

Citizen M New York owner Brack to list in London



Brack Capital's \$2.5 billion portfolio includes the Citizen M hotel in New York

Deirdre Hipwell

Published at 12:01AM, May 28 2014

A property group that owns the Citizen M hotel in New York will list on the London Stock Exchange today as it prepares to ramp up its investment in Britain.

Brack Capital Real Estate Investments, founded in 1992 by Shimon Weintraub, is expected to start trading today after raising €26 million through the placing of new shares at €1.62 each to institutions and high-net worth investors.

The real estate group has amassed a portfolio of \$2.5 billion worth of properties including homes and hotels in New York — where it is currently developing the Indigo Hotel in Manhattan's Lower East Side — and residential properties in Germany, Russia and India.

Brack Capital recently made a purchase in Manchester where it has bought a Grade II-listed property that it plans to refurbish and said it was looking to further increase its activity in the UK as the economic recovery gained momentum.

Warburg Pincus, an investor in Brack, has also sold about €16 million of its shares, but will retain a 4.92 per cent stake in the listed vehicle which will remain headquartered in the Netherlands.

Brack is run by Mr Weintraub and Ariel Podrojski, and is chaired by Harin Thaker, a well-known former property banker in London who now heads Aeriance Investments.

Following its admission Brack Capital, which has been advised by Peel Hunt, should have a market capitalisation of about €260.5 million at the placing price.

Mr Podrojski told *The Times*: "We are wanting to drive up our presence in the UK, and diversify into the pound as well as we have exposure to the US dollar and the euro, but we are under no pressure to allocate funds if we cannot find the right investment. We know things go up and down and [although the UK commercial property market is rising] we are not under pressure to invest."

0 comments