

## **PRESS RELEASE**

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### **Shopping Pajot in Sint-Pieters-Leeuw: first retail park in Belgium with Breeam 'Post Construction' certificate**

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Redevco, one of the biggest investors in European retail real estate, has obtained a 'BREEAM International Post Construction' certificate with a score of 'GOOD' for its 'Shopping Pajot' retail park on Bergensesteenweg in Sint-Pieters-Leeuw (near Brussels). The site was fully redeveloped in 2012 and 2013 for a total of 20,000 m<sup>2</sup> of retail space. The certificate proves that the construction works were carried out as sustainable as possible. The company has managed to BREEAM certify approximately 67% of the investment value of its portfolio and is on course for a targeted 100% certification by the end of 2016.

BREEAM is the standard for best practice in sustainable building design, construction and operation in Europe. BRE, the organisation behind BREEAM, has developed a sustainability manual for every type of building. Shopping Pajot was assessed according to the manual 'BREEAM 2009 Europe Commercial – Retail'. This is the first time that a commercial complex in Belgium has been awarded a BREEAM International Post Construction certificate for its sustainable renovation. Last year, Shopping Pajot received a Sustainability Award from the BLSC (Belgian Luxembourg Council of Shopping Centers).

'We are proud to be the first company in Belgium to be awarded this certificate,' says **Eric Van Dyck, Managing Director Redevco Belgium**. 'Hopefully this will set an example for the real estate world and the construction sector. The project already had a 'Good' score for its design, we have been able to maintain this score upon completion. It's one thing to design a sustainable renovation project on paper, but it's another thing to actually put it into practice. This isn't always easy, because you need the cooperation of a lot of stakeholders including tenants and contractors.'

#### **High standard of sustainability**

Architecture firm Architeam bvba made the design and construction company Verelst Industriebouw nv carried out the work, both in accordance with the BREEAM sustainability standards. Assessor Bopro evaluated the project according to the themes in the BREEAM manual: management, waste, transport, materials, energy, ecology, pollution, etc.

Some actual examples: the concrete from the demolition work was recycled for paving. The water and energy consumption during the works was monitored continuously. The building site waste was meticulously separated via a mini-container park and disposed of selectively. Better insulation was used than the minimum legal standard. LED lights were used in the parking area and for the shops' advertising. A landscape architect chose regional plants for the parking area.

When the building works were completed, the tenants also received a manual with no-commitment recommendations to furnish and manage their retail space in a sustainable way. Some of the shops were fitted with a heat pump to meet their cooling and heating demands. All shops collect their waste separately. Furthermore, the retail park accommodates charging points for electric vehicles, covered bike storage areas with a charging point for electric bikes.

**End**

#### **ABOUT REDEVCO:**

Redevco is an independent, pan-European real estate investment management company specialised in retail property. The 450 real estate objects that the company manages are to be found in the strongest retail concentrations in the United Kingdom, France, Belgium, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Germany, Spain, Portugal, Switzerland and Austria. Redevco has partnerships with more than 1,000 retailers.

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