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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**ETKIN SELECTED AS DEVELOPMENT MANAGER FOR  
A123 SYSTEMS' NEW NOVI, MI HEADQUARTERS**

**SOUTHFIELD, MI (APRIL 11, 2017)** – A123 Systems LLC, a global developer and manufacturer of advanced lithium-ion batteries and systems, has partnered with Etkin by singling out its team to act as the development manager for its new \$40 million headquarters facility in Novi, MI.

Located off I-96 near the Fountain Walk complex, the 32-acre site was assembled by Etkin for the 150,000-square-foot facility, which will include corporate offices, an advanced engineering center, laboratory space and a manufacturing plant. The new headquarters is expected to significantly increase engineering jobs in the area and house 400 employees upon its completion in 2018. The state-of-the-art engineering center will continue to lead the development of new low-voltage products for growing global markets.

“The new Novi headquarters will meet our future needs by becoming the epicenter of engineering for our industry. It will allow us to expand our engineering workforce and bring testing inside, that has previously been done outside the company,” A123 CEO Jason Forcier said. “In addition to our corporate staff and engineering group, we will maintain manufacturing capability for systems assembly to meet the demands of the U.S. marketplace as it continues to evolve.”

The company expects that the net impact on the Michigan and U.S. economy through its payroll will surpass its current level by \$10 million annually by the end of 2019. The primary driver of this net payroll growth will be the company’s expanding engineering staff and testing capabilities at the new Novi site.

The A123 Systems project requires close collaboration with Etkin, beginning with the complex assembly of the 32-acre site. Etkin will also oversee all entitlements, development and construction through completion. Etkin Vice President, Josh Suardini, shared his enthusiasm, “Etkin looks forward to our partnership as we develop a premier facility to best support A123 Systems’ long-term goals and global growth.”

Etkin has previously assisted a wide range of corporations with their development management and build-to-suit needs, including General Motors, Volkswagen of America, TCF Bank, PricewaterhouseCoopers, BorgWarner, Compuware, DaimlerChrysler, Merrill Lynch and other leading companies.

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## **ABOUT ETKIN**

Etkin has played a prominent role in southeast Michigan real estate development and acquisition for over 30 years. The privately owned company was formed in 1982 and is led by principal, Douglas Etkin, and president, Curtis Burstein. Etkin has been involved in over 9.5 million square feet of office, industrial, retail, hotel and mixed-use developments. The company also offers fee-based management and development services to a select number of third-party clients, financial institutions, hospital organizations and physician groups. For additional information, [www.etkinllc.com](http://www.etkinllc.com).