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Rouse Hill Town centre one of the world's best...

Wednesday 20 October 2010

So read the banner in the Sydney Morning Herald, October 19 2010, heading the story of Rouse Hill Town Centre being named one of the five best new developments in the world. This followed its selection as one of the best five in the Asia Pacific Region (see AJ+C press release of 6 July 2010).

The top accolade was announced at the Urban Land Institute's (ULI) award ceremony held on 15 October 2010 in Washington D.C.. The ULI Global Awards for Excellence recognize projects that provide the best cross-regional lessons in land use practice. Up to five global winners are named each year by a prestigious jury of international members.

The 2010 winners were selected from 19 worldwide finalists, all of whom were winners in their region: The Americas, EMEA and Asia Pacific. The awards jury evaluated these projects with additional criteria, including: innovative concepts that can be emulated around the world; strong urban design; response to the surrounding environment; and design that contributes to a livable, sustainable development that demonstrates relevance to the needs of the community.

Rouse Hill Town Centre joined four other developments; LA LIVE, Los Angeles; Miasteczko Wilanów, Warsaw, Poland; The Southern Ridges, Singapore; and Thin Flats, Philadelphia to win the 2010 ULI Global Awards for Excellence.

The ULI describes Rouse Hill Town Centre as an ecologically-conscious regional shopping centre incorporating sustainable design, great architecture, retail, and active public spaces to deliver an authentic Australian town center.

Awards chairman Joseph E. Brown, group chief executive of AECOM in San Francisco, says each winner raises the design standard for their own region of the world.

The Rouse Hill Town Centre is an exemplar of Australian team work operating at the highest professional levels. Beginning as a joint venture between developers GPT and Lend Lease, the master-planning was prepared by Civitas Urban Design and Planning in conjunction with the NSW Department of Planning and Landcom, while the architecture was delivered by a consortium of three architectural firms – Allen Jack +Cottier, Group GSA and Rice Daubney.

The ULI prize adds to the list of awards already bestowed on the Centre including the Lloyd Rees Award for Urban Design from the Australian Institute of Architects and two awards from the Property Council of Australia.

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