



THEBUCHANGROUP

CREATIVITY AND VISION



The Buchan Group has been working internationally for about 30 years and next year will celebrate the 120th anniversary of the opening of the original practice. Today the Group is recognised as the architect of many hundreds of successful shopping centres, mixed use developments, hotels, residential and resort projects.

The Buchan Group provided Executive Architectural Services for Westfield on the Westfield London project which opened in 2008, and is taking a similar role on Westfield's Stratford City development. The Group is now seeking to broaden its UK practice and is also developing its client base in the Middle East and India.

"We believe that shopping centres and mixed use developments are more likely to weather tough times than other forms of property investment," said Craig McLeod, London-based Director of The Buchan Group.

"As people become more cautious in their spending on big ticket items, they continue to treat themselves to a trip to a mall, a movie or a meal in a restaurant, to reward themselves for economising. The destination that they choose will be the one that offers the best experience – in accessibility, the mix of activities, its retail offer and the overall 'feel' or ambience of the centre."

Mr McLeod said that although the Group's track record extends across almost every project type, retail perhaps presented the greatest challenges and opportunities.

"No other area of the property industry changes as constantly or as rapidly as retail," Mr McLeod said. "The challenge is to anticipate and stay ahead of the changes, and to create the fresh experiences, greater convenience and the real choice that customers seek."

Mr McLeod said that in recent years, major shopping centres across the world had achieved broader appeal with the creation of new precincts and new uses, incorporating activated external retail frontages that recreate the traditional High Street shopping strip.

"Urban Centres provide an opportunity to create new and sophisticated retail experiences, while also stimulating well-planned, viable Town Centre regeneration," Mr McLeod said.

"Retail-led regeneration projects can bring about the rebirth of city, town and/or precinct. With ever-increasing competition from out-of-town centres, planners, developers and architects must utilize good urban and retail design to create an environment for regeneration."

Contact Craig McLeod at The Buchan Group.

Tel: 44 (0) 20 7440 7900

tbgldon@buchan.com.au



1. WESTFIELD LONDON, LONDON, UK

The opening of the £1.7 billion Westfield London in 2008 marked the completion of The Buchan Group's first major project in the UK.

2. LALAPORT SHOPPING CENTRE, YOKOHAMA, JAPAN

The Buchan Group's design for the 120,000m² LaLaport Shopping Centre derives from the Japanese philosophy of "LOHAS", meaning a life of health and sustainability.

3. CHADSTONE SHOPPING CENTRE, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

Chadstone is Australia's top trading shopping centre. The new West Mall is due for completion in November 2009 and comprises 25,000m² of retail and 1,700m² of commercial space, with Chanel, Tiffany, Louis Vuitton and Prada.

4. THE PLAZA, BROADMEADOWS TOWN CENTRE, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

Public space is a feature of this award-winning urban entertainment precinct.

5. POINT COOK TOWN CENTRE, VICTORIA, AUSTRALIA

A Main Street concept designed by The Buchan Group to create a sense of community via its planning, scale, materials and diversity of uses.

THE **BUCHAN** GROUP

www.buchan.com.au