



## PRESS RELEASE from NCC

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### **NCC to build shopping center in Finnish Tornio for approximately SEK 710 million**

**NCC has signed a design- and build-contract with investor Varma Mutual Pension Insurance Company for the construction of the Tornio shopping center. The project is part of the “At the borders” project, which will unite the city centers of Tornio and Haparanda. Construction will commence immediately.**

The Tornio shopping center, which is scheduled to open in time for Christmas shopping in 2008, has approximately 60,000 square meters floor space. The architectural firm is Innovarch. NCC has cooperated with Tornio city since 2005 in a joint project group whose combined forces found the investor Varma, which will expand its property investment portfolio to include northern Finland.

Half of the floor space is leased to CityMarket, H&M, KappAhl, Lindex and other companies, with an ultimate target of 50 tenants. The center has 646 parking places, 532 are indoors.

“We are experienced in developing and implementing commercial shopping center projects,” says Juhani Rastas, Director of NCC’s regional office in Oulu. “The Tornio project will generate 150 new job opportunities during the construction period.”

The EU-supported “At the borders” project was launched at the end of the 1990s with a Nordic architectural competition. Through the Tornio shopping center, commercial services in the area will improve and will now become more attractive. The center will also add momentum to other future “cross-border” projects.

“I am pleased that Varma is investing in the Tornio shopping center; a project that I am convinced will be successful,” says Raimo Ronkainen, Mayor of Tornio. “Varma is a good and solid property owner. I now hope that the project will also be developed on the Haparanda side.”

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*NCC is one of the leading construction and property development companies in the Nordic region. NCC had in 2006 sales of SEK 56 billion, with 22,000 employees.*

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