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Stockland Rockhampton has cemented its status as the centre for fashion in Central Queensland with the much anticipated Swedish fashion retailer, H&M opening its doors today

The new 2,500 square metre store, located in the heart of the regional shopping centre, will offer customers an exciting array of on-trend fashion apparel and accessories for men, women and kids.

John Schroder, Stockland Group Executive and CEO of Commercial Property, said: "The opening of H&M is an exceptional retail coup for this centre and for the region – offering customers the chance to buy the very latest international fashion right here in Rockhampton. We are proud to have brought one of the biggest global fashion retailers to Central Queensland, further complementing the centres strong retail offering."

Further adding to Stockland Rockhampton's fashion appeal, lifestyle brand Mimco and designer sleepwear brand, Peter Alexander have also opened their doors today.

This follows a number of exciting new national retailers joining the centre this year including, Harris Scarfe, Universal Store, Napoleon Perdis and Emma & Roe.

Tim Beattie, General Manager for Development and Design at Stockland said: "We're responding to our customers' feedback to ensure Stockland Rockhampton remains the retail destination of choice, offering a vibrant and inviting retail, entertainment and dining experience for our customers.

"We are committed to regional Queensland and look forward to continuing to draw the biggest and best brands to Stockland Rockhampton to maintain our lead as the number one shopping destination in the region.

Rockhampton Region Mayor Margaret Strelow extended a huge welcome to the new retail stores, which she says will be well supported by the Region.

"The opening of these stores is another show of confidence in our Region that absolutely loves to embrace new businesses coming to town," Mayor Strelow said.

"We are extremely grateful for Stockland's commitment to Rockhampton. It has been fantastic to watch the transformation Stockland has invested in to expand their services over the past few years."

Stockland has a long history of investment in regional Queensland with seven shopping centres and an asset value of \$1.4 billion. Almost 800 retailers operate in one of seven



Stockland shopping centres in the region, creating thousands of local jobs and hosting more than 32 million customer visits each year.

Earlier this year, Stockland lodged plans for a \$45 million extension of Stockland Rockhampton Shopping Centre to form an integrated Entertainment and Leisure Precinct. If approved, the redevelopment will see Stockland expand the adjacent cinema complex, add 11 new food and specialty retailers and 15 new carparking spaces taking the total to over 2,800.

This follows the opening of 'The Terrace' in July last year - a \$6.6 million, 250-seat dining precinct offering customers an array of casual dining eateries.

This will be the third H&M in the Stockland portfolio after the flagship store at Glasshouse on Pitt Street Mall in Sydney opened in October 2015. (co-owned with Investa Commercial Property Fund) and the opening of H&M at Stockland Townsville last week.

H&M entered the Australian market in 2014 and now has 24 stores open across Australia and more than 4,500 stores in 68 markets worldwide.

Ends

About Stockland Rockhampton

- Stockland Rockhampton is the largest shopping centre between Maroochydore and Mackay
- Stockland has been a part of the thriving Rockhampton community for more than 12 years
- The centre includes Woolworths, Coles, Kmart, Big W, Harris Scarfe, 11 minimajor stores.
- The centre recently opened an all-weather casual dining precinct incorporating six food retailers including Guzman Y Gomez, Burger Urge and Max Brenner. The centre is home to more than 40 speciality fashion retailers including Universal Store, Emma & Roe

Visit <u>www.stockland.com.au/rockhampton</u> for more information on events and store information.

About Stockland

Stockland (ASX: SGP) was founded in 1952 and has grown to become Australia's largest diversified property group – owning, developing and managing a large portfolio of shopping centres, residential communities, retirement living villages, office and industrial assets. Stockland was recognised by the S&P Dow Jones Sustainability Indices (DJSI) as the global real estate sector leader for 2016-17, demonstrating world leadership across the areas of corporate governance, stakeholder engagement, climate strategy, social integration and regeneration and corporate citizenship. Stockland has been identified as a global leader for its actions and strategies in response to climate change and has been awarded a position on the Climate A List by CDP and recognised as the Regional Sector Leader for Diversified Property Companies on the Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark (GRESB). Stockland has also been recognised as an Employer of Choice for Gender Equality by the Australian Government's Workplace Gender Equality Agency (WGEA) for last three consecutive years. www.stockland.com.au