



One Airport Square

Laurus Organizes Topping Out

A business desk report

LAURUS DEVELOPMENT Partners, a real estate firm focused on property development in West Africa, on Friday held a topping out ceremony for its One Airport Square project in Accra.

Stakeholders in the construction industry usually hold a topping out ceremony when the last roof concrete slab of a project they undertake is laid.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Laurus Development Partners, Carlo Matta, in a speech, described the ceremony as a symbolic one and an opportunity to show appreciation to 320 Ghanaian construction workers who have worked relentlessly for

the past 20 months to ensure that the building was constructed on time.

"The building's structure with its 'diagrids' - the external concrete elements - is the distinctive architectural feature of One Airport Square. Simple as they may look, the 'diagrids' epitomizes the highest level of structural engineering achieved in Ghana.

"We feel very proud of all the Ghanaian workers, who made this level of sophisticated construction in Ghana possible," said Carlo.

Noting that the installation of the elevators will commence in April 2014, he said the ceiling works can commence while the raised floor would be installed.

"One Airport Square is expected to be complete by the third quarter of 2014."

The One Airport Square comprises 1,500m² of retail, 17,000m² of office space and 260 car parking spaces, featuring large efficient floor plates and raised flooring.

"It will also be a pioneer in green design being the first green-rated commercial building in Ghana," he added.

The One Airport Square edifice would consume 30-40 percent less energy and incur lower operating and maintenance cost than other similar building.

Additionally, by collecting and reusing rain water, the building would reduce demand for public water services.

The Class A office development located in the growing commercial district of Airport City in Accra is valued at \$62 million.