

## B&Q DOMINATES RETAIL PARK OCCUPIERS

29 August 2002

B&Q tops the league of retail park occupiers by total trading area, according to TW Research Associates and FPD Savills' soon to be published annual review, The Definitive Guide to Retail and Leisure Parks.

The DIY giant currently operates from 6.39 million sq ft of warehouse space on retail parks across the UK, compared to the other main DIY operators, Homebase, in second place with 4.60 million sq ft, and Focus in fourth place, with 4.19 million sq ft of space. Currys is the largest electrical tenant with 4.19 million sq ft and MFI is the largest furniture retailer.

The results show the extent to which B&Q has expanded over 12 months, with 1.1 million sq ft opened on retail parks during the last year out of a total increase of 1.8 million sq ft. However, the figures conceal the fact that total B&Q trading space (including solus units) is now in excess of 15 million square feet.

Rank	Retailer	Total Area on Retail Parks (Million Square Feet)
1	B&Q	6.39
2	Homebase	4.60
3	Currys	4.19
4	Focus	3.65
5	MFI	3.14
6	Carpetright / Carpetwise	2.69
7	Comet	2.65
8	JJB Sports / Sports Division	2.46
9	Matalan	2.42
10	Halfords	2.23
11	PC World	1.75
12	Allied Carpets / General George	1.66
13	Powerhouse	1.62
14	Harveys	1.61
15	Toys R Us	1.35
16	Pets at Home	1.21
17	Staples	1.07
18	Mothercare World	1.07
19	Courts	1.07
20	Argos	1.01

# Press Release

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Trevor Wood, principal of TW Research Associates, says: “This analysis shows the increasing dominance of a handful of major players in the market. Our research confirmed there are over 400 different tenants yet, with the Dixons and Focus groups occupying units under more than one name, we have four companies occupying over a quarter of the total 85 million square feet of retail park floorspace.

“Our research reveals that every retailer in the top 20 has more than 1 million square feet of retail park floorspace, while the threshold for retailers joining the top 30 and top 40 are 450,000 square feet and 275,000 square feet respectively”.

Martin Supple, national retail warehouse director, says: “This research is particularly important for landlords and investors of retail warehousing, confirming that half of all retail park floorspace is occupied by just 15 different trading fascias with two thirds occupied by the top 40 tenants.”

The review is available for £245.00 from TW Research Associates, retail@twresearch.co.uk, tel: 01494 715 846.

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