

MCARTHURGLEN

GROUP

PRESS RELEASE

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McArthurGlen partners with SDA Bocconi in Italy

McArthurGlen Group, Europe's leading owner, developer and manager of designer outlet villages, has partnered with SDA Bocconi School of Management in Italy, one of Europe's oldest and most renowned business schools, to launch an Executive Programme in Retail General Management.

The Programme is being launched as part of SDA Bocconi's Luxury Retail Academy, designed specifically by the business school for McArthurGlen. It is open exclusively to store managers at McArthurGlen's Serravalle Designer Outlet near Milan. Serravalle Designer Outlet is Europe's biggest designer outlet village, with 173 stores, and 37,400 sq m of gross leaseable retail space.

The launch of the Luxury Retail Academy, of which the Executive Programme is a part, follows the success of the McArthurGlen Retail Academy across Europe. The McArthurGlen Retail Academy, developed for the Group's 750 retail partners, is designed to improve the performance and customer service of the 1,800 stores, operated in a branded environment, in McArthurGlen's 17 villages across Europe.

Luigi Battuello, McArthurGlen's Regional Director for Southern Europe, says: "We have a very close relationship with our brand partners in Italy, and it is a great honour to work alongside one of Europe's top business schools to offer them a Programme specifically tailored to the training needs of their employees in our Serravalle Designer Outlet. The McArthurGlen Retail Academy has played a pivotal role in the success of our Serravalle Designer Outlet, and the launch of the Executive Programme will help to take the village to a new level of excellence."

Bruno Busacca, Director, Executive Education Custom Programs - Corporate Division, SDA Bocconi School of Management, says: "The Luxury Retail Academy designed by SDA Bocconi for McArthurGlen Designer Outlets will help store managers adapt their skills to a changing fashion and luxury environment in which designer outlet villages have become a leading distribution channel. It also provides an example of how sound partnerships between leading institutions can generate important innovation in business knowledge and practice."

The three-year course at SDA Bocconi Business School will focus on the dynamics of fashion retailing, and in particular of luxury retailing. Modules to be covered include management, marketing, finance and logistics. The course will be taught at Serravalle Designer Outlet as well as via online activities using Bocconi's web network and 'on the job' training. Graduates will receive a formal accreditation from SDA Bocconi School of Management.

The partnership with SDA Bocconi builds on McArthurGlen's role as a supporting member of Altagamma, Italy's luxury goods association, and which runs in conjunction with SDA Bocconi the school's Master in Fashion, Experience and Design Management.

McArthurGlen has four designer outlet villages in Italy. In addition to Serravalle Designer Outlet, these are in Rome (Castel Romano Designer Outlet), Florence (Barberino Designer Outlet) and Venice (Veneto Designer Outlet), with the first phase of a fifth village in Italy, in Naples due to open in 2009. In total, McArthurGlen currently manages 93,400 sq m of retail space in Italy.

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