



\$8.65m buys peace of Soul

A concept image of the Soul building . . . buyer interest in the tower is resilient

by Nick Nichols
business editor

THE property market may be coming off the boil, but Surfers Paradise supertower Soul continues to reel in the big bucks.

A Sydney couple has taken an \$8.65 million off-the-plan plunge on a subpenthouse in the 77-level tower.

Psychiatrist Dr Cyril Harrisberg and wife Monique, who run a multimillion-dollar personal development empire, are planning to use the apartment as a holiday home.

The Harrisbergs operate The Voice Clinic and The Stress Clinic, companies they started in their native South Africa in the 1980s and have since expanded across the world.

They now live in Sydney with their two children and have been looking for a beachfront holiday home for some time.

The 460sqm subpenthouse is on the 62nd floor of the tower, due for completion in 2011.

The sale is a fresh big-ticket milestone for Soul which, until June, held the record for the most expensive apartment sold in Australia – \$16.85 million for its three-level penthouse.

That sale, to a Brisbane businessman, was eclipsed two months ago with an off-the-plan sale of an apartment in Sydney's plush Potts Point for \$20 million.

David Kortlang, marketing manager for Soul developer Juniper Group, said buyer interest in the tower was resilient, despite the economic climate.

The Harrisbergs looked at overseas locations for a holiday home before settling on Soul.

“We wanted a beachfront home that offered security and the size of a luxury home in a convenient and cosmopolitan location,” said Dr Harrisberg, who advocates laughter as a cure for stress.

“Premium property is a wise investment at times like these.”

In April, Juniper reported unconditional sales worth more than \$400 million on 62 per cent of the tower.

Most buyers are Australians, with Kiwis the largest group of foreign investors.

Work on Soul, on an 8260sqm site on The Esplanade, began earlier this year with the demolition of Raptis Plaza.