

PRESS RELEASE

Inno Antwerp Meir restored to its old glory

Antwerp Meir, 5 December 2014: On Thursday 11 December Redevco, one of the largest investors in European retail property, celebrates the completed restoration of the Antwerp Inno building. The monumental department store was built in 1901 and has now been restored to its former glory. On Thursday evening a continuous lightshow will put the spotlight on the building's façade.

The Inno building underwent thorough reconstruction for 18 months. During this period, the store remained accessible to the shopping public. The restoration works to the façade, the roof and the domes were finalised this month. The canopy, installed in 1957, was removed to bring the building back to its original state. At the central entrance along the Meir, the impressive red granite pillars were reinstalled. New glazing was fitted to the three domes on the roof and several sculptures were restored and regilded with gold leaf.

Eric Van Dyck, Managing Director of Redevco Belgium, explains: "This project is a perfect fit for Redevco's sustainability policy. Preparing a more than 100 years old building for the next 100 years is one of the purest forms of sustainability. We are proud that we were able to do this and that we managed to maintain the monumental architecture of this department store."

The Inno building consists of two units. The corner building at Meir 84, designed by the architect W. Van Oenen, dates back to 1903 and was known back then as the Moyson electrics shop. It was built in the characteristic neo-Flemish renaissance style and has a conspicuous 'Elektra' statue on the roof. The building at Meir 82 was designed in 1901 by the architect Josef Hertogs and displays an eclectic, baroque-inspired style. At the start of the previous century this building was known as the Tietz warehouses. Both buildings form part of Flanders' architectural heritage.

The following parties collaborated in the project: architects Arch & Teco cvba who came up with the restoration concept; Technum Tractebel and Tom Hernalsteen bvba as the contractor for the stability works; AVG Consulting as the safety coordinator; Frans Goedleven (Monument group) who carried out the restoration works; P.I.T. Antwerp who restored the exterior woodwork; and the company EMS who placed the illumination of the façade.

The restoration involved the hard work of about 120 workers and a total investment of 4.2 million euros made jointly by Redevco and tenant, Inno. Part of the project was subsidised by the Flemish Government (Immovable Heritage), Antwerp Province and the City of Antwerp.

For the celebration of the completion of this considerable restoration, a lightshow on the façade will run continuously on Thursday 11 December from 8 p.m. to 10 p.m.



Before the restoration (2008)



After the restoration (December 2014)

ABOUT REDEVCO:

Redevco is an independent European investment manager specialized in retail property. Its portfolio contains 450 objects situated mainly in the major retail districts of large European cities. We are currently the real estate partner for more than 1,000 retailers.

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