

REIT-Update: USA

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Provided by:
National Association of
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U.S. REIT Returns Post Solid Start To 2008 Through September

Relatively speaking, REITs were riding high as September drew to a close. The FTSE NAREIT Equity REIT Index was up 1.76 percent in the first three quarters of 2008 and the FTSE NAREIT All REITs Index was down 1.25 percent for the year. That was compared to 10 to 20 percent drops in other market benchmarks.

In early October, however, the broad-based, successive declines in the U.S. equity markets pushed REIT returns down into negative territory for the year. The FTSE NAREIT Equity REIT Index, the primary index for U.S. equity REITs, was down 21 percent for the year, through Oct. 8. The FTSE NAREIT All REITs Index, the most comprehensive U.S. REIT index which includes equity, mortgage and hybrid REITs, was down nearly 23 percent for the year. While the declines in the REIT indexes were severe, REITs fared better than the other major market benchmarks. The Standard & Poors 500, the proxy for the broader U.S. equity market, was down more than 31 percent. The blue chip Dow Jones Industrials index was down nearly 29 percent, and the technology-heavy NASDAQ Composite index was down nearly 34 percent for the year. In addition, many analysts feel REITs are better positioned to see a bounceback than other segments of the market.

For more information on the performance of the U.S. REIT market and its prospects going forward, Click Here:

<http://prwebpodcast.com/releases/pod1417934.htm>.

REITs within NYC Office Market Prepared to Weather the Storm

The turmoil in the financial markets has resulted in the failures or mergers of a number of financial firms that held large amounts of office space in New York City. Yet, analysts say the REITs that, in many cases, were the landlords of these financial firms are equipped to weather the storm. To read more about the outlook for major Manhattan office REITs, Click Here: <http://www.reit.com/Portals/0/WebExclusives1007.pdf>.

U.S. REIT Analyst Provides Forecast For Remainder of 2008

Nem Marjanovic, an analyst with Cornerstone Real Estate Advisers LLC, forecasts opportunities mixed with ongoing challenges for REIT investors in his outlook for the last three months of 2008 following an eventful September in the financial world. Click Here to read more, http://www.reit.com/Portals/0/WebExclusives_1006_Nem.pdf.

REIT Leaders, Investors To Gather At NAREIT's Annual Convention

The senior management teams of REITs and investment firms from around the globe will gather in San Diego, California November 19-21 for NAREIT's Annual Convention. The NAREIT Annual Convention is one of the real estate investment world's most important conferences. This year's event will be especially significant, with industry leaders, analysts and economists providing perspective on the turmoil in the global financial markets and the challenges and opportunities for REITs and investors in the coming year. Click Here <http://www.nareit.com/meetings/conf2008/index.cfm> for more information and to register for the event..

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