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HD GDI fund to handle UGL buys

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FUNDS: Recently listed **property** fund manager GDI **Property Group** is launching a new fund that will hold a portfolio of industrial properties it bought from UGL while at the same time flagging the redevelopment potential of its largest office asset in Sydney.

The group announced yesterday it would acquire seven properties from UGL for \$66.5 million. The six warehouses and one office building in NSW, Queensland and Western Australia are all leased to UGL in a deal brokered by DTZ's Greg Marr.

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GDI is looking to raise \$43.5m from unlisted property investors before moving ahead with the fund.

The **company**'s decision to forge ahead with its new unlisted fund comes as an approach to acquire its office tower in central Sydney at 233 Castlereagh Street by **Chinese** player Visionary Investment **Group** concluded without a **sale** and the **company** has now flagged a new course.

The **group** warned its earnings forecasts could be affected as it rejigged the tenancies in the building to ready it for a **sale** to a **residential** developer.

"The anticipated impact of the likely revised asset management strategies is a possible reduction in the funds from operations relating to the Sydney **property**, compared to the offer document forecasts," the **company** said.

"At this stage these amounts are unquantifiable, but GDI **Property Group** believes that the potential value uplift from any **residential** conversion of the Sydney **property** would more than compensate for a possible reduction in FFO relating to the Sydney **property**."GDI listed in December at below its \$1 per share offer price and closed down 0.5c to 93.5c.

CO gdpgpl : GDI Property Group Ltd. | uncont : UGL Ltd.

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