

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Roxanne Donovan – Roxanne@greatink.com
Eric Gerard – eric@greatink.com
Lindsay Church – Lindsay@greatink.com
Great Ink Communications – tel. 212-741-2977

Rechler Equity Partners Holds Annual Broker Awards Party to Recognize Top Dealmakers in 2013

(Plainview, NY – March 10, 2014) – Rechler Equity Partners, the largest owner and operator of commercial properties on Long Island, held its annual Broker Party at its Plainview, NY office on March 4, 2014 to celebrate the dealmakers involved in several of the top leases and acquisitions at Rechler properties throughout the region in 2013.

"Our annual Broker Party is a special event that gives us a chance to acknowledge the brokers and companies who have been tremendous contributors to the success of Rechler's properties during the year," said Mitchell Rechler, managing partner at Rechler Equity Partners. "We're proud of our strong relationship with the brokerage communities on Long Island, and look forward to the great collaborations to come in the New Year."

Broker of the Year

The Broker of the Year award was presented to Gus Nuzzolese of Colliers International for his work on the 49,000 square-foot Catholic Health Services office lease at Rechler's 110 Bi County Boulevard in Farmingdale, N.Y. The previous tenant, Bed Bath and Beyond, was relocating, and Nuzzolese connected Catholic Health Services with Rechler for a 12-year lease at the property. This challenging transaction was solidified by Mr. Nuzzolese's professional negotiations and the successful inducement of the tenant by the Town of Babylon/IDA that yielded a 12-year tax abatement for the new tenant starting at 100%. Catholic Health Services committed to a 12 year lease for approximately half of the Bed Bath and Beyond space, and replaced a 100% of employees lost by Bed Bath and Beyond's exit to New Jersey. For Rechler Equity, this deal prevented what would have been a large vacancy in the Fall of 2014.

Innovative Deal of the Year

The father and son team of David and Bob Godfrey from CB Richard Ellis were presented with the "Innovative Deal of the Year" award for handling the unique set of challenges presented during

negotiations for the 24,000 square-foot lease for global logistics leader DHL at Rechler's industrial property at 325 Rabro Drive in Hauppauge, NY. When negotiations began in September, this Class A industrial tenant needed to be in their new space before year end with a large and unique build out. In addition to having to obtain a building permit, a special use permit was also required in order for the tenant to park their fleet of trucks on-site overnight. The CBRE team successfully brought the Rechler and DHL teams together, and helped navigate challenging obstacles to meet the tenant's needs in this fast-tracked transaction.

Acquisition of the Year

Jack O'Connor and Chuck Tabone of Newmark Grubb Knight Frank were honored for their role in Rechler's acquisition of a 50-acre site in Long Island's East End at Gabreski Airport. Seven years ago this broker team approached Rechler Equity to meet with local civic groups who had been negotiating with Suffolk County in regards to density and lease structure for a proposed development on the East End. Approximately one year later an RFP was released for the purpose of developing 500,000 square feet in a planned development park. Today, the site has been re-zoned, has full sewer capacity and Rechler has broken ground for 220 Rogers Way, a 60,000 square-foot Class A distribution facility at the renamed Hampton Business District/Gabreski. The mixed-use park is unlike any other in the East End, and zoned for medical, office, R&D, manufacturing, and high-end distribution use.

Industrial Deal of the Year

Mr. Tabone was also recognized for "Industrial Deal of the Year," for his work on the renewal of a 10 year lease for Wenner Bread at Rechler's 2001 Orville Drive in Bohemia, N.Y. Tabone negotiated Wenner Bread's original 72,000 square-foot lease 10 years and played a critical role in the 10-year renewal arranged at the close of 2013 that prevented the bread and dough maker from relocating to New Jersey. The Suffolk County Economic Development Agency provided Wenner with a 10-year tax abatement, helping to solidify the transaction. "Year after year, Chuck Tabone manages to make important deals with us, and is a true ally of Rechler Equity," said Gregg Rechler, managing partner at Rechler Equity Partners.

Office Deal of the Year

The "Office Deal of the Year" award went to Concorde Real Estate's Mike Quadrino for his work with Zwanger Pesiri, a prominent radiology firm on Long Island, in negotiating a new, 15,000 square-foot, 15-year lease for their back-office billing operations at Rechler's 110 Bi County Boulevard in Farmingdale, N.Y. Mr. Quadrino was able to help Zwanger Pesiri, which traditionally builds out their own space, become comfortable with Rechler's ability to deliver a full turnkey solution for their space needs. In addition the broker worked with Rechler, the tenant and the IDA to negotiate significant tax breaks that were key to the transaction.

Brokerage Firm of the Year

In the evening's final award, CBRE was named Rechler's Brokerage Firm of the Year. "This firm has proven year after year to be a great asset to Rechler Equity Partners," said Mitchell Rechler. "In 2013, through their hard work, we were able to renew a 24,000 square-foot office tenant in Bohemia; signed a 24,000 square-foot industrial lease with a Class A tenant in Hauppauge; and renewed a 36,000 square-foot R&D tenant in Melville. Already this year, CBRE this is on track to out-do 2013's performance."

About Rechler Equity Partners

Rechler Equity Partners is the successor company to Reckson Associates, founded over 55 years ago by Donald and Roger Rechler. Today managed by Mitchell and Gregg Rechler, Rechler Equity Partners is the largest owner of commercial real estate on Long Island with a portfolio of assets totaling over seven million square feet. Rechler Equity offers a wide range of services including leasing, property management, asset management, architecture, construction, environmental, finance and development.