

press release

REALTY  INCOME

The Monthly Dividend Company®



FOR
IMMEDIATE
RELEASE

REALTY INCOME INCREASES COMMON STOCK MONTHLY DIVIDEND 45th CONSECUTIVE QUARTERLY INCREASE

ESCONDIDO, CALIFORNIA, December 16, 2008....Realty Income Corporation (Realty Income), The Monthly Dividend Company®, (NYSE:O) today announced that its Board of Directors has declared an increase in the Company's common stock monthly dividend to \$0.14175 per share from \$0.141125 per share. The dividend is payable on January 15, 2009 to shareholders of record as of January 2, 2009. This is the fifth dividend increase in 2008 and the 52nd dividend increase since Realty Income went public in 1994. The new monthly dividend amount represents an annualized dividend amount of \$1.701 per share as compared to the previous annualized dividend amount of \$1.6935 per share. The Company continues its long-term policy of declaring and paying dividends on a monthly, rather than on a quarterly, basis.

Tom A. Lewis, Chief Executive Officer of Realty Income commented, "We are pleased that, despite challenging economic conditions, our operations allow us to once again increase the amount of the dividend we pay to our shareholders. With the payment of the January dividend we will have made 462 consecutive monthly dividend payments."

Realty Income, The Monthly Dividend Company®, is a New York Stock Exchange real estate company dedicated to providing shareholders with dependable monthly income. To date the Company has declared 462 consecutive common stock monthly dividends throughout its 39-year operating history and increased the dividend 52 times since Realty Income's listing on the New York Stock Exchange in 1994. The monthly dividend is supported by the cash flow from over 2,350 retail properties owned under long-term lease agreements with leading regional and national retail chains. The Company is an active buyer of net-leased retail properties nationwide.

Forward-Looking Statements

Statements in this press release, which are not strictly historical, are "forward-looking" statements. Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, which may cause the Company's actual future results to differ materially from expected results. These risks include, among others, general economic conditions, local real estate conditions, the availability of capital to finance planned growth, property acquisitions and the timing of these acquisitions, charges for property impairments, the outcome of any legal proceedings to which the Company is a party, and the profitability of the Company's subsidiary, Crest Net Lease, as described in the Company's filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Consequently, such forward-looking statements should be regarded solely as reflections of the Company's current operating plans and estimates. Actual operating results may differ materially from what is expressed or forecast in this press release. The Company undertakes no obligation to publicly release the results of any revisions to these forward-looking statements that may be made to reflect events or circumstances after the date these statements were made.

Note to Editors:

Realty Income press releases are available at no charge by calling our toll-free investor hotline number: 888-811-2001, or through the Internet at <http://www.realtyincome.com/Investing/News.html>.