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## Former Big Lots warehouse sells to Chicago investors

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**Prologis** Inc. has trimmed its holdings by selling a former Big Lots warehouse at 5303 Fisher Road.

Chicago-based 5303 Fisher LLC paid \$8.5 million for the vacant, 465,000-square-foot warehouse Big Lots had leased until a little more than a year ago.

Agent <u>Dan Wendorf</u> of the JLL (NYSE:JLL) brokerage represented the buyer while colleague <u>Steve Kuhr</u> represented San Francisco-based Prologis (NYSE:PLD).

Wendorf told me JLL will manage the property for the new owners and has the lease listing at \$2.35 per square foot before property taxes, utilities and other operational expenses. He expects it to gain attention in a market with low vacancy levels and strong demand for warehouse properties.

"This warehouse represents a unique opportunity in the bulk warehouse market to go after a variety of size tenants that are looking for space," he told me.

Prologis market executive <u>Brian Marsh</u> confirmed Big Lots (NYSE:BIG) had leased the property for several years before vacating more than a year ago. Since then, he told me, "seasonal deals have been in there for a quite awhile." He declined to comment on Prologis' reason for selling.

The REIT in June <u>sold a distribution center portfolio</u> with a combined 1.1 million square feet among seven buildings in Columbus to Dallas-based TPG Capital for \$34 million. But it remains active on the development side, with a <u>410,152-square-foot spec industrial project</u> nearing completion within its Prologis Park 70 Etna development in Licking County.

Brian R. Ball covers commercial real estate and development for Columbus Business First.