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DBRS Assigns Ratings to Highline Funding LLC

Industry: Sec.--Equipment

DBRS has today rated the \$125,000,000 Maximum Facility Amount issued by Highline Funding LLC (Highline) at BBB (high). The transaction closed in February 2006 and is currently funded on WestLB's balance sheet. Credit enhancement is 11.0% and is comprised of overcollateralization and a reserve account. The DBRS ratings incorporate the following factors:

STRENGTHS

- (1) Net loss levels have been conservatively sized.
- (2) Credit enhancement can support net losses under various scenarios with multiples that are well within the BBB (high) range.
- (3) The funding is actively managed by WestLB (rated A (high)/R-1 (middle) by DBRS).
- (4) WestLB is the swap provider in the transaction.
- (5) The facility does not fund residuals. This is a small part of the company's business to date, but even if it were to start originating true leases, the facility would not give any credit to the residual.
- (6) Facility concentration limits ensure diversification is maintained. There are concentration levels that address single obligor levels, the top obligors, equipment types, vendor concentrations levels and business-line levels.
- (7) Wells Fargo is the backup servicer for this facility. Wells Fargo is an experienced servicer in the equipment sector.
- (8) Performance triggers are included in the facility. These triggers are designed to stop funding and increase the reserve account. If these triggers fail, the facility will enter an event of default.

CONCERNS/MITIGANTS

- (1) Highline Capital Corp. is a private entity. Highline and a subsidiary, Highline Transportation Corp., originate leases that are eligible for the facility. The company has been in the



equipment-leasing business for nearly 30 years.

(2) The obligors in the secured facility are the businesses and or the owners of the small-businesses. These obligors are always subject to macroeconomic trends. Highline's credit process is designed to credit score each applicant, and for larger ticket sizes, it will also apply additional underwriting criteria.

Note:

All figures are in U.S. dollars unless otherwise noted.

Issuer	Debt Rated	Rating Action	Rating	Trend	Latest Event
Highline Funding LLC	Maximum Facility Amount	New Rating	BBB (high)	--	Dec 14, 2007

Chris O'Connell
Senior Vice President - U.S. Structured Finance RMBS/ABS
+1 212 806 3253
coconnell@dbrs.com