



**pbb, UniCredit Bank Austria AG and Westdeutsche ImmobilienBank AG provide € 132 million facility to refinance the Karolinka and Pogoria shopping centers in Poland**

**Munich/Frankfurt/Warsaw/London, 4 February 2014** – pbb Deutsche Pfandbriefbank, UniCredit Bank Austria AG and Westdeutsche ImmobilienBank AG (maintaining its exposure to the financing) have jointly underwritten a € 132 million senior facility to refinance two shopping centres in Southern Poland. The portfolio is owned on behalf of BlackRock Europe Property Fund III. The transaction closed in January 2014.

pbb is acting as arranger, facility and security agent of this transaction, with the underwriting of the facility being jointly provided by pbb, UniCredit Bank Austria AG and Westdeutsche ImmobilienBank AG.

Karolinka Shopping Centre, in Opole, with a total lettable area of approx. 70,000 sqm is the dominant regional mall. Pogoria Shopping Center is a modern urban centre located in Dabrowa Gornicza and has a total lettable area of approx. 36,000 sqm. Both assets were built in 2007, acquired in 2009 and are well let to well known highstreet brands.

**Charles Balch**, Head of International Clients, UK & CEE at pbb Deutsche Pfandbriefbank speaking for the syndicate, said: "We are pleased to have worked with our partners UniCredit Bank Austria AG and Westdeutsche ImmobilienBank AG to support the financing of these quality assets. We are delighted to start 2014 showing the same high level of success as in previous years."

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**Notes to Editors:**

**BlackRock** is a leader in investment management, risk management and advisory services for institutional and retail clients worldwide. At December 31, 2013, BlackRock's AUM was \$4.324 trillion. BlackRock helps clients meet their goals and overcome challenges with a range of products that include separate accounts, mutual funds, *iShares*® (exchange-traded funds), and other pooled investment vehicles. BlackRock also offers risk management, advisory and enterprise investment system services to a broad base of institutional investors through *BlackRock Solutions*®. Headquartered in New York City, as of December 31, 2013, the firm had approximately 11,400 employees in more than 30 countries and a major presence in key global markets, including North and South America, Europe, Asia, Australia and the Middle East and Africa. For additional information, please visit the Company's website at [www.blackrock.com](http://www.blackrock.com).

**pbb Deutsche Pfandbriefbank** ([www.pfandbriefbank.com](http://www.pfandbriefbank.com)) is a specialist bank for commercial real estate finance and public investment finance. The regional focus is on Germany as well as Great Britain, France and Scandinavia plus other selected European countries. The bank plays an important role in supplying credit to the real estate industry and supports the public sector with financing for projects and measures designed to improve public infrastructure.

In real estate financing, pbb's range of services is targeted at professional national and international real estate investors such as real estate companies, institutional investors, real estate funds as well as SMEs and customers with a regional focus in Germany. The focus is on the less volatile real estate types, including offices, retail properties, apartments and logistics. pbb focuses on medium to large-scale financing arrangements, and offers its customers local expertise and international know-how.

**UniCredit Bank Austria** ([www.bankaustria.at](http://www.bankaustria.at)) has been a member of UniCredit, one of the largest European banking groups, since 2005. The bank maintains an extensive network in Austria, with about 7.300 employees serving customers in some 280 branches. Bank Austria serves as UniCredit's hub for the banking network in Central and Eastern Europe, a region where the Group is the clear market leader with almost 3,600 branches in 20 countries (as of 30 September 2013). The CEE Division operates through Bank Austria which acts as sub-holding company of the Group and is responsible for overseeing the Group's banking activities in the CEE region, excluding Poland which is under management of UniCredit.

**WestImmo** is a bank specialising in the financing of commercial real estate. In addition to the headquarters in Mainz, the company also has offices in Münster (Germany), London, Madrid, New York, Paris and Warsaw. WestImmo is a fully owned subsidiary of Erste Abwicklungsanstalt AöR (EAA), based in Düsseldorf.