

**Monday 6 June 2011 at Macquarie, Ropemaker Place, 28 Ropemaker Street, London EC2**

Introduced by: Jonathan Puddle, CoreNet Global UK Chapter  
Speakers: Nigel Bunclark, Head of Business Service Division, EMEA, Macquarie  
Richard Jordan, Vice President, Clive Wilkinson Architects

Macquarie Bank's sparkling new EMEA headquarters on Ropemaker Street, EC2, was completed in February this year (2011). Founded in Australia in 1985, the bank has seen continuous and steady growth, with the first UK office opening in 1989. Most recently occupying space in two separate buildings, City Point and Moor House, the decision was taken to move into a single office to help build a single identity and create opportunities for collaborative working. Sitting in one of the meeting rooms on the eleventh floor with its fabulous views across London one could see why 28 Ropemaker Street was chosen.

**Jonathan Puddle** for CoreNet introduced the session. Jonathan is also a director of Turner & Townsend who project and cost managed the scheme.

Explaining the rationale behind the move, **Nigel Bunclark**, head of EMEA business service division for Macquarie, described the steps taken to provide an efficient and integrated environment for the 1,200 staff previously occupying dislocated space on 14 floors in two separate buildings. The most important factor in the thinking was to encourage a change in the system of working from silos to a more open, connected, collaborative style. The design of the new space, over six connected floors should work to serve the purpose. It has: people are already talking and working the break-out areas.

Describing the process, **Richard Jordan**, of Clive Wilkinson Architects, talked about the speed of the project, starting with the signing of the lease in March 2010, through to designing the space during the summer and delivering the completed project by end February 2011. This he said could not have been done without the innovative Alliance Contract with its management team with six subsidiary streams which delivered the project on time and under budget. The ground floor, originally zoned as retail space, has been incorporated into the design giving the impression that Macquarie occupies the whole building. The eleventh floor is devoted to the boardroom and meeting rooms. Below are the trading floors, office space and administrative areas, all linked by the staircase in the central atrium which connects the business departments and encourages interactivity.

Divided into groups, we were then given a tour of the building, taking in the atrium, collaborative areas and a view of the trading floors. A fascinating evening for which we thank Macquarie and Clive Wilkinson Architects.