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AVISON YOUNG

Media Release

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http://www.avisonyoung.com/library/bio/Weitnauer_Brent.jpg

http://www.avisonyoung.com/library/bio/Watson_Chip.jpg

Brent Weitnauer and Chip Watson join Avison Young's brokerage operation in Atlanta, Georgia

Atlanta, GA — Steve Dils, Avison Young Principal and Managing Director of the company's Atlanta office, announced today that **Brent Weitnauer** and **Chip Watson** have joined Avison Young's industrial properties group.

Effective immediately, Weitnauer and Watson also become Principals of Avison Young and will be based in the company's Atlanta office. Both were most recently with CB Richard Ellis (CBRE) in Atlanta.

"Brent and Chip are a perfect fit for us as we continue to grow the Avison Young office here in Atlanta," comments Dils. "They are talented and successful brokers who have a great reputation in the marketplace based on their character and how they represent their clients. I couldn't be more pleased that they have chosen to join the Avison Young organization as we continue to build our Southeast presence."

Avison Young is Canada's largest independently-owned commercial real estate services company. Today's appointments come on the heels of the company announcing its new office in Houston, Texas last month. Avison Young opened its first U.S. office in Chicago, IL in 2009, followed by U.S. offices in Washington, DC, Atlanta and Houston over the past half year.

"Brent and Chip are highly regarded brokers who will add to our growing group of market leaders around the U.S. and play an integral role in Avison Young's continued growth," says **Earl Webb**, Avison Young's President, U.S. Operations. "They have packed a lot of experience into their careers with tremendous potential to continue growing their own business in the coming years and add to Avison Young's industrial expertise in North America."

Over the past year and a half, Avison Young has grown from 11 to 18 offices and from 300 to 600-plus real estate professionals in Canada and the U.S.

“We are very excited about the opportunity to be a part of Avison Young. The company has experienced tremendous growth due to its respected leadership and by hiring experienced and knowledgeable professionals in key markets,” says Weitnauer. “We are looking forward to being a part of the company's growth and contributing to its continued success. Avison Young provides a platform that will enable us to explore creative options to help our clients meet their real estate needs.”

Brent Weitnauer

Weitnauer comes to Avison Young from CBRE in Atlanta where he served as a First Vice-President and a member of its third-party logistics group. He has assisted clients by developing and implementing long-term real estate strategies, including multi-market lease acquisitions, valuation and disposition of surplus assets, site selection, comprehensive labor analysis, and incentive negotiations.

Weitnauer was with Insignia/ESG prior to the firm's merger with CBRE in 2003 and has more than 13 years of experience representing and advising industrial space users. He has completed more than 10 million square feet (msf) of industrial transactions, including recent significant assignments for Trader Joe's, Fortune Brands, Southeastern Paper Group and Zurn Industries.

Weitnauer is a member of the Atlanta Commercial Board of Realtors and was recently recognized as a 2010 Top Ten Industrial Tenant Producer in Atlanta. He is also a member of the Society of Industrial and Office Realtors (SIOR) and holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Georgia State University. In his spare time, he coaches youth soccer.

Chip Watson

Watson was most recently a First Vice-President with CBRE in Atlanta following the 2007 acquisition of Trammell Crow Company, where he spent seven years as an industrial broker. Watson's experience includes tenant representation and industrial and office sales. He also has a comprehensive knowledge and understanding of managing the build-to-suit process.

Committed to focusing on clients' business operations and fiscal needs, Watson has been involved in numerous significant transactions including a 1.3-msf build-to-suit for Solo Cup, and two build-to-suits for PetSmart in Atlanta and Chicago totaling more than 2 msf. Watson's previous experience includes four years of industrial (heavy civil) development with the Hardaway Company based in Columbus, GA.

Watson is a member of SIOR and the Atlanta Commercial Board of Realtors. He is an active member of Northside United Methodist Church and serves on the board of Trinity Early Learning Center. He is also an active volunteer with Senior Citizen Services, Atlanta Charity Clays and Ducks Unlimited. Watson is a graduate of the University of Georgia.

*Founded in 1978, **Avison Young** is Canada's largest independently-owned commercial real estate services company and the only national, Canadian-owned, principal-managed real estate brokerage firm in the country. Headquartered in Toronto, Ontario and ranked among Canada's leading national commercial real estate organizations, Avison Young is a full-service commercial real estate company comprising more than 600 real estate professionals in 18 offices across Canada and in the U.S. The company provides value-added, client-centric investment sales, leasing, advisory, management, financing and mortgage placement services to owners and occupiers of office, retail, industrial and multi-residential properties.*

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