RETAIL READY

The recent \$157M expansion of GPT's Wollongong Central includes an extensive range of leading retail brands, an array of wonderful eateries and a new CBD Fresh Food precinct.

MAIN CONSTRUCTION COMPANY : Hansen Yuncken CONSTRUCTION VALUE : \$157 million COMPLETION DATE : October 2014

The new Wollongong Central retail destination was opened on 9 October 2014. The grand opening ceremony included a street party for the community and the project team. The \$157 million project employed an average of 300 workers per day, and 800 at its peak.

Hansen Yuncken's extended team of consultants and sub-contractors delivered our client, The GPT Group and the Wollongong community and retailers a new community facility of the highest quality in design and workmanship. The retail destination has enhanced and transformed Wollongong's urban environment by introducing a new layer to the city streets through the unique façade design.

The new retail destination is certainly not a typical retail environment. The complexity of the design and use of interesting materials does not stop at the façade and the interior features go even further to play on form, texture and light.

The five storey atrium running down the main mall, is flanked either side by a radiating

timber screen, topped by an enormous skylight allowing natural light to filter down to the lower ground mall below street level.

The food court is highlighted by a facetted plywood ceiling made of rotating modules containing lighting and services built in for optimal layouts. The food court is further enhanced by dynamic joinery elements both complementing the façade features and providing more than 600 seats.

The food court also features large operable walls that open up the façade, drawing

the connection with the pedestrian street below and providing the upper level with natural ventilation.

The new building is connected to the existing Wollongong Central building by a pedestrian footbridge from the food court area crossing Keira Street and a pedestrian underpass from the lower ground fresh food precinct.

The challenges overcome by the team, in creating and delivering these connections, is a tribute to all those involved.

The features of the design are supported by, and seamlessly coordinated with the services for the building. The retail destination is a fully integrated BIM project that has produced a great result for both the design, construction and handover of LOD300-500 and will assist The GPT Group with future building maintenance.

Wollongong Central was also designed to a 4star Green Star rating, and the as-built documentation is now being processed for the as-built Green Star submission.



The completed building is a true reflection of the Hansen Yuncken team's dedication, skill and ability to deliver on complex designs with a level of quality exceeding expectations.

For more information contact Hansen Yuncken Pty Ltd, L6, 15 Bourke Road, Mascot NSW 2020, phone 02 9770 7600, fax 02 9770 7601, website www.hansenyuncken.com.au