

COMPANY NEWS

Aligned Asset Managers Completes Investment in The Townsend Group

Platform Partnership with Real Estate Industry Leader Advances Aligned's Growth Strategy

Stamford, CT – November 22, 2011 – Aligned Asset Managers, LLC ("Aligned"), a portfolio company of leading private equity firm GTCR, announced today the completion of its investment in The Townsend Group ("Townsend").

Townsend, established in 1983, is the largest global specialty real estate advisory and investment firm, with over \$100 billion of total advised assets. Townsend allocates real estate capital on a discretionary and non-discretionary basis for over 85 leading institutional clients from offices in Cleveland, London, San Francisco, and Hong Kong.

Led by Terry Ahern and Kevin Lynch, Townsend has a focused real estate platform of 70 employees.

In the Townsend transaction, Aligned purchased a majority equity interest in Townsend. An expanded group of Townsend's senior professionals will hold a substantial equity interest in the firm and have entered into long-term employment agreements with the firm.

About Aligned Asset Managers

Aligned Asset Managers, headquartered in Stamford, Connecticut, is a financial services holding company focused on the asset management sector. For more information about Aligned, contact James Cahill at 203-938-9924 or jcahill@alignedam.com or visit Aligned's website at www.alignedam.com.

About The Townsend Group

The Townsend Group is a leading provider of real estate and real asset investment solutions to institutional investors globally. Started in 1983 in Cleveland, Ohio, Townsend has grown into a global platform managing or advising investor interests in excess of \$100 billion for investors including: sovereign wealth funds, pension plans, foundations and endowments and other sophisticated investors. Press inquiries regarding Townsend should be directed to Joe Olszak at 216-781-9090 or jolszak@townsendgroup.com. For more information, please visit www.townsendgroup.com.