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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release

Pensions experience \$33 billion decline in funded status in February

Defined Benefit pensions lose \$54 billion in asset value following January's \$49 billion decline

Seattle – March 11, 2009 – Milliman, Inc., one of the premier global consulting and actuarial firms, today released the latest update to the Milliman 100 Pension Funding Index, which consists of 100 of the nation's largest defined benefit pension plans. In February, pensions lost another \$54 billion in assets. These losses were offset by liability decreases of roughly \$21 billion, resulting in a net loss of \$33 billion in funding status for the month. In the last year alone, the funding ratio for these pensions has fallen from 99.6% to 71.7%.

"January was a terrible month for asset values, and February was worse," said John Ehrhardt, co-author of the Milliman 100 Pension Funding Index. "We're not even through the first quarter yet and already funding status had declined from 77.2% to 71.7%, and that's with asset values being offset by changes in discount rates."

Funding status has fallen by \$337 billion in the last 12 months thanks in large part to a -26% asset return. As of the end of February, the total asset value for these pensions stood at \$869 billion.

To view the complete monthly update, go to www.milliman.com/expertise/employee-benefits/products-tools/pension-funding-study/index.php.

About Milliman

Milliman is among the world's largest independent actuarial and consulting firms. Founded in Seattle in 1947 as Milliman & Robertson, the company currently has 49 offices in key locations worldwide. Milliman employs more than 2000 people, with a professional staff of more than 1000 qualified consultants and actuaries, including specialists ranging from clinicians to economists. The firm has consulting practices in healthcare, employee benefits, property and casualty insurance, life insurance, and financial services. Milliman serves the full spectrum of business, financial, government, union, education, and nonprofit organizations. For further information, visit www.milliman.com.

About the Milliman 100 Pension Funding Index

For the past eight years, Milliman has conducted an annual study of the 100 largest defined benefit pension plans sponsored by U.S. public companies. The Milliman 100 Pension Funding Index projects the funded status for pension plans included in our study, reflecting the impact of market returns and interest-rate changes on pension funded status, utilizing the actual reported asset values, liabilities, and asset allocations of the companies' pension plans.

The results of the Milliman 100 Pension Funding Index were based on the actual pension plan accounting information disclosed in the footnotes to the companies' annual reports for the preceding fiscal year and for previous fiscal years. In addition to providing the financial information on the funded status of U.S.



qualified pension plans, the footnotes may also include figures for the companies' nonqualified and foreign plans, both of which are often unfunded or subject to funding standards different from those for U.S. qualified pension plans. They do not represent the funded status of the companies' U.S. qualified pension plans under ERISA.

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