

## **NEWS RELEASE**

Contact: Ron Kuykendall (202) 739-9425

RKuykendall@nareit.com

## NAREIT NAMES 2011 "LEADER IN THE LIGHT" AWARD WINNERS

## **Vornado and Liberty Property Trust Win Top Awards**

## Awards Competition Honors REITs for Achievements In Sustainable Energy Use Practices

**DALLAS, Nov. 17**—The National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts (NAREIT) announced the winners of its annual Leader in the Light Awards, which are presented in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's ENERGY STAR program.

The awards honor NAREIT member companies that have demonstrated superior and sustained energy use practices. Gold, Silver and Bronze Awards are presented in both Large Cap and Mid-to-Small Cap categories in the competition, which is judged by sustainable energy use experts from government, business and academia. Additionally, awards are presented in each category for Honorable Mention and Innovator, which recognizes innovative solutions for sustainability.

The competition also annually presents a Newcomer of the Year Award to the highest ranking first-time applicant and a Long Term Achievement Award for dedication to sustainability improvements over multiple application years.

In the Large Cap category, this year's Gold Award was presented to Vornado Realty Trust. The Silver Award was presented to Simon Property Group. In the Bronze category, the award was presented to Prologis. The Honorable Mention Award in the Large Cap category was presented to Macerich, and the Innovator Award went to HCP.

In the Mid-to-Small Cap category, the Gold Award was presented to Liberty Property Trust; the Silver Award went to Brandywine Realty Trust; and the Bronze Award was won by Wells Real Estate Funds. The Honorable Mention Award was presented to Thomas Properties Group, and the Innovator Award went to Cousins Properties.

The Newcomer of the Year Award was won by Extra Space Storage, and the Long Term Achievement Award was presented to Simon Property Group.

"REITs today are leaders in sustainability because they understand it isn't just good public relations – it's good business," said NAREIT Executive Vice President for Finance and Operations Sheldon Groner. "REITs recognize sustainability produces hard dollars-and-cents savings that are important in today's economic environment. Sustainability also provides a competitive advantage in the marketplace, because tenants gravitate to buildings that offer sustainable technology. And, for public companies, sustainability is an important issue for shareholders who have an expectation that the companies they invest in will manage their operations in an environmentally responsible manner."

This year's Leader in the Light Award judges were Doug Gatlin, LEED® AP, Vice President, LEED Commercial Markets, U.S. Green Building Council; David Stanford, Executive Director, RealFoundations; Maria T. Vargas, Director, Better Buildings Challenge, U.S. Department of Energy; and Mark Vorreuter, LEED® AP, Adjunct Lecturer, Cornell University Program in Real Estate.

The awards were presented at NAREIT's REITWorld 2011 Annual Convention for All Things REIT in Dallas.

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