

Press release



November 16th, 2009.

Edificio NV acquires Concert Noble from KBC

KBC and a consortium linked to the Belgian management company Edificio NV, have reached an agreement on the sale of the Concert Noble banqueting complex and adjacent office building. The sale will go through on 1 January 2010. The consortium around Edificio will not only acquire ownership of the complex, but will also continue to run it at the same high standards and take over the existing engagements. No information will be released about the financial elements of this transaction.

Edificio NV is a reputable and specialised management company that already successfully runs a number of impressive sites in Brussels – Sky Hall at Brussels airport, Hotel/House Wielemans and the Solvay library – and wishes to expand its assets. It is therefore the ideal partner with the right know-how to acquire ownership of such a prestigious site as Concert Noble from KBC and to continue running it.

Concert Noble was designed by Hendrik Beyaert and built in 1873. The building was originally a musical meeting place for the Belgian elite at the time, and was designed with that in mind. The unique ground floor concept is a crescendo of increasingly spacious rooms, culminating in an impressive ballroom. Since 1982, the complex has been part of the real estate portfolio of KBC Insurance (then ABB Insurance), which bought the historic complex and adjacent office building when expanding its business infrastructure.

Shortly after the purchase, ABB Insurance completely restored the building to its former glory, after which it, and subsequently KBC Insurance, used the exclusive banqueting complex and top-floor office space for commercial purposes.

Given that managing and developing real estate assets is not a core activity for KBC, it was decided to sell the building and the operating contracts.

KBC Group NV
Havenlaan 2 - 1080 Brussels
Viviane Huybrecht:
General Manager of Group
Communication and the Press
Office/Company Spokesperson
Tel. + 32 2 429 85 45

Press office
Tel + 32 2 429 65 01
Fax + 32 2 429 81 60
E-mail: pressofficekbc@kbc.be