



P R E S S R E L E A S E

Belgrade: Usce Shopping Center opened - ECE manages gallery

Joint venture of MPC Properties and Merrill Lynch invests 150 million Euro – Center hosts 150 shops on 50,000 sqm

Belgrade/Hamburg, 31 March 2009 – MPC Properties d.o.o, a joint venture of MPC Holding d.o.o and Merrill Lynch Global Real Estate Principal Investments, opened Usce Shopping Center in Belgrade, Serbia, on 31 March. The center is the largest shopping gallery in the region of Belgrade, with a total built area of approx. 130,000 square meters and a leasable area of approx. 50,000 square meters. ECE Projektmanagement, the European market leader for shopping centers, is managing Usce Shopping Center, thereby making its debut in the Serbian market. The investment volume amounts up to 150 million Euro.

The shopping gallery accommodates approx. 150 shops, restaurants and leisure outlets and provides over 1,300 parking spaces. Major international tenants such as Zara, New Yorker and Marks & Spencer opened their stores in the center. In addition many other well known international brands have opened their shops, including Springfield, Woman' Secret, Mango, Cortefiel, Massimo Dutti, Benetton, Gant, Nara Camicie, and Time Out. Visitors will also have access to an Idea supermarket (4,000 sqm), 8 restaurants and 6 bars, as well as a new multiplex cinema with 11 screens.

MPC PROPERTIES

The company is focused on property development and has become one of the most successful companies in the field of investment and real estate in South Eastern Europe. MPC Properties develops commercial, residential, retail and logistics projects which satisfy international standards, esthetical and functional requirements

as well as clients' demands. The value of real estate investment generated by MPC Properties up to 2009 amounts to more than 550 million Euro.

Merrill Lynch

Merrill Lynch is one of the world's leading wealth management, capital markets and advisory companies, with offices in 40 countries and territories and total client assets of approximately \$1.2 trillion at December 26, 2008. As an investment bank, it is a leading global trader and underwriter of securities and derivatives across a broad range of asset classes and serves as a strategic advisor to corporations, governments, institutions and individuals worldwide. Merrill Lynch has approximately 50 percent ownership in BlackRock Inc., one of the world's largest publicly traded investment management companies, with approximately \$1.3 trillion in assets under management at December 31, 2008. Merrill Lynch was acquired by Bank of America on January 1, 2009.

ECE

ECE has been developing, planning, constructing and managing large-scale shopping centers since 1965 and is, with its 112 shopping centers, top in management on the European market. ECE's shopping centers are located in Germany, the Czech Republic, Poland, Hungary, Austria, Turkey, Greece and Qatar. With 11,700 shops on a retail area of 3.4 million sqm they reach an annual turnover of 13.1 billion Euro. A further 22 shopping centers all over Europe are in the construction or planning phase.