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### **LUIS LLACA EARNS HIS CERTIFIED LEASING SPECIALIST PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATION FROM ICSC**

NEW YORK (February 2, 2009) – The International Council of Shopping Centers is pleased to announce that it has awarded the professional accreditation of Certified Leasing Specialist (CLS) to Luis Llaca of CB Richard Ellis in Mexico. Luis was one of 39 retail real estate professionals who were awarded the CLS designation in 2008. The CLS designation is designed to elevate the professional standards in the field of leasing throughout the retail real estate industry. The designation was developed in 1994 to raise the professional standards and improve the practice of shopping center leasing throughout the industry. To date, there are 680 retail real estate professionals who have obtained their CLS accreditation. [Editor’s Note: For information about the CLS Class of 2008 and ICSC Certification Programs, visit: <http://www.icsc.org/srch/education/awards/profaccrindex.php>].

“This year’s class of CLS recipients are once again a well-rounded and cross section of industry professionals who take enormous pride in developing leasing programs which enhance and contribute to the overall success of shopping centers throughout the industry, said Michael Kercheval, ICSC’s President and CEO. “The fact that Luis Llaca chose to attain his CLS certification demonstrates his broad knowledge and skills in shopping center leasing,” he added.

The CLS designation is open to any individual who has been actively or have been actively engaged in a position with substantial responsibility for leasing shopping centers as an employee representative or agent of an owner and/or tenant for at least four years. In addition, corporate or regional professionals who oversee the leasing function for one or more shopping centers may also apply for the designation.

To receive the CLS certification, individuals were required to take a knowledge-based written examination. CLS designation requires competence in seven domains: Trade Area Analysis; Leasing Fundamentals; Legal; Construction and Tenant Coordination; Retailing; Financing; and Operations/Marketing/Promotion. The designation, as well as the examination, was developed through the input of a governing committee of ICSC members representing various countries in Europe, North America and South America.

Founded in 1957, ICSC is the premier global trade association of the shopping center industry. Its more than 70,000 members in 92 countries include shopping center owners, developers, managers, marketing specialists, investors, retailers and brokers, as well as academics and public officials. Headquartered in New York City, ICSC has over 150 staff members and offices in Washington, D.C., Florida, California, Toronto, London, Mexico, Beijing and Singapore.

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