

Laurus Development Partners holds topping out ceremony

LAURUS DEVELOPMENT Partners, a real estate firm focused on property development in West Africa, has held a topping out ceremony.

Topping out ceremony in the construction industry is a tradition held when the last roof concrete slab is laid at the top of a building.

Mr Carlo Matta, Chief Executive Officer of Laurus Development Partners, said the ceremony was a symbolic norm in the construction industry as well as an opportunity used to show appreciation to construction workers.

He said it was an opportunity to appreciate 320 Ghanaian workers who had worked for the past 20 months to ensure One Airport Square's unique building was completed on time.

"We feel very proud of all the Ghanaian workers who made this

level of sophisticated construction in Ghana possible", Mr Matta said.

He said the building, which is called One Airport Square and within the easy reach of Kotoka International Airport, was a building whose structure comes with "diagrids", thus its external concrete elements represented distinctive architectural features.

Mr Matta said the striking developments of One Airport Square comprised 1500m² of retail, 17,00m² of offices 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.

He said by using natural light and ventilation, One Airport Square would consume 30-40 pc-

cent less energy and incur lower operating and maintenance cost than other similar building.

He however noted that by collecting and reusing rain water, the building would reduce its load to the public water grid.

Mr Matta said conceived to redefine standards and expectations, One Airport Square is set to become one of Accra's most prominent business destinations as it comes with office buildings, restaurants as well as shops.

The Class -A office development located in the growing commercial district of Airport City in Accra is valued at 62 million dollars and is expected to be completed in the third quarter of 2014.