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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release

Milliman analysis indicates fifth straight month of pension funding declines

Another month of positive asset movement and negative liability movement leads to more funding losses

Seattle – October 15, 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 September, pensions experienced asset increases of \$15 billion and liability increases of roughly \$17 billion, resulting in a \$2 billion decrease in funded status. Despite the net drop in funded status, the funded ratio actually increased to 75.3% based on \$1.022 trillion in assets and a projected benefit obligation of \$1.358 trillion.

"Pension funding status continues to limp along," said John Ehrhardt, co-author of the Milliman 100 Pension Funding Index. "Despite several months of positive asset movement, we continue to see all-time highs in liabilities. At the current discount rates, we'd need an asset return of over 35% during the fourth quarter in order to get back to 80% funded status."

Over the last 12 months, the cumulative asset return has been -1.92% and the funded status has fallen by \$329 billion. For these 12 months, the funded ratio of the Milliman 100 companies has fallen from 99.4% to 75.3%.

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 50 offices in key locations worldwide. Milliman employs more than 2100 people, with a professional staff of more than 1100 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 nine 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 monthly 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. The results do not represent the funded status of the companies' U.S. qualified pension plans under ERISA.

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