

## PRESS RELEASE

### Pogoda Companies Celebrates 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Farmington Hills, Michigan  
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Over the course of thirty years, Pogoda Companies has evolved from a one-man brokerage firm to being one of the top self-storage companies in the nation. Maurice Pogoda, founder, President and CEO, reminisces, "I started this business with my wife Lori in 1987. We shared a tiny office. Now Pogoda Companies has over 90 employees running 35 properties across the states of Michigan and Ohio." In his distinguished career, Pogoda has survived numerous market dips and recoveries to persevere and thrive in the self-storage industry. On the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Pogoda Companies, Pogoda says, "When I started, no one knew what self-storage was. Today, it is on every real estate investor's wish list."

From its modest beginnings to now, Pogoda Companies has continued to carve out its leadership role in the self-storage industry. As its knowledge and expertise grew, the services offered expanded to include management, development and investment services. "As the industry changed, so did we. It was a natural progression to add third-party management, and get involved as equity owners and developers." Pogoda Companies has brokered about 150 properties with a market value well in excess of \$500 million, managed and/or owned over 75 facilities with more than 4.5 million rentable square feet, and has built or renovated 22 storage properties. "I have had the good fortune of leading a talented and dedicated group of real estate professionals. Without their diverse backgrounds and skillsets, we would not have had the steady growth that has been our hallmark both in good times and bad."

Pogoda's Michigan-based business has garnered local and national attention, and has been on the receiving end of industry recognition and accolades. Maurice has been a featured speaker at many industry events, has had articles, interviews and quotes published in every storage trade publication, and has seen his company consistently rank among the top 35 self-storage companies in the U.S. Considered to be an industry pioneer, Maurice has left his stamp on the self-storage industry. He was instrumental in founding the Self Storage Association of Michigan and served as its vice president for its initial seven years. He presented key testimony in legislative hearings that led to significant changes to the Michigan self-storage lien act. He currently serves on the Self Storage Association Foundation Board of Governors. Maurice has also been on many other charitable boards. He and his wife, Lori, support numerous local and national charities through their personal foundation, the Lori and Maurice Pogoda Philanthropic Fund. Looking back at thirty years of work, Maurice Pogoda says, "I like to think that my contributions have had some small hand in helping the industry grow to where it is today."

### About Pogoda Companies

*Pogoda Companies ([www.pogodaco.com](http://www.pogodaco.com)) is one of Michigan's largest self-storage operators and brokers and one of the 35 largest in the U.S., with approximately 2.5 million square feet of self-storage space in Michigan and Ohio. The firm provides brokerage, management and, investment services to the self-storage industry through its Pogoda Group, Inc. and Pogoda Management Co. divisions based in Farmington Hills, Mich.*