

Record demand prompts move

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FORT Knox Records Management has committed to a 10-year pre-lease deal at Salta Properties' Citiwest South Estate in Altona North.

Fort Knox Records Management is an arm of the Fort Knox Group which runs a string of self-storage facilities around Melbourne's suburbs.

Its new 10,500sq m facility will tower over neighbouring warehouses and factories, standing 15m high.

While both Fort Knox and Salta refused to divulge the deal's financial details, it is believed the building will cost around \$15 million.

The building on Salta Dve will have mezzanine levels, high-tech security, surveillance and fire sprinklers.

The fully computerised building means clients can track their documents via the company's intranet and email storage or retrieval requests directly to workers on the floor.

Fort Knox general manager Guy Wilson said Fort Knox stores records

for the Coles Group, local government and a range of legal and accounting firms.

The records business has grown quickly since its start in March 2003 with 18 boxes.

"We've currently got 400,000 boxes and by March 2009 we'll have around 1.5 million," Mr Wilson said.

The company had outgrown its current premises at Westgate Dve in Altona North.

The records management business is an offshoot of the original Fort Knox self-storage business which has seven sites in Moorabbin, Dandenong, Ringwood, Eltham, Scoresby, Alphington and the CBD.

There are two more sites under development — an 8000sq m \$12 million facility in Vermont which is due to open this month and a \$15 million 10,000sq m Canterbury building which will open in late 2009.

The \$100 million business is a joint venture between the McMullin Group and the Wilson family.