Contact Person: Rosalyn Booth Company Name: Northern Trust

Address: Lynton House, Ackhurst Park, Foxhole Road, Chorley, PR7 1NY Telephone No: 01257 238555

Fax No: 01257 238556

Email Address: rbooth@lyntonhouse.com Web site Address: www.northerntrust.co.uk

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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

## NORTHERN TRUST CELEBRATES DEVELOPMENT START WITH SOD CUTTING CEREMONY!

Northern Trust has celebrated the start of work on the first phase of their new site at Grangemouth with an official sod cutting ceremony. The event marked an important milestone in the history of Northern Trust, as the Grangemouth development is the company's first industrial/office new build development in Scotland. The acquisition from KemFine UK Ltd comprises c 4.5 acres of their prestigious 30 acre business park.

Tom Parkinson, Director at Northern Trust commented "The acquisition is the first part of an on-going strategy to acquire/develop assets that will form the basis of a long-term portfolio holding in Scotland, to compliment our existing portfolio in Northern England and the Midlands. We are particularly interested in locations within central Scotland, close to major conurbations and the motorway networks. Our aim is to provide a high quality office and industrial product for small and medium sizes companies on flexible terms."

The sod cutting ceremony held on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> November was attended by Councillors Linda Gow, Leader of the Council and Craig Martin, Convenor of the Economic Development Committee; as well as Douglas Edwards, Site Development Manager and John Walker, Estates Manager from KemFine UK Ltd, and Directors of Northern Trust.

Cllr Linda Gow, Leader of Falkirk Council said "We are very pleased to see this new investment by Northern Trust in providing new offices and workshop units at Earls Gate Park. At a time of major economic pressure and uncertainty in the property markets, it is a very positive sign to see a company that is willing to invest in the Falkirk area.

Northern Trust's arrival reflects sustained interest in the Falkirk economy and recognises the advantages it offers in its location, access to markets and the diversity of its company base. We have been working closely with Kemfine, Scottish Enterprise and other partners, to ensure that Falkirk offers an excellent range of business accommodation. With this venture at Earls Gate Park underway, and with further schemes at the former

Alcan site nearing completion, we can show that the interest in locating in Falkirk is there and can be brought to fruition."

Douglas Edwards, KemFine's Site Development Manager added "We are delighted to welcome Northern Trust to Earls Gate Park. Their superb development in a high profile frontage location is complementary to existing & planned businesses and will enhance the overall development of Earls Gate Park."

Peter I'Anson and Neil McAllister, of Ryden, Edinburgh and Peter Frazer of DTZ, Edinburgh are joint agents on the scheme acting on behalf of Northern Trust. The new development will see the creation of a range of pavilion style offices ranging from 863 to 5,091 sq ft which will be known as Earls Court; and new high quality workshop units in sizes from 1,087 to 2,217 sq ft will be named Grange Court.

Earls Court and Grange Court are located on the established employment site at Grangemouth, Falkirk. Fronting onto Earls Road the development provides good transport links to the region with junction 6 of the M9 less than a mile away.

Northern Trust, established in 1962 is now one of the UK's largest and most successful privately owned property investment, development and land regeneration companies, with an existing property portfolio in excess of 8 million sq ft of industrial/trade and office parks and more than 2,000 acres of land under ownership, throughout the Midlands and North of England. More than 1.5 million sq ft has now been developed in house in over 35 locations since 2000. Northern Trust continues to expand through all three areas of its property business and new investment/development opportunities are actively sought throughout Scotland, North England and the Midlands.

For further information on the development please contact the Joint Agents Ryden (0131 225 6612) and DTZ (0131 222 4500).

- End -

*Notes to Editors:* Press Enquiries to Rosalyn Booth/Jonathan Livesey, Northern Trust, 01257 238555.

Earls Gate Park is a joint-venture development between international chemical manufacturing company, Kemfine UK and Scottish Enterprise Forth Valley. It is Scotland's most advanced and integrated industrial/business park for chemical technology and manufacturing companies.

For further information on Northern Trust please visit our website at www.northerntrust.co.uk