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JLL's PDS group completes construction of two Uniqlo stores totaling 153,000 s/f; Architects were Gensler and Wonderwall, Inc.

November 21, 2011 - Shopping Centers

Jones Lang LaSalle (JLL) has completed construction on two new stores, totaling 153,000 s/f, for Uniqlo Co. Ltd. The locations include the Japanese clothing retailer's N.Y. global flagship at 666 Fifth Ave. and another store at 31 West 34th St. The Uniqlo Fifth Ave. store and the Uniqlo 34th St. site will be the second and third locations in the U.S. following the opening of Uniqlo in the SoHo neighborhood in 2006.

JLL's Project and Development Services (PDS) group was tapped by Uniqlo to serve as project manager for the construction of the two new locations.

The project team included Laini Rey, senior vice president and executive lead; Amanda Moskowitz, Andrew Hellerman and Eric Desimone, senior project managers; and Trisha Taylor and Tucker Schenk, project managers. Raymond Quartararo, international director, served as senior advisor on the assignment.

The JLL team coordinated the activities of architects Gensler in New York and Wonderwall Inc. in Tokyo, engineering firm Fiskaa Engineering, structural engineering firm Gilsanz Murray Steficek LLP and construction management firm Structure Tone Inc.

"These two high-profile locations will serve as the basis for Uniqlo's global standard for new store construction going forward," said Rey. "The Fifth Ave. global flagship, which is now the clothing retailer's largest store in the world, makes a big impression with its edgy high-tech and brilliantly lit design. Uniqlo requested an aggressive six-month construction schedule for the flagship and its 34th St. store. To meet the company's deadline, Jones Lang LaSalle closely monitored an international team of architects, engineers and construction professionals. Uniqlo was highly impressed with our ability to coordinate the efforts of all these companies and plans to duplicate the process as the clothing retailer expands into other markets throughout the U.S."

The flagship at 666 Fifth Ave. opened on Oct. 14, and the sales floor encompasses 49,800 s/f of retail space. The store features four glass elevators, three escalators, a three-story atrium and a feature staircase with LED backlit risers. Uniqlo's 34th St. shop opened on Oct. 21, and the sales floor comprises 46,300 s/f of retail space. The location features a glass façade, two glass elevators, 600 mannequins and a staircase with LED backlit risers.

Prior to commencing construction on Uniqlo's new Manhattan stores, Jones Lang LaSalle guided the client through an extensive value engineering study that resulted in significant savings for the client.

Jones Lang LaSalle has an ongoing relationship with Uniqlo and is serving as project manager overseeing the construction of a number of stores for the clothing retailer in Asia and Europe.

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