

Ritchie Bros., world's largest industrial auctioneer, breaks ground on new permanent St. Louis auction site

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Event photos available online now

ST. LOUIS, MO (August 25, 2009) – Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers (NYSE and TSX: RBA), the world's largest industrial auctioneer, broke ground on a new permanent St. Louis auction site in the Village of Caseyville, Illinois yesterday (August 24, 2009). Caseyville Mayor George Chance, village trustees and other local dignitaries joined Ritchie Bros. representatives for the official groundbreaking at the 68-acre site, which is situated alongside I-64. Ritchie Bros. expects to conduct four unreserved public equipment auctions each year at the site, which is scheduled to open in March 2010. Ritchie Bros. has 39 other auction sites worldwide.

"We're so happy that Ritchie Bros. chose Caseyville for their new location," said Mayor Chance. "They are a quality company with a good reputation. They will bring good jobs to Caseyville and fill up our hotels and restaurants. We're very glad to have them become part of our community."

The new St. Louis auction site is located alongside I-64, within sight of downtown St. Louis. The undeveloped site offers exceptional highway visibility, easy access to major transportation routes and nearby travelers' services.

"We're excited to be establishing a permanent presence in St. Louis," said Jesse Cantin, Ritchie Bros. Regional Manager. "We've been conducting auctions here since 1993, giving our local customers a fair and efficient means of buying and selling heavy equipment and trucks. Soon we'll be able to offer them the added convenience and certainty of regular auctions at a permanent auction site. Mayor Chance and the Village of Caseyville have welcomed us with open arms, and we look forward to welcoming bidders from around the world to Caseyville."

St. Louis auction site quick facts

- Size: 68 acres total (40 acres will be developed initially)
- Facilities: 13,500± square foot auction building featuring 500-seat auction theater
- Location: 2436 Old Country Inn Drive, Caseyville, IL 62332 (exit 9 on I-64)
- Scheduled opening: March 2010
- Site preparation to be completed by LW Construction

Established in 1958, Ritchie Bros. is the world's largest industrial auctioneer, selling in excess of US\$3.57 billion of equipment at 340 unreserved auctions around the world in 2008. Excluding the St. Louis auction site, the Company has 39 auction sites around the world, including a permanent auction site in Kansas City, MO. Ritchie Bros. has attracted more than 15,000 on-site and online bidders to its unreserved public auctions in the St. Louis area since 1993. Ritchie Bros. auctions typically attract broad audiences of national and international bidders.

Ritchie Bros. will conduct the next auction at its Kansas City auction site on September 3, followed by a one-day unreserved public auction at its interim site in St. Louis, MO on October 3. Find out more at www.rbauction.com.

About Ritchie Bros.

Established in 1958, Ritchie Bros. Auctioneers (NYSE and TSX: RBA) is the world's largest industrial auctioneer, selling more equipment to on-site and online bidders than any other company in the world. The Company has over 110 locations in more than 25 countries, including 38 auction sites worldwide. Ritchie Bros. sells, through unreserved public auctions, a broad range of used and unused industrial assets, including equipment, trucks and other assets utilized in the construction, transportation, agricultural, material handling, mining, forestry, petroleum and marine industries. The Company maintains a web site at www.rbauction.com and sponsors an equipment wiki at www.RitchieWiki.com.

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PHOTOS FOR MEDIA USE: High-resolution photos of the St. Louis auction site groundbreaking can be downloaded from www.rbauction.com/media.