

Press release

14 July 2005

Foster and Partners new residential development launched today in Manchester

Budenberg HAUS, Foster and Partners new residential development for Urban Splash has been launched today on the site of the former Budenberg Gauge factory in Altrincham. The three newly opened show apartments have been furnished by Urban Splash, and reveal the bespoke Foster-designed kitchens and bathrooms, illustrating the high quality of finish that will be evident throughout the scheme. Following Foster and Partners commitment to designing environmentally sustainable architecture, the development will generate its own power on-site using a Combined Heat and Power system, which utilises gas turbines and is 70% more reliable than conventional sources.

Budenberg HAUS maximises the potential of its unique canal-side location and is designed to resonate with the residential character of adjacent Woodfield Road. The scheme comprises two new residential blocks of 257 apartments in total, which step from three to ten stories, marking the transition from the low-rise housing on Woodfield Road to the larger-scale industrial units on the canal. These two contemporary blocks cantilever out over the Bridgewater Canal, and are sited on either side of a large private garden and the existing Budenberg Office building, which has been refurbished with 33 apartments by Arkheion Architects.

The Foster scheme includes 18 different types of apartments - ranging from single level one bedrooms, two bedroom duplexes, curved corner apartments, and three bedroom penthouses - all of which feature balconies. There are 315 car-parking spaces contained in a semi-basement garage.

Lord Foster said: "The clue to the building is in its relationship to the site itself, we respect the scale of the existing houses on Woodfield Road but then as the buildings reach the canal, they rise to nearly ten storeys in height creating a very interesting building form."

Paul Kalkhoven, Senior Partner at Fosters and Partners, noted: "Budenberg HAUS has provided a fantastic opportunity to develop and regenerate a brownfield site in Greater Manchester. Our design has created contemporary living space with highly innovative sustainable features on an ideal canal-side setting."

For further information
please contact Katy Harris at
Foster + Partners,
T +44 (0)20 7738 0455
F +44 (0)20 7738 1107
E press@fosterandpartners.com