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## NEWS RELEASE

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### **Bluewater Events Venue is Underway**

Award winning practice Denton Corker Marshall's design for the Bluewater Events Venue in Kent commences construction in March 2010.

Expected to open in 2011, Lend Lease, the UK's leading integrated property company, has hailed the new events venue as the next milestone in the evolution of Bluewater Retail Centre.

The design creates an individual identity for the events venue, distinct but complementary to the mall in form, location and experience. This concept incorporates a new plaza area created as a threshold 'leisure hub' between the mall, cinema, restaurants and the two exhibition halls.

The new building is identifiable by its sinuous over-sailing roof and feature gallery 'beam' that ties the composition together externally as well as giving focus to the internal plaza approach route. The modelling of the ceiling plane internally links the plaza via the rotunda into the existing mall.

Speaking today Stephen Quinlan, Director of Denton Corker Marshall said:

“Lend Lease has an established record of leading the field with innovative retail environments. We are delighted to be working with them on the creation of the events venue, which will add a new exciting dimension to the Bluewater success story.”

Richard Cable Head of Major Projects at Lend Lease Europe said:

“Denton Corker Marshall's innovative design for the Bluewater Events Venue reflects the same spirit and desire to breathe new life into retail development that drove the creation of Bluewater by Lend Lease ten years ago. It is the perfect complement to our existing offer and will create additional reasons to visit Bluewater for both existing and new guests, to become a focal point for leisure and entertainment in the UK.”

The purpose built venue will complement the existing facilities with year round entertainment and events to be enjoyed by the 28 million guests who visit the retail centre each year.

**Ends**

**Notes to editors**

- The 5,200m<sup>2</sup> (55,000 sq ft) Events Venue at Bluewater is an exciting and innovative purpose-built development. The Bluewater Events Venue is complemented by a 3,000m<sup>2</sup> central plaza, 12 restaurants totalling 4,000m<sup>2</sup>, including five new units, and the existing 12-screen cinema.
- Construction of the £60 million project will commence in Spring 2010 with the first events taking place in late 2011.
- Denton Corker Marshall's experience in event and exhibition venue design also includes the Stonehenge Visitor Centre, Melbourne Museum, Melbourne Exhibition Centre and the Museum of Sydney.
- Denton Corker Marshall is an international architectural practice with offices in London, Melbourne and Jakarta. When referring to the practice please use its full name (and not DCM).
- Director Steve Quinlan is available for comment.
- For images and/or further information, please contact Catherine Crompton on 0207 833 2020 (Mon-Wed) or [catherine.crompton@dentoncorkermarshall.co.uk](mailto:catherine.crompton@dentoncorkermarshall.co.uk) at any time.