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Largest Shopping, Entertainment Centre in Baltic States Opened in Estonia After Reconstruction

Thursday, June 13, expanded *Ülemiste* shopping centre is opened, developed by *Linstow Center Management* (LCM) and anchored by the most modern cinema in Europe and the *O'Learys* entertainment centre.

"The expansion of the *Ülemiste Centre* has been an exciting challenge for us. We are pleased to announce that everything went to plan, and we have been able to open our doors for our customers," says *Linstow Center Management* CEO **Frode Gronvold**. "*Linstow Center Management* is very proud with the opening of a state-of-the-art and future-oriented shopping and entertainment centre. The trump card for the *Ülemiste Centre* is that we can offer the widest selection of high-quality stores, excellent services and an enjoyable shopping environment."

One of the biggest additions to the centre is a state-of-the-art *Apollo* cinema complex with six auditoriums that offer unprecedented experiences related to movies and entertainment programmes. "We are pleased to open our ninth *Apollo* Cinema in Estonia with a completely new seating concept, a high-quality restaurant, and our first theatrical auditorium, the *Apollo* Theatre," says the CEO of *Apollo* Cinemas in the Baltic States, **Kadri Ärm.** "Estonians have remarkable interest in visiting the cinema, and that is one of the main reasons for opening another venue in Estonia. We have seen growth in cinema admissions year by year."

Other new features at the centre include the O'Learys entertainment centre with a bowling alley, Tranpolino, which is a large trampoline centre for children, the Vapiano Restaurant, a Pet City pet shop featuring veterinary care, grooming services and a pet hotel. There are many other new features, as well. The sales area for LPP retail shops and Sportland has increased in size, with the latter becoming the largest sports shop in the Baltic States. Rimi has reopened its largest hypermarket format. There is a brand new athletic club, and several other shops will open in future.

The architects behind the third expansion of the *Ülemiste Centre* were *AMB International* (Norway) and *Novarc Group AS* (Estonia), with Priit Põldme and Reet Sapp from *Joonprojekt* being responsible for interior architecture. The expansion added 13,000 m² of shopping and entertainment space, with most of the additional floorspace taken up by entertainment and food and beverage services. A 235-space underground car park was added to ensure greater convenience for shoppers. The expansion cost EUR 36 million, and the result is that Estonia's largest shopping and entertainment centre will now be operating across 125,000 m².

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The *Ülemiste Centre* (est. 2004) is a family centre with more than 200 shops and service facilities. It was developed by the *Linston* AS real estate company from Norway, which is owned by the *AWilhelmsen Group*. A *Linston* subsidiary *Linston Center Management*, is among the leading real estate developers and operators in the Baltic States.

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