cloppenburg, are currently represented across the portfolio.

Rob Wilkinson, CEO of AEW Europe said: "This is a landmark transaction for AEW Europe which further demonstrates our capacity to secure sizeable and complex investment opportunities for our clients."

Raphael Brault, Head of Separate Accounts and Fund Management at AEW Europe added: "The acquisition of such a high quality portfolio is an important achievement for our platform and it enables us to significantly increase our existing €5.5 billion European retail footprint representing more than two million square metres."

Clifford Chance, Etude Cheuvreux and Mazars acted as advisors to AEW Europe and CIC.

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## About AEW Europe

AEW Europe is one of the leading European real estate asset and investment managers. Together with AEW Capital Management in the United States and Asia, AEW Europe and its regulated subsidiaries - AEW Europe LLP, NAMI - AEW Europe and AEW Europe SGP - form a global real estate platform of €44.6 billion in assets under management (of which €16.6 billion is in Europe as at 03.31.2015). AEW has over 30 years' experience in the management of real estate funds and separate institutional mandates with 500 employees in 14 locations around the world, including head offices in Boston, London, Paris and Singapore. AEW's innovative investment strategies are research-driven and rigorously controlled for risk, with implementation carried out by professional teams in its extensive network of local offices on the ground.

AEW regularly receives industry awards in recognition of its investment performance and adherence to principles of sustainability. AEW Europe is a founding member of the group of leading real estate fund managers applying the Bureau Veritas "Green Rating" standards to its European investment portfolio and is a signatory to the United Nations' Principles for Responsible Investment. The company is also an active member of the European Association for Investors in Non-listed Real Estate Funds (INREV) and its portfolios are benchmarked by the Investment Property Databank (IPD). AEW Europe is a subsidiary of Natixis Global Asset Management, one of the top 16 asset managers in the world.

## Contact

Saida Grosvalet AEW Europe +33 1 78 40 92 10 saida.grosvalet@aeweurope.com

www.aeweurope.com