



SHOP TALK

ISSUES AND NEWS AFFECTING THE AUSTRALIAN SHOPPING CENTRE INDUSTRY

SHOPPING CENTRE
COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

Thursday 20 December 2012

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NABERS RETAIL CHANGES RELEASED TO ENABLE FAIRER STAR RATINGS

The NSW Government recently released new [NABERS Retail benchmarks](#) to enable a fairer star rating comparison between different types of shopping centres. Under the original rating system released in December 2009, larger centres were being unfairly compared with smaller centres with different built forms and attributes. The new benchmarks include adjustment factors for attributes such as floor area, vertical transport, and trading days/hours. As a result of the changes, the existing star ratings for centres will change, with some centres going up (typically larger centres) which others going down (smaller centres). The Shopping Centre Council was involved in the Government's working group which provided advice on the changes.

SCCA LODGES SUBMISSION ON STANDARD INSTRUMENT LOCAL ENVIRONMENT PLAN

The NSW Local Planning Panel has been reviewing the Standard Instrument Local Environment Panel ('SILEP' or 'Standard LEP'). The Shopping Centre Council lodged a submission to the Panel and appeared before it. The NSW Government released in October the Panel's '[Position Paper Improving the implementation of the Standard Instrument Local Environment Plan Program](#)'. We have lodged a [submission](#) on the Position Paper.

AUSTRALIAN RETAIL SALES: CYCLICAL OR STRUCTURAL SLOWDOWN?

Colonial First State Global Asset Management has released an interesting [research paper](#), analysing Australia's retail sales. Among the key findings is that income growth is likely to reemerge as the dominant driver of retail sales growth. "This will mean sales growth is unlikely to be as strong as the 2000 to 2008 average but it should not be as weak as the last few years either."

THE VITAL ROLE OF FOOD IN SHOPPING CENTRES

Take a [tour](#) with retail consultant, [Michael Baker](#), of some of the world's shopping centres, highlighting the changing and important role of food service.

ICSC UNITED STATES DESIGN AND DEVELOPMENT AWARDS 2012 WINNERS

See the winners [here](#) of the *ICSC United States Design and Development Awards 2012*.

PROPERTY COUNCIL SHOPPING CENTRE DIRECTORIES QLD AND NSW/ACT OUT NOW

The PCA has released its 2012 Shopping Centre Directories for Queensland (order [here](#)) and for NSW & ACT (order [here](#)).

PROPERTY COUNCIL NOW HAS NATIONAL BENCHMARK SERIES AVAILABLE

The PCA 2012 Benchmarks of shopping centre operating expense are now out. These are a valuable tool for evaluating the performance of shopping centres and preparing operating budgets. Click [here](#) to order.

PCA VIC RETAIL OUTLOOK WILL BE HELD IN MELBOURNE ON 14 FEBRUARY 2013

The Property Council, Victoria, will hold its [Retail Outlook '13](#) in Melbourne on 14 February 2013. Click [here](#) to register online.

ICSC GLOBAL RETAIL REAL ESTATE FORUM IN LONDON 24-25 JANUARY 2013

The [ICSC Global Retail Real Estate Forum](#), with Thomson Reuters, will be held in London on 24-25 January 2013, with a strong lineup of industry leaders, sharing insights, experiences and forecasts. Click [here](#) for the program and [here](#) to register.