



## **First Industrial Realty Trust Names Kristof De Witte Country Director for Belgium and Development Director for The Netherlands and Belgium**

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CHICAGO, March 10 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- First Industrial Realty Trust, Inc. (NYSE: FR), a leading provider of industrial real estate supply chain solutions, today announced that Kristof De Witte has been named country director for Belgium and development director for The Netherlands and Belgium. Mr. De Witte will lead First Industrial's new business development in Belgium by providing logistics solutions to customers through the acquisition, development, redevelopment, leasing and property management of industrial real estate. As development director, he will oversee build-to-suit and speculative industrial development as well as redevelopment opportunities in The Netherlands and Belgium. Mr. De Witte reports to Jan Scheers, managing director.

(Logo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20040106/FRLOGO>)

"Kristof has a thorough understanding of the complex factors that are shaping supply chains and logistics operations in Belgium and throughout the European Union," said Mr. Scheers. "By combining Kristof's deep local market knowledge with our large and competitive capital sources for investment, we will be able to provide sophisticated solutions to customers to address their changing real estate needs."

Mr. De Witte has more than 15 years of commercial real estate management experience. Most recently, he was a general manager with SEGRO Plc, where he was responsible for managing the firm's Belgian operations. Prior to that, he was a leasing and contract manager before being promoted to development manager. Mr. De Witte was also a senior negotiator with ONCOR Cavens & Co, a Belgian brokerage firm.

Mr. De Witte earned his bachelors degree from the University of Antwerp (UFSIA) and his masters in business economics from the University of Limburg (LUC). He also has received a degree in real estate management from the University of Antwerp (UAMS) and a degree in leadership from Ashridge Business School in the United Kingdom. Mr. De Witte is a member of the Royal Institute of Chartered Surveyors (RICS), the Real Estate Society, the Top 400, and Vlaams Instituut voor de Logistiek.

First Industrial Realty Trust, Inc. (NYSE: FR) provides industrial real estate solutions for every stage of a customer's supply chain, no matter how large or complex. Across more than 30 markets in the United States, Canada, The Netherlands and Belgium, our local market experts buy, (re)develop, lease, manage and sell industrial properties, including all of the major facility types - R&D/flex, light industrial, manufacturing, and regional and bulk distribution centers. We continue to receive leading customer service scores from Kingsley Associates, an independent research firm, and in total, we own, manage and have under development more than 100 million square feet of industrial space. For more information, please visit us at <http://www.firstindustrial.com>.

This press release contains forward-looking information about the Company. A number of factors could cause the Company's actual results to differ materially from those anticipated, including changes in: national, international, regional and local economic conditions generally and real estate markets specifically, legislation/regulation (including changes to laws governing the taxation of real estate investment trusts), availability of financing, interest rate levels, competition, supply and demand for industrial properties in the Company's current and proposed market areas, potential environmental liabilities, slippage in development or lease-up schedules, tenant credit risks, higher-than-expected costs, changes in general accounting principles, policies and guidelines applicable to real estate investment trusts, and risks related to doing business internationally (including foreign currency exchange risks). For further information on these and other factors that could impact the Company and the statements contained herein, reference should be made to the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

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