

2005

## Arndale Centre, Manchester

**T**his case study describes the use of Cadweb on various phases of the prestigious Arndale Shopping Centre refurbishment in Manchester. Following a successful trial of Cadweb on the GreenPark project in Reading, the shopping centre's owner Prudential Property Investment Managers instructed project managers, designers and architects involved to use Cadweb for all document transfer.

### Client - Prudential Property Investment Managers

The Arndale Centre is the largest city centre shopping centre in the UK sited in the busy city centre of Manchester with over 1,300,000 square feet of retail space. The development is being managed by the centre's owners Prudential who are investing more than £150,000,000.

#### Phase 1

The first phase will be launched in October 2005 with the opening of many new stores, including the world's largest Next. This stunning four-storey 150,000 sq ft department store will be the centrepiece of the new redeveloped Manchester Arndale. With a 23 metre high curved glass wall looking out over Urbis, it will be a huge focal point in Manchester.



The Prudential's Project Manager at the Arndale Centre, Mike Powell says: "Cadweb is playing an important part in our drive to improve efficiency and communications among the members of the project team."

## Phase 2

Phase 2 will open in Spring 2006. The dramatic glass and steel feature entrance from Exchange Square will provide a gateway to a modernised mall on New Cannon Street. The covered mall will provide a mix of uses to create a traditional "high street" feel. There will also be 24-hour access allowing a walkway through the middle of the centre to both sides of the city.

## Phase 3

Opening in Autumn 2006, the third and final phase of the redevelopment will signal a high point in the Coming Together of Manchester. It will include a rejuvenated single level market hall, but the piece de resistance will be the impressive glass-roofed Winter Garden, housing a number of themed restaurants and coffee shops. Together they will cement Manchester Arndale's status as one of Europe's finest shopping and leisure destinations.

## How was the System used?

All the project professionals, contractors and sub contractors used the system, which was chosen primarily for its ability to distribute, track and store drawings and documents efficiently. The appropriate team members were able to access all their information, despite being located throughout the UK. Team members with multiple offices involved in the project were able to manage all their internal inter office communications on the system as well as their communications with other parties.

Considerable time was saved exchanging, viewing and finding information; printing was reduced to a minimum and the accuracy of information was greatly improved. Working from drawings that had not been updated with the latest information was eradicated.

Cadweb was appointed at a very early stage of the project, during its planning and design. Cadweb introduced new tools to the system, incorporating additional features and services to further enhance its utility as the requirement changed from the design phase to the construction phase. For example, process control documents such as RFI's (Request For Information) were heavily used during the project's construction phases to manage sub-contractor queries.

## Some Project Statistics

To date, 885,000 individual drawings and contract documents have been recorded and issued using Cadweb on the project. To put this into context, if all this information were printed and laid out on the ground it would cover 59 soccer pitches. If it were then folded up and stacked in a pile, the pile would be over 7 times the height of Nelson's Column in London's Trafalgar Square. The system continues to transfer project information at the rate of between 3,000 and 6,000 files every day saving an estimated £700,000 in printing and postal costs alone and ensuring the project finishes on schedule.

