

Rush for Salt tenancies

Eateries and shops hit beach

by Travis Lye

NATIONAL restaurateur chains and retailers have rushed to secure tenancies at Salt Village following the launch of the remaining outlets.

The IGA-Xpress is set to undergo a major expansion and amalgamation with Salt Cellars Bottle Shop, while internationally renowned chef Steven Snow, who operates the Fins at Salt restaurant, will also open two new dining venues with business partner Marco Cenfi.

Just one of Salt Village's three new commercial tenancies remains available, with negotiations under way with a major national fashion retailer.

Ray Group's Jack Ray – the head of marketing for the precinct – said demand for space in the retail strip from national retailers was due to its location and a non-competitive captive market.

"Salt Village retail is the only commercial precinct in the rapidly growing resort and residential community,



An aerial shot of the Salt Village retail precinct with business precinct top right

and retailers are realising how lucrative a tenancy at Salt Village is," he said.

"The expansion and amalgamation of the IGA X-press will offer residents and resort guests a one-stop-shop for groceries, liquor and a new range of high quality

affordable take away food.

"The launch of Mr Snow and Mr Cenfi's new dining venues will add to Salt Village's reputation as a world-class dining precinct."

Development applications for all of Salt Village's new retailers were lodged in June,

and the upgraded precinct is expected to be operating by September.

Mr Snow and Mr Cenfi's Italian and Mediterranean cafe and bar, Bellini, and boutique gelateria bar, Piccolo, are expected to be open in time for the

September school holidays.

Mr Snow said the new venues would add to the array of quality dining options at Salt Village.

"Salt Village is a fantastic place to work. It is a high-quality destination with huge potential, and it has already

gained a national reputation as a dining and entertainment hotspot," he said.

"Bellini will provide diners with an authentic Italian and Mediterranean culinary experience for breakfast, lunch and dinner, modelled on the success of Marco Cenfi's Belli Bar in Sydney, which is renowned for its excellent European and Mediterranean food.

"Piccolo will be a colourful cafe-style takeaway bar offering high quality authentic snacks such as cake, gelatos, frozen yoghurts, fruit juices, pasta and coffee."

Salt boasts three resorts with more than 660 hotel rooms set on a 73ha beachfront parcel and, on completion, will comprise about 1500 homes, resort apartments, residential apartments and villas.

Situated at South Kingscliff, the community features 1.2km of beach frontage, 13.5ha of parkland and almost 7km of tracks.