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BCE Foodservice Equipment growth trajectory boosts it into Growthpoint's Omni Park

Respected high-end catering equipment company BCE Foodservice Equipment will make Growthpoint Properties' Omni Park, in Aeroton southern Johannesburg, its new tailor-made transitional 13,000sqm business address.

BCE Foodservice Equipment is developing its own building to meet its increasing business needs. But, having outgrown its former premises and with the new building's completion date still undecided, it found itself in urgent need of a suitable interim facility near to both its former and new address, that would meet its business needs. Omni Park will be its temporary base for at least the next two years.

Growthpoint Properties Industrial Division Director Engelbert Binedell says: "When Growthpoint was approached to provide space for this blue-chip business and we learned about its unique requirements, it provided the opportunity to develop a special solution for BCE Foodservice Equipment while preparing the property for long-term letting. The capital investment will certainly enhance the value of the asset in the future."

Growthpoint developed a flexible lease to accommodate the development of BCE Foodservice Equipment's yet-to-be-finalised new build completion date. It also invested R3 million and tailored an upgrade to the Omni Park facility which comprises 775sqm of offices, a 12,100sqm warehouse, a 500sqm showroom and service centre.

This investment included a complete upgrade of the offices for employees of BCE Foodservice Equipment as well as introducing new energy-efficient lighting to minimise utilities costs.

With its superb position in the high-demand Aeroton industrial node where warehouse vacancies are swiftly snapped up, Jason Reeves of Growthpoint's Industrial Division reports that Omni Park is now fully let.

"Aeroton is home to many quality businesses. Its appeal is underpinned by excellent highway access, to both the north and south of Johannesburg. We're experiencing pleasing rental growth in Omni Park as a result," says Reeves.

With keen demand for warehouse space in the Aeroton area, Reeves says that Growthpoint's site neighbouring Omni Park is now available for the customised development of a facility of around 6,000sqm.

BCE Food Service Equipment opened in Omni Park last month, with Growthpoint delivering on time despite a tight two-month timeline and while adapting evolving project needs.

Growthpoint Properties is the largest South African listed property company with property assets valued over R50 billion. It owns and manages 412 properties in South Africa, 44 properties in Australia through its investment in Growthpoint Properties Australia or GOZ, in which it has a 65% stake, and a 50% interest in the properties of the V&A Waterfront in Cape Town.

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