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## **Heron celebrates final phase opening of Heron Parc, Lille**

Heron International, a leading pan European property group, is pleased to announce that Heron Parc, its outdoor leisure, retail and office development at Villeneuve d'Ascq in Lille, France, has now been formally opened at a ceremony attended by leading dignitaries and the screening of the premières of 12 new movies attended by over 1,500 guests.

The €100 million, 42,500m<sup>2</sup> development comprises:

- 17,700m<sup>2</sup> of fully let retail space;
- a 6,350m<sup>2</sup> food court;
- four office levels with a total area of around 9,800m<sup>2</sup>;
- 8,650m<sup>2</sup> cinema; and
- 1,000 free car parking spaces.

Marc Godefroy, Mayor of Lezennes, and Gérard Caudron, Mayor of Villeneuve d'Ascq were present at the opening ceremony which took place at the development's 2,800-seat, 12-screen UGC cinema.

The first five units – Del Arte, Cultura, Go Sport, Darty and Milonga – opened their doors in the first phase of the opening in March 2009, and have since been followed by Le Patacrêpe, Au Bureau, El Rancho, Laser Game, Zodio, Subway, Tartine et Cie, Vivre et Savourer, Viagio, Courtepaille, Sushi Kyo, La Grande Récré, Hippopotamus, Salade et Cie and Asian.

Heron Parc benefits from being in close proximity to V2, the largest shopping mall in Northern France, and opposite the planned Stadium Lille Metropole, home to one of France's foremost football teams. The city of Lille, a former European Capital of Culture, is accessible from London by Eurostar in one hour and twenty minutes.

**Commenting on the final phase opening, Peter Ferrari, Joint Managing Director of Heron International, said:**

*"We're delighted that Heron Parc is now fully open and that all the retail and leisure space has been fully let. I would like to thank everyone who has helped on this project. The impressive list of quality tenants taking space at Heron Parc shows that demand always exists for first-rate developments in prime locations."*

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### **About Heron International:**

- Heron International is a leading pan European investment and property group with operations in the United Kingdom and continental Europe. Headquartered in London, it is one of Europe's main property developers and investors.

- Heron specialises in major, complex projects in prime locations including Heron Plaza in the heart of the City of London. Heron Tower, which forms the centre piece of this development, is designed by renowned architects Kohn, Pederson Fox, and will provide world class office space, setting the standards for offices of the future. At 202 metres (663ft) in height, the 46 story tower will be one of the tallest buildings in the City of London providing unrivalled views and enhancing the London City skyline.
- Since it was founded in 1965 Heron International has also developed 156 buildings in the key business districts of nine leading cities and has developed, invested in and managed a wide range of prime offices, residential, leisure, hotels and mixed-use projects in the UK and Europe.
- It has developed more than 1 million sq m of commercial and retail property and more than 15,000 residential units in the UK, continental Europe and the USA. It currently has a £500 million investment portfolio and its current development programme is valued at £1.5 billion.
- Further information on Heron International is available at [www.heroninternational.co.uk](http://www.heroninternational.co.uk)