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SEAB

SOUTHEAST ASIA BUILDING

July / August 2020

The Galleria

Gwanggyo, Korea

PROJECTS Commercial Buildings

TRENDS Amazing Facade Projects

ARCHITECT'S CORNER Interview with Stephanie Costelloe, Principal & Director of Healthcare, Asia, B+H Architects, on how the COVID-19 pandemic will affect future hospital designs

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Dear readers, thank you for picking up the July/Aug issue of SEAB. The fight against COVID-19 still continues around the world. But businesses and schools are slowly reopening in phases.

In the building and construction field, work is starting again with various measures in place. And the current pandemic means that architects will need to relook at the way buildings and cities are designed to reduce the risk of infection in the future. Healthcare facilities are one of them and Stephanie Costelloe, Principal & Director of Healthcare, Asia, B+H Architects, tells us more about future hospital designs in an interview.

Several commercial buildings have become iconic landmarks in their cities due to their design and function. In the Projects section, you will be amazed to see how retail malls and office buildings have been uniquely designed.

The Trends section is also packed with projects with a focus on facades. Facades play an important role as it gives a building a strong visual identity. The various facade materials available in the market also allow the architect to become as creative as possible.

Enjoy reading the magazine and if you need a digital copy, you can download it from our website. Meanwhile, take care and stay safe.

Amita Natverlal

NEXT ISSUE THEMES
- Projects – Green Buildings
- Trends – Smart Building
- M.E.P. Systems (Refer to Media Kit)
- Advertorial – 3D Printing

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Branded Serviced Residences in Kuala Lumpur become the world's tallest twisted twin residential towers

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia – Situated between Kuala Lumpur City Centre and the bustling Golden Triangle neighbourhood, the new Kuala Lumpur landmark 8 Conlay covers nearly four acres of freehold land on Jalan Conlay. With three skyline-altering towers ranging from 56 to 68 storeys in height, 8 Conlay is a mixed-use development in a class of its own scheduled to complete at the end of 2020.

A development by Malaysian property developer KSK Land, 8 Conlay consists of the world's tallest twisted twin residential towers devoted entirely to branded serviced residences, called YOO8 serviced by Kempinski. The property also features Malaysia's first and only five-star Kempinski Hotel and a four-storey lifestyle retail podium, offering residents and hotel guests access to a luxurious lifestyle experience that integrates exceptional hospitality with experiential retail and world-class design.

Anticipated to be the next crown jewel of branded residences in Southeast Asia, YOO8 serviced by Kempinski at 8 Conlay features exclusive design concepts by Steve Leung (Tower A) and Kelly Hoppen (Tower B), and in-house services provided by the adjoining five-star Kempinski Hotel.

The 61-storey YOO8 Tower A with 564 residences feature cutting-edge interiors by the award winning Hong Kong-based architect Steve Leung. Influenced by the Asian philosophy and five traditional Chinese elements, Leung employs the two classic elements water and wood which simultaneously reflect a modern urban space and a tranquil retreat.

"When we created the design concept for YOO8 Tower A residences, we wanted to contribute a feeling of wellbeing to the environments that these two classic elements affect," said Steve Leung, interior designer of YOO8 Tower A. "We want to achieve an ideal balance between economics and aesthetics, to bring space to life and to create space for life."

8 Conlay. Image provided by KSK Land.

An eco-conscious luxury lifestyle resort designed around nature

Sanya, China – Sitting in a prime location on Hainan island's beautiful shoreline, 1 Hotel Haitang Bay, Sanya's design is a celebration of nature and sustainability. From dappled light filtering in through leaf-sheltered skylights to stacks of salvaged Chinese roof tiles echoing coastal cliff faces, the first Chinese resort from luxury brand US-based 1 Hotels draws its design inspiration from the rugged beauty of the island.

Photo: © 1 Hotel Haitang Bay, Sanya

The eco-conscious architecture, designed by strategic planners Oval Partnership, combines locally sourced natural materials, such as lava stone and red cedar, with innovative green technologies. Paying homage to the tropical flora and fauna of Sanya's forests and the crystal-clear waters of the ocean, Singapore-based design studio FARM managed the interior design.

Encapsulating the biodiversity of the area's local species and natural surroundings, verdant landscaped gardens sprawl across the grounds and building exterior. A lush Mangrove Tree Courtyard offers a tranquil retreat, while Living Green Walls planted with local vegetation – such as ficus pumila and ferns – flourished across staggered roof terraces and semi-open courtyards. Additionally, the off-site farm showcases Hainan's seasonal produce.

Capturing the beauty of nature inside and out, the overall impact of the resort's design is a gorgeous retreat that revolves around Mother Nature and builds upon the area's rich resources.

COLOURLIVING launches new online lifestyle shopping portal

Hong Kong – COLOURLIVING, the one-of-a-kind concept emporium in Hong Kong championing impeccable design and cultivating a premium lifestyle, debuts its online shopping store www.colourliving.shop today. The online platform is the brand's latest addition that complements its existing retail store in Hong Kong.

COLOURLIVING was founded in 2000 to foster a majestic lifestyle and channel a tasteful way of life and well-being for local designers and discerning customers alike through its vast collection of distinctive and selective design objects. The one-stop retail destination is now forging ahead to open a brand-new online shopping portal that secures the brand as a key player in the digital marketplace.

Featuring the best design-minded and artistic products sourced around the world with a peculiar story behind them, the online store offers a unique opportunity for customers to shop thousands of contemporary lifestyle commodities that uphold both form and functions by leading European and global brands as well as designers at their fingertips.

Photo: © COLOURLIVING

The COLOURLIVING digital store strives to nurture a curated shopping experience across a varied product range: high-end furniture, bath & spa, kitchen, lifestyle & accessories, lighting, wall & floor coverings and metal & iron goods. Driven by an unparalleled collection that makes a difference, the online portal enables interior designers and design-savvy individuals to find the perfect pieces to furbish either commercial spaces or domestic abodes.

Aman announces a new destination: Al Ula, Saudi Arabia

Singapore – Aman is pleased to announce its forthcoming debut in the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia in 2023. Following a partnership with the Royal Commission for Al Ula (RCU), Aman will develop three distinct resorts of architectural excellence in North West Saudi Arabia, in Al Ula, a place of extraordinary natural and human heritage.

True to the pioneering spirit of Aman, the three resorts will offer an incomparable insight into the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and its magnificent unspoilt natural landscapes and archaeological sites, which have long remained undiscovered. This development will encompass a fascinating journey to include a tented camp, at one with nature; a sublime resort close to Al Ula's spectacular heritage areas; and a third development as Aman's take on a ranch-style desert resort nestled in an otherworldly setting. The vast area of Al Ula covers 22,561 square kilometres, and includes a lush oasis valley, towering sandstone mountains and ancient cultural heritage sites dating back thousands of years to when the Lihyan and Nabataean Kingdoms reigned. The most well-known and recognised site in Al Ula is Hegra, Saudi Arabia's first UNESCO World Heritage Site.

RCU Governor HH Prince Badr and Chairman and CEO of Aman, Mr Vladislav Doronin.
Photo: © Aman Resorts

Compass Offices announces new flexible office space in Tokyo expansion plan

Tokyo, Japan – Compass Offices, a leading flexible office space provider in Asia Pacific, will launch the Ebisu Green Glass business centre in a move to expand its serviced offices network in Tokyo.

Ebisu Green Glass is located in Shibuya's Ebisu business district, a location popular with local and international corporations for its accessibility and convenience.

The Tokyo Metro Ebisu Station and JR Ebisu Station is under 3 minutes' walk from the door steps of the building, with Roppongi and Shibuya Stations only 1 stop away.

The building enjoys the sophistication of Ebisu, which is one of the best districts for trendy restaurants and high end residences. Landmarks such as the Yebisu Garden Place, Atre Ebisu shopping mall, and the Ebisu Yokocho alley are at walking distance, while hotels such as The Westin Tokyo and The Cerulean Tower Tokyu Hotel are close by.

Photo: © Compass Offices

Compass Offices business centre occupies the top four floors of Ebisu Green Glass. The contemporary designed private and secure flexible office spaces and meeting rooms receive plenty of natural light from their floor to ceiling windows.

The centre features an inviting Compass Habitat with lounge and coworking space that opens out to a relaxing outdoor terrace with city views.

Aurecon appoints Ray Chan to lead Infrastructure business in Greater China

Melbourne, Australia – Aurecon, has appointed Ray Chan as the Director of Operations, Infrastructure – Greater China with effect from 24 February 2020. This senior appointment is in line with Aurecon's execution of its strategy to grow its business in Asia and to help clients unlock business opportunities in infrastructure and transport.

A 21-year seasoned professional in civil and structural engineering, Ray is a proven executive leader with a strong track record of quality delivery and building successful businesses and teams. An author of several technical papers and a sought-after speaker on tunnels and geotechnical engineering, Ray has an in-depth understanding of the technical, commercial, and partnership conditions for successful project delivery that is unique to the region.

Prior to joining Aurecon, Ray was Technical Director and Head of Tunnels and Ground Engineering at Atkins China Ltd.

"I am delighted to have this opportunity to grow Aurecon's Infrastructure business in Greater China. Clients here have bold dreams that will require not just technical engineering skills but also commercial acumen to make their investments viable and sustainable for the long-term. I look forward to working with them to design infrastructure that supports prosperity and growth of our region," said Ray Chan, Director of Operations, Infrastructure, Greater China.

Ray Chan. Photo: © Aurecon

Arcadis 2020 International Construction Cost Index finds Singapore to be the 4th most expensive city in Asia

Singapore – Arcadis announced the release of its annual Arcadis International Construction Cost Index (ICC). Out of 100 cities, Singapore is the fourth most expensive city in Asia once again and climbs in the overall global rankings to 45. Hong Kong and Tokyo both feature in the top 10 while all of the ten least expensive cities are in Asia with the majority of those found in China.

The 2020 Arcadis ICC Index covers 100 of the world's large cities across six continents. The cost comparison was developed covering 20 building functions, based on a survey of construction costs, review of market conditions and the professional judgement from its global team of experts. This year's report addresses two challenges: the unfolding effects of the COVID-19 pandemic and unchanged need for the industry to focus on rethinking resilience amid climate change while plotting a course towards a carbon neutral future.

"As with many other markets around the world, Singapore saw a slowdown of economic growth in 2019. In spite of this, we saw growth in the construction industry buoyed by both public and private investment. At the start of 2020, construction demand remained optimistic with labour and material cost expected to increase moderately," said Josephine Lee, Arcadis' Executive Director for Cost & Commercial Management in Singapore.

"The outbreak of COVID-19 will undoubtedly cause delays within the construction industry due to travel lockdowns and supply shocks in terms of materials and labour resources. However, there has still been a steady flow of private and public sector jobs in the pipeline that will sustain the industry in challenging times ahead. After the virus is contained, construction activity will pick up the pace and companies will emerge stronger as they will accelerate their efforts in building up their workforce capabilities and embrace digitalization and technology to be agile and ready for future crisis."

Josephine Lee

10 most expensive cities

1. London
6. Copenhagen
2. New York City
7. Tokyo
3. Hong Kong
8. Zurich
4. Geneva
9. Dublin
5. San Francisco
10. Edinburgh

10 least expensive cities

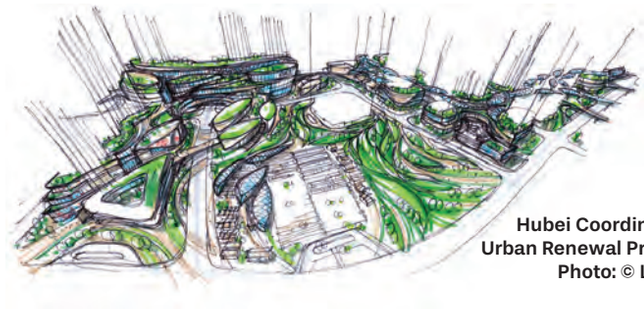
100. Bengaluru
95. Wuhan
99. New Delhi
94. Guangzhou
98. Mumbai
93. Chengdu
97. Kuala Lumpur
92. Bangkok
96. Shenzhen
91. Hangzhou

Lead8 wins international Urban Renewal Competition

Hong Kong – Lead8 announced it has recently won the international competition bid for the Hubei Coordination Urban Renewal Project in Shenzhen.

Appointed by China Resources Land (CRL), Lead8 is delivering the overall retail planning and retail architecture design for the A1-A4 plots of the scheme's Eastern District. Providing cultural, commercial, tourism and real estate opportunities, the project is set to become a major urban complex for the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area.

Located in Hubei, the 'Golden Triangle' financial and commercial circle of Luohu District, Shenzhen, the Hubei Coordination Urban Renewal Project is one of the most significant schemes for the city's pilot demonstration area and the Greater Bay Area. As the birthplace of Shenzhen, the Hubei area is considered a significantly challenging high-density site to carry out the renewal scheme. The project brief calls for a purposeful design to inject new vitality and transform a 500-year-old village into a new generation living centre, while protecting the historical culture of the site.



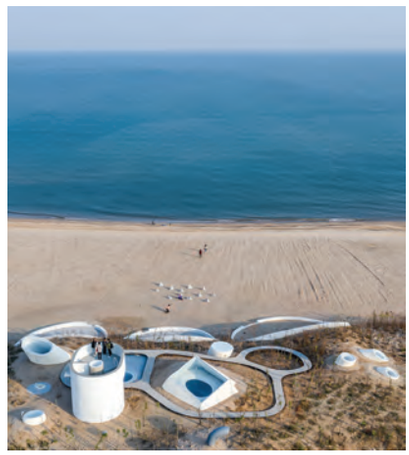
Hubei Coordination Urban Renewal Project. Photo: © Lead8

The scheme occupies over 400,000 square metres, with the A1-A4 plots of the Eastern District comprising residential, office, commercial and serviced apartments. While transforming the site into a prominent commercial hub, the design will inherit the historical context and humanities and arts positioning of the site. Benefiting from a transit-oriented approach, the scheme directly connects to five subway stations and will create active urban spaces integrated with multiple functions to attract visitors with its diverse offerings and experiences.

OPEN's UCCA Dune Art Museum has won the leading culture destination awards 2020

Beijing, China – OPEN Architecture's UCCA Dune Art Museum was awarded "the New Culture Destination of the Year in Asia/Pacific" by Leading Culture Destinations Awards 2020. Winners from other regions of the world also included MoMA in NYC (North America), Amos Rex in Helsinki (Europe), and National Museum of Qatar in Doha (Middle East).

Being regarded as the "Oscar for museums", the Leading Culture Destinations Awards holds the annual awards ceremony once a year since 2015, highlighting the most exceptional established and emerging cultural initiatives around the world.



Photos: © WU Qingshan (photographer) and OPEN Architecture.

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10 Design's proposal for an expo pavilion – a country without walls a future without limits

Hong Kong – 10 Design's proposal for an EXPO pavilion: By imagining, making, communicating, and sharing within the pavilion's activity spaces on the ground, a bright and open future is revealed in the clouds above. The firm developed its concept for the pavilion to respond to the idea of communicating, openness, hospitality, and change.

Design Partner, Paul Rodgers said: "10 DESIGN's vision was to create a memorable pavilion that celebrates the country today, and shares the hopes, achievements, and creativity of the future. By removing the pavilion walls, we are removing barriers to interaction, allowing spaces to flow and movement to be fluid and relaxed."

The pavilion is organised to allow visitors to connect with the people and the chronology of the country by discovering its rich history and culture, experiencing its hospitality and landscape, and contributing toward its future.

Rendering: © 10 DESIGN

The formal proposition is inspired by nature and delivers a journey without walls where visitors are welcomed in to experience the country through an undulating landscape. The landscape reflects its topography and geology and contains a discovery hall with spaces for innovation, creation, and contemplation. The landscape contains activities for children refreshment and relaxation areas, and is organised around a 'Hakawati' zone, reflecting the ancient tradition of storytelling, emphasising conversation and connection, and is shaded by a dream cloud symbolising the future. The landscape gently rises to meet the future cloud, leading visitors upwards and creating a fluid link between the present and the future.

The future cloud would contain four areas themed around the senses: sight, scent, sound, and touch. Content from around the pavilion would be broadcast and displayed for visitors to experience.

Barghest Building Performance (BBP) selects Kinetica Active Analytics powered by NVIDIA GPUs to harness the power of building sensor data

Singapore – Barghest Building Performance (BBP), a Singapore-based energy efficiency technology provider, announced it has selected the Kinetica Active Analytics Platform and Kinetica Cloud to accelerate the data analytics behind its building energy optimisation offerings. Kinetica will produce visuals of streaming and historical datasets once considered too large and cumbersome to process in real-time. Accelerated by NVIDIA GPUs, Kinetica Active Analytics will provide dynamic insights in the moment, allowing BBP team members and customers to make data-based decisions regarding energy usage, maintenance, and comfort.

BBP provides energy optimisation to companies in the hospitality, industrial, office, and retail sectors in South East Asia, India, and China, and is committed to delivering innovative technology and attractive financing solutions to help their customers reach their energy efficiency goals. BBP will use the Kinetica Active Analytics Platform to identify anomalies, skews in building metrics, and possible faults with equipment, enabling predictive maintenance and delivering optimised performance with lower energy consumption.

Both Kinetica and BBP have been accredited by Infocomm Media Development Authority (IMDA). BBP uses data to deliver energy efficiency to their customers and is able to reduce energy consumption up to 40 percent. The Kinetica Active Analytics Platform will enable BBP to extract unique insights from live data and fine tune algorithmic parameters for continuous improvement in performance.

The Barghest Building Performance (BBP) team. Photo: © BBP

Wilson Associates celebrates guest room and spa design inside iconic 'Guitar' hotel

Photo: © Wilson Associates

Singapore – Renowned interior architecture firm Wilson Associates is pleased to announce the opening of Seminole Hard Rock Hotel & Casino Hollywood. Wilson Associates' Dallas studio was tasked with designing the 800 guest rooms – 638 in the Guitar Tower and 168 in the Pool Tower – and the world class Rock Spa®.

The guest rooms and suites combine natural stone surfaces with woven textures and lush area rugs to achieve a Floridian-inspired residence-like accommodation, with each scheme bringing in fun pops of colour. Guest bathrooms, which include open views to the bedroom and spacious walk-in showers, offer a clean, fresh design statement with natural stones and custom millwork. For some of the guest rooms, the unique curvature of the guitar tower afforded the design team to take advantage of the various window angles. The shape of the tower led to the design of full-height curved glass windows with soaring views.

The highlight of the guest accommodation experience is the eight swim-out suites, located at the bottom level of the Pool Tower. Boasting 12-foot ceilings and large-format flooring, these exclusive spaces feature an outdoor deck that connects guests to the hotel's public swimming lagoon and lazy river amenities.

The design team was also tasked with designing 10 VIP suites and a private Gaming Parlor on the top levels of the Guitar Tower that maximise the surrounding views of the property's landscape as well as the pool complex. Each suite showcases its interpretation of a design aesthetic inspired by the Floridian residential lifestyle each with their own unique palette, and high-end finishes and furnishings.

The 42,000-square-foot Rock Spa® features more than 40 body and facial treatment rooms, dry and wet lounges, jacuzzis, and salon. The interior design offers a peaceful oasis away from the hustle and bustle of the casino floor and brings together natural elements – such as wooden columns, specialty textured walls, vertical green walls, dark stone surfaces and floor tiles, teak furniture, and a light, neutral colour palette.

BIE Member States confirm one-year postponement for Expo 2020

Dubai, UAE — Expo 2020 Dubai is gearing up to help shape a post-pandemic world and create a better future for all after a two-thirds majority of Bureau International des Expositions (BIE) Member States voted in favour of postponing the next World Expo by one year.

The global mega event will now run from 1 October 2021 to 31 March 2022, a delay that allows all participants to safely navigate the impact of COVID-19, and allows the World Expo to focus on a collective desire for new thinking to identify solutions to some of the greatest challenges of our time.

Expo 2020 Dubai site rendering. Image: © Expo 2020 Dubai

His Highness Sheikh Ahmed bin Saeed Al Maktoum, Chairman of Dubai Airports, President of the Dubai Civil Aviation Authority, Chairman and CEO of Emirates Group, and Chairman of the Expo 2020 Dubai Higher Committee, said: "We welcome the decision of BIE Member States to support the delay Expo 2020 Dubai by one year. We are thankful to Member States for their continued commitment to contributing to a World Expo in Dubai that will play a pivotal role in shaping our post-pandemic world at a time when it will be most needed.

"Over the last 50 years, we have sought to build bridges, connections, and partnerships around the world because we believe in genuine collaboration to safeguard the future of all. This swift and overwhelming vote reflects the strength of our international partnerships and truly reflects the positive role the UAE and Dubai play with all countries around the world.

"This affirmation by the international community of Dubai's offering and its ability to deliver, further strengthens our commitment to matching ambition with achievement to hosting an event that will capture the world's imagination, when the time is right."

LWK + PARTNERS reveals masterplan of waterfront development Zhongshan OCT Harbour

Hong Kong — China's Zhongshan OCT Harbour, masterplanned and designed by LWK + PARTNERS, broke ground in early 2020, which is envisioned to serve as a dynamic recreational destination and emerge in the west coast of Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. LWK + PARTNERS Planning and Urban Design Team in Hong Kong office came together in collaboration with Shenzhen and Chongqing studios to create an urban cultural hub for the community, incorporating vernacular Lingnan aesthetics, river ecology and sustainability considerations alongside business opportunities. Concerns for ecological conservation and healthy living are rooted in the project to promote a new urban lifestyle with diverse waterscapes and built spaces in an area undergoing regeneration. Spanning a site of nearly 300,000 square metres, the project is scheduled to open in 2023.

Zhongshan OCT Harbour will have a theme park, retail areas, residences, hotel accommodation, entertainment facilities and offices across both sides of the river, creating a diversified commercial, recreational and living experience on a rich, eco-friendly landscape. As the project develops, a respect for nature, local culture and Lingnan aesthetics gradually unfolds.

Rendering: © LWK + PARTNERS

OMA to design a shopping centre integrated with community spaces in Melbourne's countryside

Whittlesea, Melbourne, Australia – Australian retail developer Sandhurst Retail has commissioned OMA to design the Wollert Neighbourhood Centre in Wollert in the City of Whittlesea – a suburb 25 kilometres north of Melbourne's CBD and one of the state of Victoria's fastest growing regions. Led by OMA's Regional Director Paul Jones, the 9,000-square-metre Centre will integrate retail programme with community spaces – including a central public courtyard, amenity spaces, and childcare and education facilities to create a place for communal experience.

Wollert Neighbourhood Centre. Photo: © OMA

At the centre of the utilitarian-shaped Wollert Neighbourhood Centre will be a shaded courtyard with spaces for curated community events and daily activities. An accessible roof offers extra areas for sports and education, and opens up possibilities for urban agriculture and energy saving initiatives. Spatial zones organised in vertical stripes will house other amenity spaces, facilities for children, and well-being-focused retail offerings within the building. Such spatial organisation, in addition to landscape design of the courtyard, evoke barcodes ubiquitous in retail.

The Centre has been conceived as the heart of a potential masterplan with residential and commercial programs, which would offer a new living option typically unexplored by the suburban population.

Plans for the Centre are currently with the Whittlesea Council, with works expected to commence in 2023.

SONGWON announces new distribution partnership in Canada to support growth in the region

Ulsan, South Korea – To ensure reliable supply of its products and provide on-the-spot services for customers in the growing Canadian market, SONGWON has entered a partnership with A. S. Paterson Company Ltd., an established distributor of performance chemicals across the region.

"With its comprehensive technological knowhow and its long-standing experience in the distribution of materials to paint, ink, and adhesives & sealants formulators and manufacturers in Canada, A. S. Paterson Company has the skills and enthusiasm needed to grow SONGWON's market share in Canada," explained Sean Steres, SONGWON's Head of Sales North America.

Rod Paterson, President of A. S. Paterson Company, representing the fourth generation of the family-run firm, commented: "Our Company has been built on strong relationships with suppliers and customers. Through our technical support and commercial practices, we have gained the trust of paint and coating manufactures. We use warehouses across the country to ensure the necessary delivery times and employ technical representatives in the major Canadian cities to maintain a local presence."

The distribution partnership has been in operation since January 2020.

SONGWON is a leading global chemical company & manufacturer that offers specialty solutions in chemicals for a wide variety of sectors & industries. Photo: © Songwon Industrial Co., Ltd.

Space Matrix and IA Interior Architects form global consortium

Singapore – Singapore-based Space Matrix and US-based IA Interior Architects are thrilled to announce that they have come together in a strategic partnership where two of the largest global design firms focused on interiors for workplaces have joined forces to provide unparalleled design services and capabilities to serve its clients.

This partnership will include shared resources in a "Global Studio" with dedicated professionals, technologies, and expertise, all focused on innovation and designing cutting edge interiors.

The Global Studio connects over 1,400 professionals across 37 locations spanning the globe, allowing both firms to serve clients across six continents, in more than 60 countries, and in over 500 cities.

Arsh Chaudhry, CEO, Space Matrix.
Photo: © Space Matrix

Guangzhou Electrical Building Technology rescheduled to 30 September to 3 October 2020

Hong Kong – Originally planned to be held in June, Guangzhou Electrical Building Technology (GEBT) has been rescheduled to 30 September – 3 October 2020. The concurrent Guangzhou International Lighting Exhibition will also take place on these new dates, with both fairs held at the China Import and Export Fair Complex. GEBT will continue to support the industry with the goal to inject a fresh momentum by showcasing new products and technologies.

The fair will feature a wide range of new innovations within its two main product groups, which are:

Photo: © Guangzhou Guangya Messe Frankfurt Co Ltd

• **Electrical Engineering**
Electrical accessories and materials, power supply and distribution systems, energy management systems, electricity supply equipment and electrical products, power supply, instruments, gauges and tools, electrical energy-efficiency modification equipment, control equipment, meter & monitoring and dimmer switches, sockets and switches, lightning protection systems and equipment.

• **Intelligent Buildings and Smart Home**
Light control systems, audio and video systems, air conditioning and cooling systems, systems integration, generic cabling systems, intelligent sun shading systems, video surveillance, access control and home security systems.

A series of forums cover emerging industry trends

GEBT will feature a number of experts who will discuss the industry's future development and trends through a series of forums. Topics include Electrical Engineering, Smart Home, Intelligent Buildings, Integrators' Conference, Green Buildings & Hotel Engineering and Smart Office Interior Design. The forums will analyse the needs of the industry and forecast future trends in order to provide the audience with first-hand insights into this ever-changing industry.

The Guangzhou International Lighting Exhibition and Guangzhou Electrical Building Technology fairs are part of Messe Frankfurt's Light + Building Technology fairs headed by the biennial Light + Building event. The next edition will be held from 13–18 March 2022 in Frankfurt, Germany.

Touch-free access-control systems from dormakaba – Helping to keep you safe and healthy

Singapore – dormakaba prides itself in putting safety and security at the forefront of all the products it develops and markets.

One aspect of safety demanded by the building industry today is on health and hygiene. Hygiene is one of the most important things in our lives – from city planning, facilities management and private living. Even your door can make the difference when it comes to a clean and hygienic surrounding, which is why: there are regular restaurants and then there are 'clean restaurants'. There are schools and then they are academic institutions which are healthy and well sought-after.

Install a foot pull-handle and a dormakaba door closer onto the door.

This has led to an increase in demand for touch-free Access-Control Systems for use in every type of applications, ranging from homes to healthcare facilities. dormakaba can meet your most demanding touch-free Access-Control needs, be it for a small apartment, a major hotel or educational institution or a sprawling commercial or healthcare facility.

dormakaba's product offerings include a simple foot pull-handle for mechanical doors, to automatic swing- and sliding-door operators incorporating the use of a touch-free switch or Magic Switch as the company calls it, to electronic locks incorporating the use of Mobile Access (opening and closing of the door using your mobile phone), right up to our advance barrier-gate systems incorporating the use of facial-recognition technology.

The use of Smartphones for touch-free Automatic Doors

BLE Digital Readers from dormakaba

Safe-Entry Concept

Automated Entrances

Base Tower to be integrated with Automated Entrance & Barrier Gates for Hand Sanitiser, Body Temperature Checks, etc.

Barrier Gates

Customised Solutions to ensure Hygiene & Safety

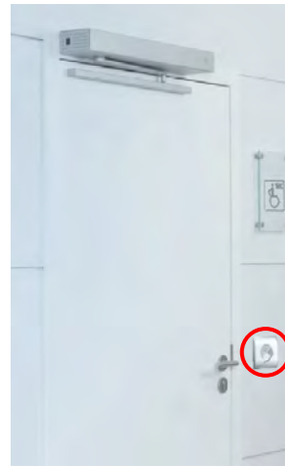
What makes the Magic Switch special?

- The MAGIC SWITCH is an intentional contactless microwave sensor.
- Its main use are hygienic applications where the lack of contact with the sensor is required and also comfort reasons in hospital environments, hotels, restaurants, in the retail and pharmaceutical industries and in logistics.
- Contact-free switch for convenient activation of entrances.
- With strict hygiene and design requirements.
- Low energy costs.
- Flexible installation on wall, door and glass.

After-sales Service Support

Touch-free access-control systems not only create a pleasant ambiance – where you feel safe and welcomed, but it ensures utmost hygiene – especially when opening doors. All of dormakaba's touch-free access-control systems are supported by a team of professional service technicians in its key markets.

The use of dormakaba's Magic Switch for touch-free Automatic Doors



Magic Switch

Opening the door is done by simply waving the hand

BDP wins contract to design landmark building for Medway Council

London, UK – The new Innovation Park Medway (IPM) is to be designed by BDP, following a competitive pre-qualification questionnaire process. The project is a new opportunity for high-value technology, engineering, manufacturing and knowledge-intensive businesses looking to grow in the South East of England. It will be a flagship development of up to 100,000 square metres commercial space with state-of-the-art meeting, conference and business facilities designed to encourage pioneering and a collaborative community.

The site benefits from Enterprise Zone status until the end of March 2022 offering businesses the opportunity to take advantage of business rates discounts of up to £55,000 per year for five years.

At the top of the Runway Park, Innovation Park Medway's gateway feature building will be the first building on site, facilitating the occupation of a number of innovative businesses and demonstrating the high quality aspirations Medway Council has for the park.

BDP's submission was one of the top seven selected, out of 25 submitted, and the seven consultancies were taken through to the tender stage and invited to submit a full and complete bid, including a presentation and clarification interview. On a global scale BDP has helped deliver many projects, and is experienced in a variety of different sectors. It has a network of international studios including Shanghai, Singapore and New Delhi in the Asia region.

Exterior of Innovation Park Medway.

Medway Council said: "We are pleased to confirm that we have awarded the contract for the design of the IPM Gateway Building to BDP who demonstrated a thorough understanding of the brief. Their concept and holistic approach to the design of the building took into consideration the hardworking flexible ground floor space and interaction with the runway park."

Behnisch Architekten completes the new research laboratory for the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology

Stuttgart, Germany – The Energy Lab 2.0 at Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) is an intelligent platform, set up to explore the interplay of components in the energy systems of the future and in particular to speed up the energy transition in Germany through the integration of renewable energy in the production of electricity. Electrical, thermal and chemical energy flows, as well as new information and communication technologies are combined in a cluster of facilities. Project partners are the Helmholtz Centres, the National Aeronautics and Space Research Centre of the Federal Republic of Germany (DLR) and Forschungszentrum Jülich (FZJ).

Photo: © David Matthiessen

The new construction of building 668 on a site formerly used for experiments with solar energy in the north of the Campus Nord provides an attractive, high-quality and flexible location for this research. The detached building has the appearance of a homogenous unit with a translucent building envelope made of polycarbonate that allows the wooden construction on the interior to shimmer through and accommodates an ample, column-free test hall as well as a two-storey office wing.

The main approach is from the west via a glass vestibule in the central zone of access, which leads between the offices and the hall, alongside a lightweight glass wall, into the building, allowing generous views between these building sections. The material of the hall incorporates references to the neighbouring buildings with their industrial character.

Fernanda Marques wins two prestigious awards

Sao Paulo, Brazil – Brazilian architect Fernanda Marques of Arquitetos Associados has won the title of Best Luxury Residential Interiors Architecture Firm in the context Latin American Business Awards 2019 and the title of Most Influential Woman in Architecture & Product Design 2020.

A graduate of the University of São Paulo's School of Architecture and Urbanism, the career of Fernanda Marques is marked by the same conceptual thread that characterised her formative years: integrated use of various disciplines encompassed in a project: construction, interiors, product design, visual communication and landscaping. The projects conceived in her practice combine her integration skills, the essence of her style – clean and contemporary – and the best of the world's art and design.

Such is evidenced in several projects signed by Fernanda not only throughout Brazil, as well as in residences in Miami, New York, London, Lisbon and an ongoing project in Panama. However, her portfolio goes beyond luscious homes, also contemplating real estate developments in major Brazilian cities, well-established commercial spaces and product design. It is this multidisciplinary trait, combined with a renewed appetite for the new that makes her an unmatched contender in the domestic and recently established international scenarios.

Some of Fernanda's most recent acclaims were the Best in Show Award received in 2019 and the Red Dot Awards, received in 2020, both for the Infinity Basins developed as a joint project with ROCA. Fernanda was also recognised as "the Most Influential Woman in Architecture & Product Design in Brazil" by the Design and Build Awards in 2020.

Fernanda Marques. Photo by Drausio Tuzzolo

Foster + Partners wins design competition for unique residential project in Shenzhen

London, UK – The winning design for Qianhai Talents' Apartments – an innovative residential project in Shenzhen aimed specifically at the rental market – has been revealed. The project is envisaged as a building exclusively for 'talents' – professionals who would have an intensive work-centred lifestyle. Mostly single or living away from their families, their primary desire is for privacy and exclusivity, while also craving a sense of community in a relaxed environment. Reimagining this new building type, the design offers an innovative layout that redefines the residents' living experience.

Extensive research into co-living spaces around the world has revealed a common theme that brings people together – food. A small kitchenette in every apartment provides the necessities while grouping the remaining area to form a new common shared space for communal cooking. The shared kitchen groups twelve residential units across three levels to form a cluster. It is a place where people can cook food and share ideas. The three-level shared dining space also has views out and is both a cultural and a social heart for the residents.

The communal dining space is complemented by the podium deck, offering a new tranquil urban oasis – a place for calmness and relaxation for the residents. Amenities such as the residents' clubhouse, wellness and spa centre, resident town hall and co-working space sit within the sky gardens.

Qianhai Talents' Apartments. Photo: © Foster + Partners

There are curated events and gatherings in the amenities where public and residents can get together.

Future flexibility is key and modular construction allows for prefabrication, saving time and ensuring quality control. Two shear walls enclose every two units, allowing flexibility to combine the units in the future. Although each unit type may differ, interior elements within these units are standardised and allow for construction efficiencies.

Danfoss announces a comprehensive range of R32-qualified components

Nordborg, Denmark – With its relatively low global warming potential (GWP) at GWP-675, high volumetric capacity and efficiency, lower purchase price and system charge, R32 has become one of the most popular alternatives – along with R452B and R454B – to R410A for commercial air-conditioning systems and heat pumps.

In response to high demand – and following the release of the multi-refrigerant portfolio for R410A/R452B/R454B earlier this year – Danfoss has announced a full range of components that enable OEMs to design R32 systems up to 700kW/260TR.

The portfolio includes:

- DSF fixed-speed scroll compressors with IDVs, optimized for R32 – full range available by the end of 2020
- Micro plate heat exchangers (MPHE-Z design), optimized for R32 – full range available by the end of 2020
- Micro channel heat exchangers (MCHE) adapted for R32
- DCRE filter driers for larger air-conditioning units
- The Colibri® Electronic expansion valve (ETS C)
- System protectors and line components such as NRV check valves, GBC ball valves, STF 4 way valves, EVR v2 solenoid valves, ACB switches and DST P110sensors, SG sight glasses, all qualified for R32. Compatibility has been checked with every raw material and connections over 25mm are all validated according to PED category II except for the EVR v2.

Importantly, Danfoss's scroll design enables OEMs to take full advantage of R32's thermodynamic properties, with +10% volumetric capacity for a same compressor size. This optimized design improves the $/TR-€/kW ratio. It also mitigates the impact of high discharge gas temperature, without the need for costly liquid or vapour injection – a significant applied cost

benefit – and enables a wide operating map, suitable for use in reversible systems.

And like Danfoss's DSH multi-refrigerant range, the DSF range is equipped with intermediate discharge valve (IDV) technology to meet the latest seasonal efficiency requirements.

Matthieu Stoll, Danfoss Cooling, AC Segment Marketing Director said: "Around the world, air-conditioning OEMs are switching away from R410A. By adding a new R32 range of products on top of our existing multi-refrigerant R410A/R452B/R454B portfolio, we're committed to providing the broadest range of options to our customers. And for the end users, whichever is the application challenges they have, system designed with Danfoss solutions enable high efficiency, reliability, low refrigerant charges and flexibility."

OEMs who would like to test the new R32 components in their own design are welcome to contact Danfoss.

Formfunc Studio's office and distribution centre achieves South Africa's first interior 6-Star Green Star award

Cape Town, South Africa – The Green Building Council has awarded Formfunc Studio, a leading ergonomic furniture supplier, a 6-Star Green Star rating following the recent fit-out of their office, showroom and DC in Lanseria. The project led by specialist sustainability and environmental consultants from the Terramanzi Group attained the highest possible Interiors Green Star v1 certification - the first such rating to be awarded in South Africa for an office and distribution centre.

Director and co-founder of Formfunc, Kim Kowalski said that the aim of the project was to create a workspace that was not only functional but optimised health, wellness, productivity and efficiency – all within an advanced and ergonomically designed workspace.

"As we are the exclusive distributor of Humanscale® ergonomic chairs, workstations and other office accessories to the southern African market, it was imperative that our

The retrofit allows natural lighting into Formfunc's office. Photo: © Formfunc Studio

office environment went beyond just an ergonomic solution but also reflected our brand and our philosophy of recreating wsorkspaces that are simpler and healthier for our employees to work in," said Kim.

In order to attain this exclusive international rating, the project consultants along with IT solutions provider, Aethyr IT and design specialists, Mask.Design and other contractors had to assess every element of the fit-out and scope of work to ensure that it would score a rating of between 75 and 100 credits in accordance with the Green Star Rating Tool.

Categories evaluated and rated under the Green Star SA Rating Tool incorporate a range of factors and elements that required forethought and considered from the materials used, to Indoor Environment Quality (IEQ) and emissions. A strong focus is also placed on the efficient and responsible environmental stewardship in terms of energy, water and waste management.

Policroma wins Red Dot Award

Fiorano Modenese, Italy – A jury of internationally renowned experts selected the collection Policroma of brand CEDIT (made in Florim) among over 6,500 products from 60 different countries.

The Policroma ceramics collection, designed by Cristina Celestino, offers an aesthetic formula that incorporates both the stylistic canons of classicism and those of a compositional and expressive code more in line with modern taste, skilfully combining them in a well balanced mix.

The collection's repertoire of large slabs features motifs inspired by two separate sources: on the one hand the exquisite, always surprising vein texture of some specific metamorphic rocks, and on the other the sophisticated colours of Marmorino plaster.

The key to Cristina Celestino's project is the dual reference to the surfaces of marble (in this instance rare or extinct stones) and those created by a category of plaster decoration that aims to imitate the shine of marble itself.

In spite of their different natures, these two materials are embedded in the culture of Italian architecture: their substance and appearance evoke the modes of construction and decoration typical of Italy's urban and rural landscape in various periods– primarily in specific regions – defining and characterising its buildings both for their interior and exterior decoration.

Today, the considerable body of memories relating to the use of these materials acquires new life, distinctively interpreted in the fascinating atlas of marble weaves and Marmorino plaster colours in the Policroma range of slabs: the large ceramic surfaces become portions of space, on which the exquisite "geographies" of a marble surface or the subtle ripples of colour

Policroma designed by Cristina Celestino. Photo: © CEDIT (made in Florim)

in a plaster pattern are magnified, in unbroken successions or defined by an austere dark perimeter framing.

A rounded arch is then used to offer suggestions for combining the two decors in the same ceramic covering, which becomes a marvellous inlaid area for use alongside other, similar slabs to generate a rich web of figurative weaves and possible two-dimensional patterns, each with its own specific visual impact.

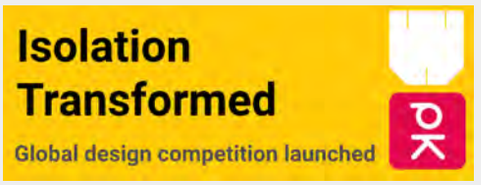
The collection is completed by a linear listello tile with the motif of a sequence of vertical rectangular blocks, which can be combined with the slabs to further enrich compositions involving continuous ceramic surfaces cladding.

World Architecture Festival and PechaKucha launch global design competition

London, UK – The World Architecture Festival and PechaKucha (www.pechakucha.com) join forces to launch a virtual 2020 ideas competition. 'Isolation Transformed' asks architects, designers, and engineers to reimagine post-virus environments that would mitigate, improve, or offset current community distancing and isolation.

Given today's necessary social distancing requirements for individuals, families, and communities, the question for the design community now is: how do we use design to alleviate or improve physical and psychological contexts in which we live, work, and play? How can we mitigate effects of future pandemics through design? A new focus is needed to address the collective spaces we inhabit and use in our everyday life. World Architecture Festival and PechaKucha invite international architects, designers, engineers, and students to submit ideas that address the topic of social distancing at all scales in respect of geography, social context, and temporary or permanent conditions. Ideas can range from mitigation to transformation and include product design, interior design, housing designs, transport facilities, workplace architecture, open-space design, and urban initiatives including landscape interventions. Entries are judged on strength of concept, delivery, universality of application, and economy.

Entrants are asked to present their ideas via PK Create



using the PechaKucha format – 20 slides, with 20 seconds of commentary per slide.

All entrants are judged by a panel of esteemed experts including previous RIBA president and architect, Sunand Prasad; designer and creative director of INSIDE, Nigel Coates; CEO of Maggie's Centres, Dame Laura Lee; Co-Founder of Architecture Is Fun and President-elect of the American Institute of Architects (AIA), Peter Exley; and previous WAF health category winners, Ralph Johnson and Sharon Davis.

Shortlisted designers will be invited to present their ideas at the World Architecture Festival 2020, 2 to 4 December 2020, in Lisbon, with contribution to travel and accommodation. The winner will receive up to £1,000 towards travel costs, two nights' accommodation in Lisbon, and a trophy presented at the WAF Gala Awards Dinner on the evening of Friday, 4 December 2020.

For more information, visit www.worldarchitecturefestival.com/isolation-transformed-competition.

ZHA to build CECEP's new Shanghai headquarters

London, UK – Following the international design competition, Zaha Hadid Architects has been selected to build the new Shanghai headquarters of the China Energy Conservation and Environmental Protection Group (CECEP).

CECEP is the country's leading company initiating and funding projects with a focus on renewable energy technologies. Continuing their commitment to renewable energy and environmental conservation, the new CECEP headquarters in Shanghai has been designed to be the 'greenest' building in the city with sustainability embedded into every aspect of its design and construction to achieve more than 90 credits in China's exacting Three Star Green Building Rating system – the highest score for any building in Shanghai.

The 218,000 square metres headquarters sets new benchmarks for the city in energy conservation, energy efficiency and sustainability. Located adjacent to the Yangpu Bridge on the Huangpu River, the design responds to its riverfront site and is defined by the history and dynamism of Shanghai.

A mixed-use urban campus of three office towers, shopping, dining and leisure facilities linked together by a park that

Rendering by Negativ.

connects directly with the city, the new headquarters echoes CECEP's commitment to environmental education by creating vital new public spaces for its staff and neighbouring communities to enjoy the natural world.

Barcode Architects presents new project in Berlin: The Brew

Rotterdam, The Netherlands – The Brew is one of the first developments in the transformation of the former Bärenquell Brauerei in Berlin. Barcode Architects transforms the so-called Flaschenabfüllgebäude from an industrial ruin to a new icon along the Spree. As a social hub within the masterplan, the 15,000 square metres project has a key role in the development of the entire area.

The Bärenquell Brauerei is a large-scale industrial building complex in the Treptow-Köpenick district of eastern Berlin. Due to the decline in demand for East Berlin beer after the fall of the Berlin Wall, the complex was closed in 1994. Since then, the abandoned buildings have been a breeding ground for street art and urban culture.

After years of abandonment, the complex was about to be demolished, but now it will be transformed into a lively part of the city where living, working and culture come together, based on the masterplan designed by Tchoban Voss Architekten. The ambitious masterplan focuses on optimally preserving the identity of the complex, with raw industrial materials and the urban culture that is blossoming there.

The redevelopment of Bärenquell Brauerei sets the scene for the further densification of Berlin and the activation of the quays along the Spree. The proposal for The Brew has been very well received by the city. The transformation will start in mid-2022.

Rendering of The Brew. Photo: © Barcode Architects

More than a stadium: Excelsior unfolds plans for a multifunctional landmark

Rotterdam, The Netherlands – Football club Excelsior presented the development plan for the renovation of the club's stadium to the city council of Rotterdam this week. As part of a spatial exploration, MoederscheimMoonen Architects developed the plan commissioned by the club. The plan not only consists of the expansion and modernisation of the stadium, but also responds to the major housing construction task the city faces.

The vision is influenced on the current base and orientation of the stadium. The renovation and expansion of the stadium which will take place will increase the number of seats from approximately 4300 to 6500. In addition, extra facilities for commercial and social purposes will be created. The plan includes a large multifunctional volume on and around the stadium where living, sports, exercising, socialising and health all come together. This will result in in an outstanding multifunctional building that will become a memorable landmark in the east of the city.

Photo: © MoederscheimMoonen Architects

The architects not only developed a plan for the stadium but also worked on the other assignments that contribute to the total area development on behalf of the municipality together with CULD Agency. For instance, the plan contains solutions in terms of mobility, diversity of programming and a balanced use of greenery and existing recreational space.

The proposal fits in seamlessly with the urban planning program of the municipality of Rotterdam. The team worked on an overarching vision for the areas Woudestein, Brainpark, Kralingen and the Esch in combination with the new canal connection. In doing so, the plan takes the important historical green zones and projects into account, further elaborating on the previously applied design principles for the urban planning of the areas.

An important objective of the submitted development plan is to initiate a future-proof development.

SABIC's LEXAN™ CLINIWALL™ AC6200 sheet provides anti-bacterial, hygienic and touchable wall cladding solutions for hospitals and public facilities

Bergen op Zoom, The Netherlands – SABIC has launched a non-chlorinated and non-brominated opaque sheet, LEXAN™ CLINIWALL™ AC6200. The sheet aims to provide a hygienic, sanitary solution for interior surfaces to several industries around the world.

The launch comes as the rising need for infection prevention and sanitation control across the world continues to increase. SABIC's full integration across the value chain allows the company to develop robust solutions that help meet customers' needs.

Typical industries for the solution include hospitals, clinics, homes for the elderly, primary care centres, sterile rooms, laboratories, pharmaceutical factories, industrial kitchens, storage rooms and refrigeration facilities, schools, restrooms, airports, bus stops, train stations and sports centres.

"As customer needs and demands continue to evolve, we are helping to solve some of the biggest challenges the world faces today. It is important now more than ever for public, industrial and healthcare facilities to be equipped with products that include anti-bacterial properties to ensure the safety of their staff, patients, customers and anyone who may walk through their doors," said Peter van den Bleek, Product Manager for SABIC's Functional Forms business.

When independently tested over a 24-hour period at 35 degrees Celsius, LEXAN™ CLINIWALL™ AC6200 Sheet with anti-bacterial shield showed greater than 99.99 percent reduction in Methicillin- Resistant Staphylococcus Aureus (MRSA) and 99.999 percent reduction in E. Coli on the surface of the material.

Photo: © SABIC

LEXAN™ CLINIWALL™ AC6200 Sheet is also a non-chlorinated, non-brominated, halogen free and fire-resistant opaque material, which delivers high impact and wear resistance. The sheet further offers excellent stain, blood and urine resistance, as well as chemical resistance to popular cleaning agents like disinfectant Isopropanol (rubbing alcohol), helping to save significantly on maintenance costs.

Russian Federation to move 2020 Venice Biennale project fully online

Venice, Italy – The Commissioner of the Russian Federation Pavilion of the Venice Biennale, Teresa Iarocci Mavica, announced that the country's official participation of this year's edition, the 2020 architecture Biennale, will move to an entirely online presence. This decision has been taken by The Ministry of Culture of the Russian Federation, advised by the International Artistic Committee, with the support of the Commissioner; the Curator of this year's edition, Open?, Ippolito Pestellini Laparelli, architect and founder of studio 2050+; and the pavilion's operator, Anastasia Karneeva of Smart Art.

Teresa Iarocci Mavica commented: "The pandemic has challenged our understanding of the role of cultural institutions and has called for a radical reconsideration of the framework of major cultural events. The focus must shift to what is essential: our responsibility for the local creative professionals invited to participate in the exhibition and the planned work on the Pavilion, both in terms of renovation and programming content."

The Pavilion at Giardini will undergo a physical renovation, designed by KASA architects, which will continue as planned. Other contributors are currently adapting their projects to function within a digital environment. Open? will launch as an online platform today, accumulating content (podcasts, video interviews and lectures, films, a video game and a live music act) over the course of several months. The Pavilion will also initiate a broader debate on the role of cultural institutions in post-pandemic times.

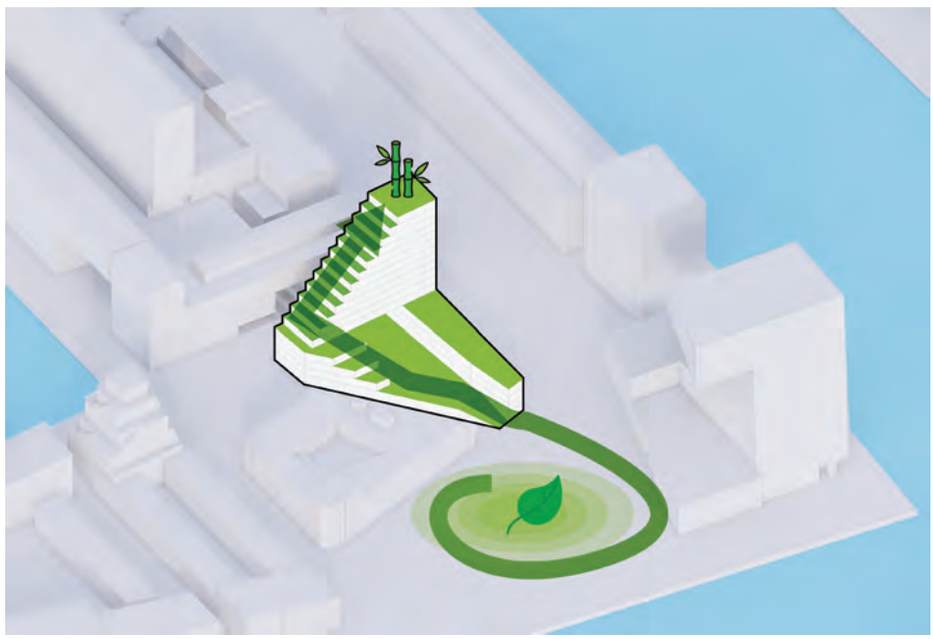
Mei architects and planners designs a unique wooden residential building 'Sawa' in the Lloydquarter in Rotterdam

Rotterdam, The Netherlands – In the heart of the Lloydquarter, the first fully wooden 50-metre-high residential building in Rotterdam will be realised. Mei architects and planners has been commissioned by Nice Developers and Era Contour to build this apartment building. Exceptional to Sawa is that the building will be built entirely in CLT (cross laminated timber). Furthermore, the building is distinguished by the generous green terraces, with which the building enhances the biodiversity of the neighbourhood.

Sawa – exterior rendering. Photo: © Mei architects and planners

Building in CLT

In the context of the European Green Deal, UN Sustainable Development Goals and objectives of the municipality of Rotterdam to reduce CO2 emissions, the client and architect share the ambition to fully execute the building, including the main support structure, in CLT. There are multiple advantages of building in CLT: In addition to the fact that it storages CO2 and reduces emissions, construction time will be shorter compared to concrete construction and living comfort will increase. Sawa will be an exemplary project for new generations, an important step in the sustainability objectives and tangible evidence that things can be done differently.



Sawa – concept diagram. Photo: © Mei architects and planners

Biodiversity

Dutch cities continue to grow and experience increasing pressure. The consequences of this urbanisation on the human ecosystem – for example, flooding, heat stress and increasing CO2 emissions – are becoming increasingly noticeable. At the same time, the habitat of birds, bees and butterflies is being considerably limited by increasing urbanisation and mineralisation of the landscape. With the design for Sawa, Mei commits to changing this evolution and contribute to a healthy living environment. In collaboration with city ecologists, a building is designed in a way in which vegetation is integrated into balconies, terraces and decks, thus increasing the biodiversity of the neighbourhood.

"As an architect, I believe we should take responsibility to create healthy societies. And this is the moment. The design for Sawa shows that things can be done differently," said Robert Winkel, owner/architect at Mei architects and planners.

Vaisala takes its world-leading humidity measurements to the cloud

Vantaa, Finland – Vaisala, a global leader in weather, environmental, and industrial measurements, has introduced a new cloud-based Vaisala Jade Smart Cloud system for professionals who want to access high-quality measurement data anywhere, at any time. The data can be viewed on the go; on a mobile device, such as mobile phone or tablet, and on a pc or laptop. The Jade Smart Cloud is ideal for any structural moisture or ambient humidity measurement monitoring needs on the go, because it keeps users updated on critical measurements continuously.

Typical applications for the Vaisala Jade Smart Cloud system are, for example, concrete moisture measurements on construction sites and ambient humidity measurement monitoring in data centers, museums or other public buildings, and livestock production facilities.

"Cloud-based monitoring makes the actual operations more efficient, as time is no longer wasted in setup and pairing of hardware with software, or frequent visits to the various measurement sites," explained Product Manager Lars Stormbom from Vaisala.

In addition to streamlined work, the system brings benefits in terms of providing regular automated software updates without any downloads, and increased collaboration by making it easy to share live or stored data with colleagues and customers. Additionally, the cloud-based system increases data safety and control.

The system consists of CWL100 Wireless Dataloggers with probes, a CA10 Access Point and the Jade Smart Cloud software license. When measuring concrete moisture, probes can be placed directly inside boreholes, or they can be mounted on the wall.

Vaisala Jade Smart Cloud checking data on mobile device. Photo: © Vaisala

IFLA 2020 World Congress postponed

Versailles, France – The IFLA Executive has been closely monitoring the COVID-19 pandemic, and has been in contact with all of the host associations with commitments to hold IFLA world congresses.

IFLA ExCo accepts the decision of the 2020 organisers, ILAM, to regrettably cancel this year's congress and world council meeting in Penang. Following consultation with the Kenya/Sweden (2021), Korea (2022) and Turkey (2023) association organisers, it is agreed that the schedule for the IFLA World Congress and Council meeting be modified as follows:

2020 No congress
2021 Malaysia
2022 Korea
[2023 Sweden/Kenya]*
2024 Turkey

The dates for the 2021 Congress and World Council meeting in Penang will be announced shortly.

The IFLA Executive thanks all those involved for their understanding and foresight in arriving at this decision. The friendly and collaborative manner in which discussions have taken place reinforces the solidarity of the global landscape architectural profession and the quality of its individual leaders.

The IFLA ExCo is considering options for holding a virtual World Council meeting in September 2020. An announcement will be made to delegates and associations as soon as the committee and secretariat have identified the best way to proceed.

*TBC. This is the hoped for date, IFLA awaits confirmation of this from the member associations involved.

Luca Curci Architects presents Vertical City, a zero-energy city-building

Bari, Italy – Architecture firm Luca Curci Architects presents Vertical City, a project proposal for a vertical city-building of 100,000 people settled in the water. Vertical Cities Urban System is planned to incorporate smart city technologies and to divide the city in functional areas.

The main residential city-tower is connected, by water and by air, to the three towers of offices, goverment departments, healthcare facilities and educational institutions, including all levels of schools and universities. The interconnected system also works as a tourist destination. There are other three structures, the Moons, more oriented to the lifestyle amenities such as hotels, welness and spa centres, sport centres, shopping malls, bookshops, and leisure attractions.

Vertical City has been presented for the first time at the Knowledge Summit 2019 in Dubai. The Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Knowledge Foundation has organized it's sixth annual Knowledge Summit, on November 19-20, 2019 bearing the theme "Knowledge: The Path to Sustainable Development".

A number of renewable energy resources, such as wind, water turbines and solar panels are also incorporated. Energy storage solutions. Water desalination. Food production and farming integrated and follow a zero-waste policy. Healthier life-style. No suburbs. Less poverty oriented.

"We will build a new way of living. More sustainable. With more interconnected communities programs. Deleting suburbs. Reducing poverty," said Arch. Luca Curci.

The project combines sustainability with population density and it aims to build up a zero-energy city-building. Starting from the analyses of the contemporary skyscraper, conceived as a compact element, smooth and alienated from the surrounding space, the project has re-interpreted it in an opened structure, equipped with green areas on each level, natural light and ventilation. 100 percent green transport systems.

Photo: © Luca Curci Architects

This new interpretation allows its residents to get into an healthier life-style, in connection with natural elements, re-thinking the traditional concept of community and society.

Stonehill Taylor appoints Principal Mark Hayes to approach expansion in Asia Pacific region

New York, USA – Stonehill Taylor is embarking on an exciting new chapter in its history. The firm is on the verge of a significant expansion into the Asia Pacific Region with the appointment of principal Mark Hayes, AIA, NCARB. Hayes previously held roles at notable hospitality design firms BBGM and HBA, bringing international experience to Stonehill Taylor. Hayes earned a bachelor's degree in design from the University of Florida and a master's degree in architecture from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

"It is truly an honour to be partnering with Stonehill Taylor's abundantly talented designers to create inspiring and distinct hospitality experiences," said Hayes. "I am thrilled to be part of the firm's next chapter as it expands its footprint and portfolio outside of the US market," he added.

Hayes spent 10 years in Southeast Asia working on projects in mainland China and Indonesia, and with clients in Singapore and Malaysia. His hospitality projects in China include The Sheraton Changchun Jing'Yuetan, The Sheraton Grand Wuhan Hankou, Four Points by Sheraton Hainan in Sanya, Xiamen Marriott Hotel & Conference Centre, and Hilton Tianjin Eco-City. Further development clients in China include China Oceanwide Holdings Group and Shenzhen Yitian Group. His work in Indonesia includes The Residence Bintan by Cenizaro Hotels & Resorts, and Lippo Group's Bloomington Tower condominium in Jakarta.

Mark Hayes. Photo: © Stonehill Taylor

Juha Leiviskä, Russell Foster and Henry Plummer receive The Daylight Award 2020

Copenhagen, Denmark – On the UNESCO International Day of Light, The Daylight Award announced the 2020 Laureates: Juhai Leiviskä for his architecture, Russell Foster for his research, and, exceptionally, for this year, The Daylight Award is also given to Henry Plummer for his lifetime achievement.

Juha Leiviskä, Finland receives the award for his works of architecture that demonstrate a unique ability to make daylight an integral element of his buildings.

Russell Foster, United Kingdom receives the award for his clinical studies in humans addressing important questions regarding light.

Henry Plummer, United States, receives the award for lifetime achievement by recording daylight phenomena in his brilliant photography and writing.

The extraordinary award, made only this year celebrates the 40th anniversary of the very first Daylight Award, given to Jørn Utzon. "While laureate Russell Foster studies the science behind the effect of light on human behaviour and physical and mental wellbeing, laureates Juha Leiviskä and Henry Plummer approach the effects and implications of daylight intuitively through architectural design, photographic expression and verbal mediation of these human responses. Whether elucidating the neural effects of light or invoking the poetic essence of light, the laureates of the 2020 Daylight Award demonstrate to us the power of natural light," stated the jury.

Portrait from 1999 (from the long-time office of Vilhelm Helander, Juha Leiviskä Architects) Courtesy of Juha Leiviskä Archive

The Daylight Award 2020 for Architecture: Juha Leiviskä, architect and designer

Juha Leiviskä is one of the most significant contemporary architects in Finland. In his works, he demonstrates a unique ability to make daylight an integral element of his buildings, in a way that combines emotional stimulus, functionality, and a subtle yet thrilling presence of light as part of the spatial experience. In the current context of environmental values of architecture and the use of natural resources to create natural and sustainable comfort, the work of Leiviskä on daylight is particularly relevant today.

Results of the 6th LafargeHolcim Awards for Sustainable Construction to be announced in 2021

Zurich, Switzerland – Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the results of the regional phase of the Awards competition will now be announced in 2021.

The Awards juries in five regions of the world (Europe, North America, Latin America, Middle East & Africa, and Asia Pacific) select the competition winners using the "target issues" for sustainable construction. Each regional jury will go ahead as a virtual panel and consists of independent, renowned representatives from science, business and society that were to meet in person.

The Project Contact of short-listed projects will be contacted following the jury meeting of the respective region to complete the project verification process. The prize allocated will not be disclosed until the prizes are handed over in 2021.

All Main Authors, Further Authors, and Project Contacts will be informed via email of the competition results, which will also be communicated through print, electronic and social media.

The entry period for the 6th LafargeHolcim Awards for Sustainable Construction has closed. Registration was open from June 4, 2019 until February 25, 2020 and registered participants were able to finalize submissions until March 3, 2020. Participants are able to download their entry form but can no longer edit the content.

2-4 SEPT

Shanghai Intelligent Building Technology

Shanghai New International Expo Centre (SNIEC)
Shanghai, China
T: +852 2238 9961
F: +852 2519 6079
E: building@china.messefrankfurt.com
W: www.building.messefrankfurt.com

30 SEPT - 3 OCT

Guangzhou Electrical Building Technology 2020

China Import and Export Fair Complex
Guangzhou, China
T: +852 2802 7728
F: +852 2598 8771
E: info@hongkong.messefrankfurt.com
W: www.building.messefrankfurt.com

7-9 OCT

LED Expo Thailand 2020

Impact Exhibition & Convention Center
Bangkok, Thailand
T: +66 2 833 5347
E: Wishjanondv@impact.co.th
W: www.ledexpothailand.com

20-22 OCT

ASEAN Super 8

Malaysia International Trade & Exhibition Centre (MITEC)
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
T: +60 3 9771 2688
F: +60 3 9771 2799
E: hamizan.razali@informa.com
W: www.super8asean.com

27-30 OCT

China Xiamen International Stone Fair 2020

Xiamen International Conference and Exhibition Center
Xiamen, China
T: +86 592 595 9616
F: +86 592 5959 615
E: info@stonefair.org.cn
W: www.stonefair.org.cn

9-12 DEC

ARCHIDEX 2020

Malaysia International Trade & Exhibition Centre (MITEC)
Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
T: +60 16 233 2773
F: +60 3 7982 1648
E: info@archidex.com.my
W: www.archidex.com.my

Jewel Changi Airport

Photo credit: Shutterstock

A new retail hub now connects three of the four airport terminals together and includes hotels, a shopping centre and a garden with a 40 metres high waterfall. Mapei was proud to be associated with the project.

Designed by the Israeli-Canadian architect, designer and urban planner Moshe Safdie, who previously designed the Marina Bay Sands resort in Singapore (see Realtà Mapei International 33/2010), Jewel Changi Airport is the new retail hub made from steel and glass which, since 2019, with its network of footbridges and an overhead railway line, connects three of the four terminals of Singapore's main airport.

The airport is at the heart of a regeneration and expansion process and Jewel Changi is the latest of a series of futuristic projects for the structure. It consists of an imposing hall that connects three of the airport's terminals, characterised by a large tropical garden dominated by a ring-shaped glass roof, at the centre of which there is the highest artificial indoor waterfalls in the world. The aim of the project was to transform the airport into a destination in its own right. In fact, inside the structure (which has a surface area of 134,000 square metres), visitors find more than 300 shops and boutiques, restaurants, a cinema with 11 screens, a 130 cabin Yotelair, gardens and pedestrian areas.

Designing a waterfall in an airport

The structure of Jewel Changi is divided into two main blocks: a rectangular basement slab where the carpark, a cinema and service areas are located, and the toroid-shaped main building, spanning over 10 storeys (five of them are located underground), hosting the shops and boutiques over seven floors and featuring a large terraced greenhouse with a glass cupola roof.

And it is the last of these areas that makes this airport so unique; a tropical garden over five levels, with an imposing glass and steel cupola, a bridge for the shuttle service connecting the various terminals, and a large artificial waterfall at the centre of the building.

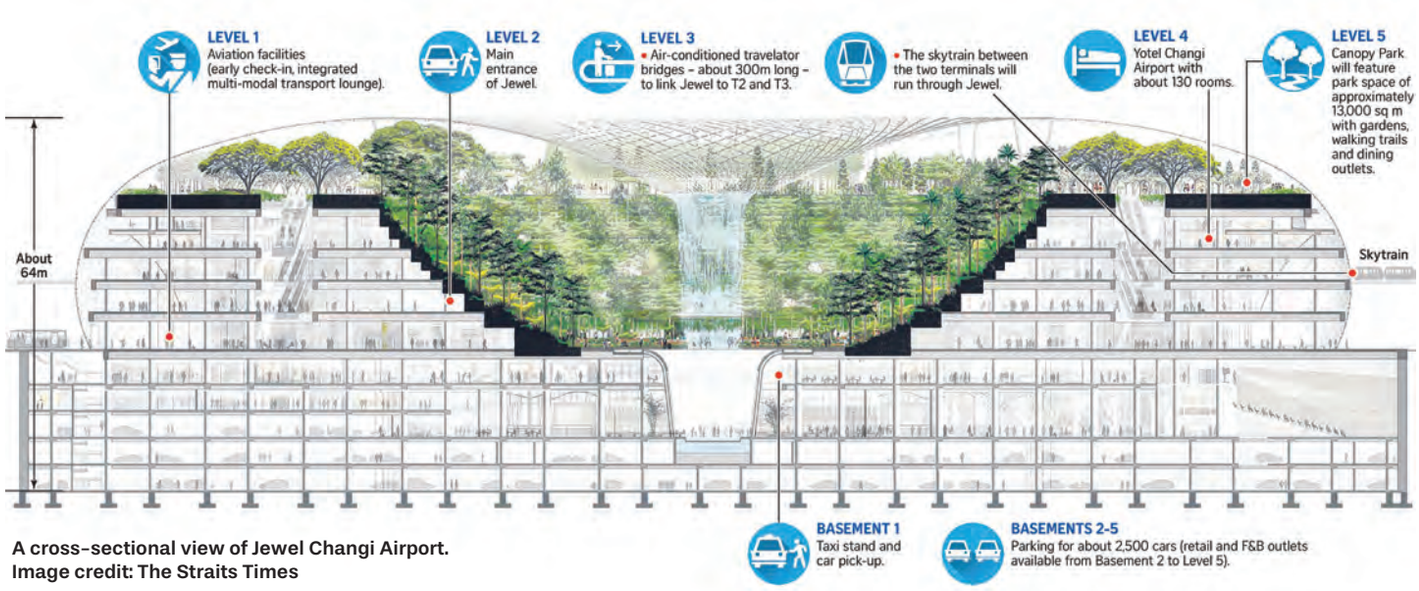
The heart of the complex is the Shiseido Forest Valley covered by a large glass cupola, featuring a large, terraced garden with walkways and relaxation areas where more than 120 carefully selected plant species from all over the world are nurtured at a constant, controlled temperature of 23–24 °C, and a view overlooking the 40 metres high Rain Vortex, the highest indoor waterfall in the world.

Apart from being an iconic symbol of the airport, the waterfall is an installation that allows rainwater to be collected and then recycled into an irrigation system. The roof is made up of a 200 metres long by 150 metres wide toroid shaped, grid-shell framework, the only one of its kind. The cupola is covered by more than 9,300 glass panels, that allow the right amount of luminosity and light to flow into the complex, and has a 12 metres diameter opening in the middle from where the water for the waterfall flows through.

Different areas required different adhesives

Mapei supplied the most suitable adhesives to install the various types of ceramic tiles and stone on all 10 storeys of the structure.

Shiseido Forest Valley. The lava stone slabs on the garden walls along the Rain Vortex and the slate slabs for the floor in the entrance to Jewel Changi Airport, in the Shiseido Forest Valley and in Terminal 1 were installed with KERAFLEX MAXI S1 cementitious adhesive with Low Dust technology and the joints were grouted with KERACOLOR SF cementitious grout. The same adhesive was used for the coverings along the cascading waterfall feature on the eastern side, while to grout the joints the preferred product was KERACOLOR FF cementitious mortar admixed with FUGOLASTIC liquid polymer admixture to improve its adhesion and mechanical strength and to reduce porosity and absorption.



A cross-sectional view of Jewel Changi Airport. Image credit: The Straits Times

KERAFLEX MAXI S1 adhesive and KERACOLOR FF grout were used to install and grout granite and cobblestones along the paths in the Canopy Park and in the Shiseido Forest Valley.

The walls of the waterfall are covered with lava stone slabs installed with KERAFLEX MAXI S1. The joints were grouted with KERACOLOR SF.

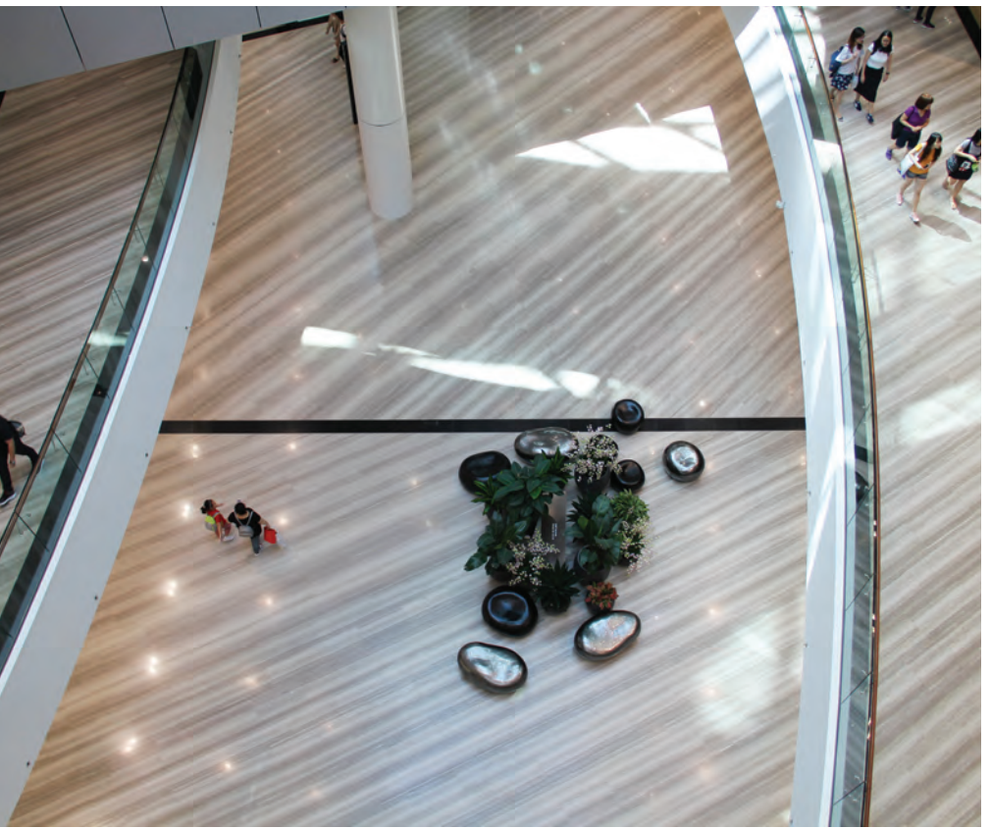
The floors and stairs in this area were covered with granite, which was installed using KERAFLEX MAXI S1 adhesive and KERACOLOR FF cementitious mortar.

A really tough adhesive had to be used for the soffit at the entrance of the Shiseido Forest Valley and the product recommended for this particular area was KERAPOXY acid resistant epoxy adhesive. The flooring for some of the walkways in this area, in the Canopy Park and in the shopping area was made from even shaped cobbles, which were installed with KERAFLEX MAXI S1 and grouted with KERACOLOR FF. The paving for the paths in the Canopy Park were in granite and the slabs were also installed with the same products.

Floor–1. For this underground area, the granite floor slabs were installed with KERAFLEX MAXI S1 while ceramic tiles were installed in the area where the restaurants are located with KERAFLEX adhesive. In both cases the joints were grouted with KERACOLOR SF super–fine, white cementitious mortar.

Shopping centre. The floors on all seven levels of the shopping centre were covered with slabs of flecked cream marble and black granite slabs which were installed with KERAFLEX MAXI S1. The joints were grouted with KERACOLOR SF mortar.

Terminals. The floors around the lifts in Terminals 2 and 3 were covered with slabs of marble installed with KERAFLEX MAXI S1 and the joints were grouted with KERACOLOR SF. The floors on floor–3, in the lobby and in the corridor connecting the terminals to Terminal 1 were covered with white Kashmir granite, which was installed with KERAQUICK S1 high performance cementitious adhesive and grouted with KERACOLOR SF.



The floors on all seven levels of the shopping centre were covered with slabs of marble and granite installed with KERAFLEX MAXI S1 adhesive and grouted with KERACOLOR SF mortar.

The floors in the restaurant in the basement area are covered with ceramic tiles installed with KERAFLEX and grouted with KERACOLOR SF.

The granite in the bathrooms was bonded with GRANIRAPID and grouted with KERACOLOR SF. The substrates were treated with PRIMER G before bonding the granite.

The floor of the covered walkway connecting Terminals 2 and 3 was also covered with the same material and installed with the same products.

Bathrooms and service areas. To install tiles on the floors and walls of some of the bathrooms, it was recommended to use KERAFLEX adhesive. The floors and walls of the bathrooms in another area, on the other hand, were covered with black granite slabs installed with GRANIRAPID adhesive. Before installing the coverings on walls, the substrates were treated with PRIMER G primer in water dispersion.

The ceramic tiles used to cover the metal doors giving access to the service rooms and rooms for airport personnel were installed with KERALASTIC T thixotropic adhesive. Joints were grouted in all the areas with KERACOLOR SF.

External areas. To pave the area in front of the entrance to Terminal 1, granite slabs were installed with KERAQUICK S1 and grouted with KERACOLOR SF. Some of the slabs had to be installed over metal grates and, to get the best result, it was recommended to use KERAPOXY adhesive and KERACOLOR FF grout for joints.

Mapei Products

Preparing substrates: Primer G

Installing and grouting ceramic tiles and stone: Fugolastic, Granirapid, Keraflex, Keraflex Maxi S1, Keraquick S1, Kerabond T, Keralastic T, Keracolor SF, Kerapoxy, Keracolor FF

KERAFLEX MAXI S1

Article source: Realtà Mapei International no. 80/2020.

For more information, email mapei@mapei.com.sg.

PROJECT DATA

Project Name: Jewel Changi Airport, Singapore
Period of Construction: 2014–2019
Period of the Intervention: 2017–2019
Intervention by Mapei: Supplying products to install ceramic tiles and stone materials
Design: Safdie Architects, RSP Architects Planners & Engineers Pte Ltd
Client: Jewel Changi Airport Trustee Pte Ltd, Changi Airport Group (Singapore) Pte Ltd
Main Contractor: Woh Hup – Obayashi Joint Venture
Installation Companies: Woh Hup Pte Ltd, Sunray Woodcraft Construction Pte Ltd
Mapei Coordinator: Lawrence Chong, Mapei Far East (Singapore)
Photos: Provided by Mapei

ASWA architectural studio

ASWA, an architectural studio located in Bangkok, designed its new office around a courtyard that allows natural ventilation to go through the office space, as well as the natural light.

A "dark green geometric volume" with its punctured roof opening to a green area defines a small design studio, ASWA (Architectural Studio of Work – Aholic), located in Bangkok, Thailand. The studio sits on a small land, around 100 square metres that previously used as parking lots.

The studio has used metal sheet panels as the main material to clad this compact office throughout its wall and roof. The one-storey asymmetry hip roof studio holds a 49 square metres square-shaped plan with a 6 square metres square punctured court inside. This off-centre courtyard is determined by the required width and height of the surrounding spaces regarding their functions, which include working space for 6-8 staffs, a meeting area, a displayed physical models, materials cabinets, and restroom.

Shape and form of the building represent a humble character of the studio, and its idea of the ideal working atmosphere which are derived from the experimental design in the way to hide from the bustling outside street with minimum openings, yet to surprisingly open itself to the inner green space. This courtyard allows the natural ventilation to go through the office space, as well as the natural light that contributes beautiful shade and a great view for the studio. It also lives with a natural ecosystem by inviting bird, squirrel, butterfly, frog, etc. to reside in its central green space.

PROJECT DATA

Project Name: ASWA Studio
Location: Bangkok, Thailand
Client: ASWA (Architectural Studio of Work – Aholic)
Architecture Firm: ASWA (Architectural Studio of Work – Aholic)
Gross Floor Area: 49 square metres
Completion: 2019
Photos: ©ASWA

Phuttipan Aswakool (left) and Chotiros Techamongklapiwat, Founders of ASWA

"ASWA carries out its design journey through experimentation with materials, architectural forms, and characteristics of interior spaces that correspond in equilibrium with the use of natural light. For ASWA, a design is conceived from a thorough analysis of each project's surrounding context before translated into its own architectural language."

– Phuttipan Aswakool, Co-Founder, ASWA

The Galleria

Designed by OMA, the Galleria has a stone-like appearance which makes it a natural point of gravity for public life in Gwanggyo.

The Galleria is Korea's first and largest upscale department store franchise founded in the 1970s, and has remained at the forefront of the premium retail market in the country since then. The store in Gwanggyo – a new town just south of Seoul – is the sixth branch of Galleria. Located at the centre of this young urban development surrounded by tall residential towers, the Galleria's stone-like appearance makes it a natural point of gravity for public life in Gwanggyo.

The store is located between the Suwon Gwanggyo Lake Park and ubiquitous buildings in the city: an intersection between nature and the urban environment. The store has a textured mosaic stone façade that evokes nature of the neighbouring park. Appearing as a sculpted stone emerging from the ground, the store is a visual anchor in the city.

The public route has a multifaceted glass façade that contrasts with the opacity of the stone. Through the glass, retail and cultural activities

inside are revealed to the city's passers-by, while visitors in the interior acquire new vantage points to experience Gwanggyo. Formed with a sequence of cascading terraces, the public loop offers spaces for exhibitions and performances.

A place where retail and culture, city and nature collide, Galleria in Gwanggyo offers a get away from the predictability of shopping.

PROJECT DATA

Project Name: The Galleria
Location: Gwanggyo, Korea
Client: Hanwha Galleria
Architect Firm: OMA
Size:
Above Ground:
73,721 square metres
Below Ground:
63,492 square metres
Completion: 2020
Photos: © Hong Sung Jun, courtesy of OMA

"Gwanggyo's lack of identity and a natural urban centre for people to meet inspired us to create a building that would anchor the town beyond its residential status. The design, mindful of the retail program, aims at expanding the role of the Galleria into becoming an extension of public space: a cube (a point of gravity, robust) but public (with a loop that brings people and light inside)."

– Chris van Duijn, OMA partner leading the Galleria project

Chris van Duijn. Photo: Courtesy of OMA / Photography by Fred Ernst

Chuangyuan Tower

Designed by DP Architects, Chuangyuan Tower aims to harmonise interactions between human and nature.

Chuangyuan Tower, standing 50 metres high, is located within the southwest corner of the Eastern Zone of Nanjing Tech Park, where China's next generation of technology giants abide. Embodying permeability and connectivity, the design of this commercial-office complex harmonises interactions between human and nature while reflecting the openness of public government service. With this in mind, DP Architects' design approach was primarily about creating a landmark that blurs the boundaries between landscape and building.

The project astutely incorporated an innovative outdoor 'Green Deck' concept in its design to circumvent anticipated issues of zoning, views and privacy. This 'Green Deck' skillfully splits the building faculty in two with the office tower sitting atop a podium, which holds the hotel and its associated facilities. Such spatial programming allows the hotel and office spaces to function as discrete units, with more accessible, independent and open spaces in both.

The orientation of the building as well as its facade design carefully takes into consideration Nanjing's climatic conditions and its effect on all who enter. North-eastern winter winds are deflected by the office tower, whereas during summer, the building invites and directs the flow of south-eastern winds through the site. This is achieved through a building façade of primarily glass curtain walls adorned with vertical aluminium and iridescent glass fins to maximise openness, brightness and outward views. The iridescent glass fins serve as an aesthetic complement to the curves of the podium facade, creating a unique and dynamic viewing experience for users approaching the building as their hues vary depending on the angle. This shape also maximises the view from within outwards to Laoshan mountain, a scenic Nanjing landmark. The southern façade, where most of the hotel rooms are situated, looks out at a delightful green space.

Further blurring the line between landscape and building is DP's design strategy for the podium and its rooftop garden.

By adopting a nautilus form, the podium spirals upwards from the ground, seamlessly integrating the building to its surrounding. The rooftop space was then envisioned as an extensive green roof that connects itself into the surrounding greenery. Made pedestrian-friendly, it provides a welcoming communal space for public use.

With its sleek, modern design, attention to detail, and focus on user experience, the project establishes itself as a modern, sculptural, and iconic building at the heart of Nanjing Tech Park.

PROJECT DATA

Project Name: Chuangyuan Tower
Location: Nanjing, China
Client: Nanjing Jiangbei New Area Industrial Technology Research & Innovation Park
Architecture Firm: DP Architects
Landscape Architect: DP Green
Size: 26,700 square metres
Photos: © Arch-Exist Photography, courtesy of DP Architects

Wu Zhi Wei. Photo: © DP Architects

"Chuangyuan Tower houses many functions within a single development. By introducing a spiralling Green Deck, our design was able to resolve the contradictory needs of the end-users across its different typologies, and enable harmonious interaction between people, nature and architecture."

– Wu Zhi Wei, Director, DP Architects

Peak Galleria

Aedas was commissioned to renovate and modernise the Peak Galleria shopping arcade for a brand new outlook.

Standing on the summit of Victoria Peak since 1992, the Peak Galleria welcomes millions of travelers each year who come to catch a glimpse of the spectacular view of Hong Kong. The landmark shopping arcade with panoramic views to both the Victoria harbour and the Pokfulam Reservoir, offers a multi-sensory shopping, dining and entertainment experience attractive to international tourists and local families. Due to its long history, the premise had become obsolescent and worn out in the past decades and was in urgent need of a makeover.

Aedas was commissioned to renovated and modernise the property for a brand new outlook. Undergone a more than 2.5 year redesign and construction, Peak Galleria re-opened in 2019 with a modern image of a rising bright gem stone sitting on the peak. "The Victoria Peak is of great significance to the history of Hong Kong and the local citizens. To bring back the glory and glamour of the arcade, it needs not only a fit-out in modern architectural language, but also a re-positioning of the development. We are making it an inseparable part of urban life in Hong Kong, a leisure destination for the citizens, a playful memory for children, and a Hong Kong image for tourists," said Ed Lam, Executive Director of Aedas.

To achieve this goal, three key strategies have been applied for rejuvenation of the arcade:

1. To create a gem-like, eye-catching entrance that resonates the city's lively spirit and symbolic image of "Pearl of the Orient".
2. To improve circulatory and visual experience to interior space by re-organizing retail layout and circulation flow.
3. To promote interaction with nature

and add commercial value to outdoor terraces by creating new alfresco dining area and improve design and accessibility to viewing platforms.

The journey begins as one arrives at the century-old Peak Tram Station. Removing obstructive built works on the plaza, a dazzling gemstone immediately draws attention from visitors while the two wings extends to form a welcoming hug around the plaza. Sharp angles of the thick red granite were replaced by tender curves of the glass and steel structure, reflecting a lighter and younger image of the shopping arcade with a style.

The design draws inspiration from the "glowing gem", combining two inconspicuous entrances into one grand iconic entrance. Triangular glass panels are applied to realize the curtain wall's diamond-cut pattern, sparkling to create an eye of the peak. Bright and glittering in the sun, it reflects the surrounding natural landscapes and changes of the sky from different angles, stimulating an intuitive interaction between architecture, nature and people passing by. As night falls, LED lights on the grid shell structure put on a light show like a meteor shower, brightening up the Peak to offer a different kind of fascination from daytime.

To realise the 3D structure of the gemstone, a CNC machine method is adopted to produce the star-joints in accurate and extraordinary touch of finish. The components of the structure are prefabricated to ensure accuracy during composition, while reducing transportation cost and construction time.

To return space to the city, ample communal spaces are created for people to share and interact. The public plaza has always been a place for gathering and transit. Transforming an existing fountain into a lawn, it endows the plaza a broader view and an inviting vibe.

Improve atrium and spatial quality

Lights penetrating through the curtain wall, the open and permeable entrance introduces a pleasant sense of arrival as visitors step in. It blurs the boundary of indoors and outdoors by inviting natural lights and extending stone patterns and materials of the exterior wall and plaza into the interior space With optimised layout and rich colours applied, the design changes the dim and cramped visual impression of the arcade. The main atrium is strategically widened from 4 metres to 8 metres in a comfort and proper proportion to enhance spatial quality and allow events and gathering. The arcade is re-arranged into a singular loop to improve wayfinding for visitors and commercial value for retail shops. Coherent with changes on the building facade, the sharp corners and straight angles in the interior space are also modified into curvy round aisles to generate a softened affinity to visitors.

Existing skylight structure is retained and upgraded by adding a thermal insulation film to filter out heat and sun glare. With sunlight shedding in, the new lighting system and the overall light tone of the arcade creates a bright and amicable atmosphere that people almost feel that they are walking in the sun.

An installation art of glass panels is set on top floor along the passageway. The "Rainbow Corridor" features glasses in different forms and colours – creating gradients of the colour spectrum – and reflect the changing sunlight into playful shadows within the atrium. The rhythmic light and colours eliminating the sense of confinement in an enclosed space and creates a special "check-in" place for the mall.

Human-nature interaction with blurred boundaries

Accessible terraces are set on each floor to maximise view for visitors and generate additional value for the commercial space. Existing solid

parapet walls are demolished and replaced by clear glass balustrade. All restaurants in the development are placed with alfresco dining area enjoying different angles of the view. Collaborated with local artists on design of the children playground on the second floor of the terrace, an inspiring culture and art space is created to enhance engagement and liveliness to the arcade.

Strolling up to the observation deck on top, the gem-like curtain wall of the main entrance extends upwards to as railings. The glazed panels are visually lighter and physically thinner, reducing distance to the natural scenery. Viewing the cityscape afar, high-rise buildings blocks below showcase prosperity of a bustling Hong Kong; while natural forests and ocean on the other side speaks for an everlasting tranquility of the land. Taking photo from any of the triangular frame is like a silent dialogue between man and nature, architecture and the environment.

Ed Lam. Photo: © Aedas

"More and more citizens are choosing Peak Galleria as their weekend destination for family gathering. You can see children playing, friends hanging out on the terrace and tourists acclaiming for the views on the observation deck. The best refurbishment is to bring the building into life, returning space to the city, and inviting people to visit and celebrates its new life."

- Ed Lam, Executive Director, Aedas

PROJECT DATA

Project Name: Peak Galleria
Location: Hong Kong, China
Client: Hang Lung Properties
Design & Project Architect: Aedas
Gross Floor Area: 23,397 square metres
Completion: 2019
Photos: © Kris Provoost

Xichen Paradise Walk

Chengdu's Xichen Paradise Walk in China, designed by LWK + PARTNERS, encourages social interaction and community life with high transparency and accessibility to bring together people, their neighbourhoods and nature.

Retail spaces are evolving into lifestyle complexes that are inspiring, diversified and immersive to surround visitors with a curated experience to fulfil various lifestyle and social needs. Chengdu's Xichen Paradise Walk in China, designed by LWK + PARTNERS, is a pilot project of the third-generation Paradise Walk brand, setting a new benchmark for future projects.

Accessibility and transparency underpin the architectural concept. The notion of multiple ground floors allow entry from different levels, giving different points for attracting visitors and a higher accessibility especially to the higher levels, as well as blurring the boundaries between the mall and the surrounding neighbourhood. Most of the retail floors are visible from the main entrance for maximised visibility. The inter-connected circulation enables users with ample flexibility to personalise their own visiting experience.

'Experience' is a contemporary merchandise, whilst being inspired and being in touch with other people and greenery enhance the value of experience. At Xichen Paradise Walk, an outdoor rooftop piazza allows for social interactions, public events or simply a place to relax, with open-air terraces accessible from various retail zones, connecting

not only outdoor–indoor spaces also different levels from the ground up.

Elements of nature spread throughout the mall to create a sense of freshness and relaxation. In addition to the extensive use of greenery – from potted plants to big lawns – the large atrium prominently features big flower-pod installations highlighting a flower theme, with abundant natural light streaming in through the glass facade to a pleasant winter garden for the neighbourhood. With three indoor atria in total the mall offers multiple spaces for events, exhibitions, large-scale artworks or business showcases.

Various amenities are designed to provide holistic shopping and entertainment experience for


RASS 130


天街
Paradise Walk
met

families, including a kids' zone with educational facilities, family-friendly restaurants and a nursing room.

Fully integrated lifestyle complexes transform the neighbourhoods by enabling diverse values to thrive and coexist. Xichen Paradise Walk showcases a user-oriented design in response to the shift in values, priorities and the way of life over time.

PROJECT DATA

Project Name: Xichen Paradise Walk
Location: Chengdu, China
Client: Longfor Properties Co. Ltd.
Architecture Firm: LWK + PARTNERS
Gross Floor Area: 131,125 square metres
Completion: 2019
Photos: © WOHO

"Placemaking is at the heart of Xichen Paradise Walk's design philosophy. We would like to create a lively social space that draws people together that is open and accessible to all, which energises people's relationship with each other as well as with their neighbourhood."

– Lambert Ma, Director, LWK + PARTNERS

Lambert Ma. Photo: © LWK + PARTNERS

The Summit

Designed by Goettsch Partners, the Summit is a modern mixed-use development, which offers unobstructed eastern views to Jinji Lake.

The Summit is a two-parcel development in Suzhou, China, that connects to the existing metro station and borders both sides of Suhua Road, the city's ceremonial boulevard and centre for commercial development. The mixed-use development features two towers – one 16 storeys and the other 39 storeys – and includes office, retail and luxury residences that offer unobstructed eastern views to Jinji Lake.

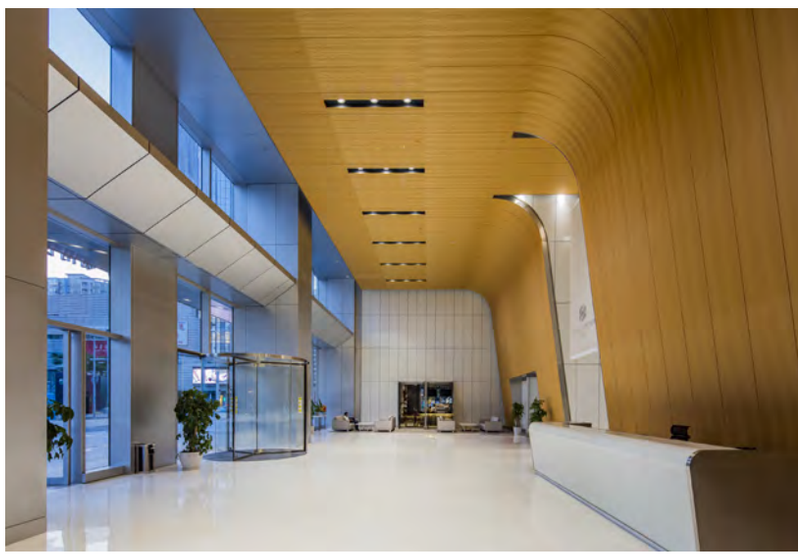
The design concept organises the various program elements into a series of interlocking volumes. Each volume is sized to provide optimal fsunctional depth for the program contained within, while creating a compositional quality that visually unifies the two parcels. An innovative gridded facade system is utilised for both towers to further visually connect the buildings while seamlessly integrating operable ventilation for all users. The project is certified LEED Gold, and direct connection to mass transit, extensive green roofs, locally sourced materials and high-performance enclosures are a few examples of the sustainable strategies employed throughout.

The efficient, modern towers also strive to translate elements of context into the architectural expression. Therefore, the project colour palette of white, grays and black was inspired by the architectural vernacular famous in Suzhou. Capturing an essence of the city was critical, as the project enjoys unparalleled visibility in the downtown due to its location along the ceremonial boulevard and its immediate adjacency to the active public plazas to the east.

Paul De Santis. Photo courtesy of Goettsch Partners.

"The design establishes a cohesive image for the complex while bridging the site's axial divide. Complementary grids clearly distinguish the programmatic elements while defining an image befitting this area of the city."

– Paul De Santis, LEED AP Partner and Senior Project Designer, Goettsch Partners



PROJECT DATA

Project Name: The Summit
Location: Suzhou, China
Client: Tishman Speyer
Architecture Firm: Goettsch Partners
Total Area: 150,060 square metres
Opening: January 2018
Photos: © Shen Zhonghai, 1st Image; Su Shenliang © KGM Architectural Lighting

Akamai Technologies Global Headquarters

Sasaki has designed a new 19-floor global headquarters, uniting 2,000 employees along a central pathway to keep Akamai Technologies connected so they can keep the rest of the world connected online.

Formerly occupying space in six different buildings in and around Kendall Square, the fastest growing tech hub in the country, Akamai Technologies consolidated 2,000 employees under one roof in a brand new global headquarters. Having their people spread across that many places made it difficult for collaboration, innovation, and ideation – all critical inputs to staying at the forefront of their industry. Moving towards a more consolidated and efficient real estate approach helped them maximise the employee and client experience.

Akamai's vision for their new headquarters is a singular and integrated campus, connecting all departments and groups seamlessly and thoughtfully. The new 19-storey, 480,000 square feet design strategically organises all collaborative spaces around a sinuous, continuous path throughout the entire building, encouraging both planned encounters and serendipitous interactions. The path, a mile long experience affectionately referred to as the "AkaMile", begins in the lobby at street level, greeting customers and employees with its bold interactive displays and warm, welcoming textures and tones. The AkaMile arranges many of Akamai's customer-facing programs around the first few client reception floors, taking the visitor along a journey of exploration and education around Akamai's offerings, and how it has become a leader in the tech industry as a trusted cloud delivery and cybersecurity platform.

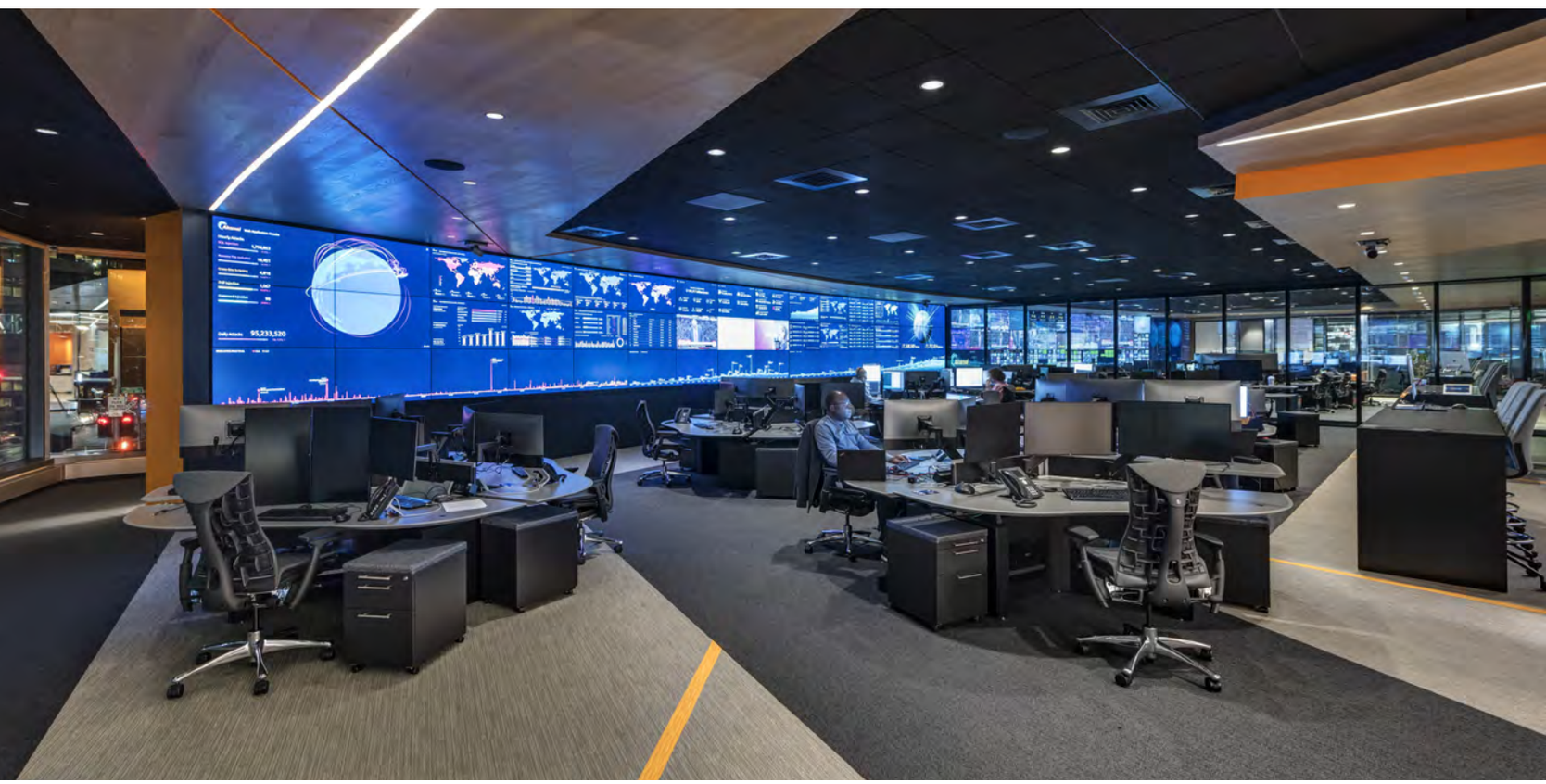
The footpath transitions beyond the customer-focused areas to the employee experience where it weaves its way through the remainder of office floors in a series of interconnecting stairs and volumes. This uninterrupted route allows for both horizontal connections to other employees on the floor, but also vertical connections to those on floors above and below, extending the visual reach of a floor and eliminating the barrier that can be caused by having to get in an elevator. In doing so, the design creates a continuous loop housing spaces that support knowledge sharing, information gathering, brainstorming, and invention across a far larger group of people than just a single floor plate, all of which contribute to Akamai's growing status as a world leader in technology.

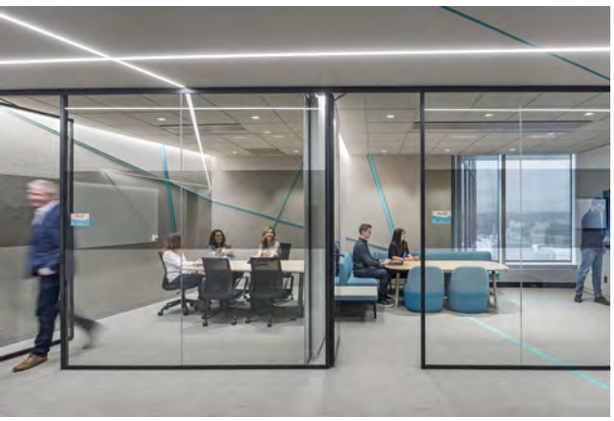
Program destinations distributed across the floors attract people throughout the building, encouraging constant movement and a change in environs, fostering improved interaction and innovation. Specialised cafés with more enticing refreshments on select floors pull employees away from their workstations while powered furniture centered

around technology provides a place for a brainstorming session over a cup of coffee. Quiet, isolated libraries and nooks tucked under stairs offer a respite for those looking to escape the open office for more intense concentration on a focused task. Informal and alternative working spaces are sprinkled throughout the path, allowing employees the opportunity to take in a change of scenery depending on their tasks for the day. Mega Bytes – a combination foods and activity node – draws people to the top floors of the building, handing over the best views of Cambridge and Boston to all employees.

The AkaMile is a cornucopia of options for any working style, regardless of the need. At the same time, it intentionally responds to the needs of the software engineering intensive users that require considerable individual focus time. By pulling the collaborative environments into a specifically and centrally designed zone, individual open desks are allowed to remain quiet and distraction free, critical conditions for accomplishing day-to-day work. Signals like changes in colour and material palettes help employees clearly understand where collaboration and socialisation are to occur, and where heads down time is meant to happen. Furthermore, the coloured lines with specialised pattern and palette point to various Akamai locations throughout the world, conceptually connecting satellite offices to their global hub in Kendall Square. Beyond the pattern, this path is inherently Akamai. The path is coated in bright pops of colour which enliven the open office environment and stimulate the employees with an ever-changing hue. The path starts at the base of the building in Akamai's signature orange, evolving through the colour scale to conclude at the top of the building, ending in Akamai blue.

Akamai set a high bar for wellness and sustainability. Over 70 percent of workstations are within 20 feet of windows. All lighting is designed to manage brightness, glare and efficiency. Thermal comfort-responsive systems





are integrated throughout. Sound is minimised in work environments with sound-masking.

Materials without harmful chemicals were specified. And the entire environment is designed to cultivate healthy mind, body and community. The project is pursuing ambitious certifications in both LEED and WELL, setting new benchmarks for office design in the United States.

PROJECT DATA

Project Name: Akamai Technologies Global Headquarters
Location: Cambridge, Massachusetts, USA
Client: Akamai Technologies
Interior Architecture & Design Firm: Sasaki
Size: 480,000 square feet
Completion: October 2019
Photographer: Anton Grassl

Victor Vizgaitis

"This building is tailored to Akamai's culture, not the latest trend. The Akamile fits perfectly into Akamai's mission of creating an ideological and innovative environment. Akamai employees can work together along the Akamile, but all have individual desks for when they want or need privacy."

- Victor Vizgaitis, AIA, Sasaki Principal in Charge on the project.

The Kunshan MIXc

X+Living has transformed a public space on the third floor of the Kunshan MIXc into a children's section.

In this era with fierce commercial competition, an innovation strategy is the key for business giants to create a differentiated advantage. The China Resources Group, which writes "innovative development" into its corporate values, has joined hands with X+Living and takes the Kunshan MIXc as a tentative example to transform a public space on the third floor of the mall into a children's section where it perfectly accommodates diversified parent-child patterns and highly reflects the unity of aesthetics and theme. The landing of the project undoubtedly broke the impression of consumers on the single design of the mall's public area, and will also lead people to open up a beautiful imagination of the public space of shopping malls.

The project is located in Kunshan, Jiangsu Province, an important birthplace of Kunqu Opera. It has the nickname of "the mother of Chinese Opera". With the vision of creating a multifunctional experience venue that integrates parenting, leisure and education, the designer has blurred the physical boundary between the public area and the retail stores through a coordinated facade design. It has realized the unity of the overall composition aesthetics and the integrity of the spatial narrative, causing more powerful field energy in the

commercial space.

In order to strengthen the cultural identity of the local residents, and to showcase the beauty of intangible cultural heritage Kunqu Opera, the designer uses Kunqu Opera as the origin of the design concept, and replaces the traditional aesthetic form with interesting design techniques to create a dreamlike wonderland in fairy tale. Take the escalator from the 2nd floor to the 3rd floor, bright colours and cute installations greet consumers, reminding them of a journey of visual and psychological satisfaction.

Traditional elements such as Yunjian (an embroidered decoration on shoulders), long sleeves, horsetail whisk, Kuitou (a headpiece worn by opera performers), facial makeup, musical instruments have become a cute symbol that is more easily loved and accepted by children through the translation of design language. They not only decorate the large cartoon installations in the public area, but

also are incorporated into the signboards design. The lively colour blocks and geometric patterns grounded together, together with the thematically modified guardrails have not only enhanced the identification of the children's section, but also perfectly set the mood of childlike feeling. Based on the scientific planning of the consumer movement, the designer has created a number of points of interest in the space. The customised furnishings works not only as the seats in the rest area, but also the interactive devices for the consumers to take a photo.

In the theme area, the parent-child park brand Meland Club has a unique space with 11-metre-high ceiling, which has been flexibly used by designers to create an open reception area with a harmonious connection to the public area. The typical cartoon installation of Meland Club was put on an opera Kuitou and allusions from ancient literary were used as signboards. The mutual learning and blending of the design elements provide a two-way benefit for the mall and the playground. The innovative interpretation of the relationship between public area and store facade has created a brand new business mode and shopping experience for the consumers and jointly ignited the success of the business idea.

PROJECT DATA

Project Name: The MIXc Kunshan (Children Thematic Renovation Design)
Location: Kunshan, Jiangsu, China
Client: China Resources Group
Architecture Firm: X+LIVING
Gross Floor Area: 4500 square metres
Completion: 2019
Photography: Shao Feng

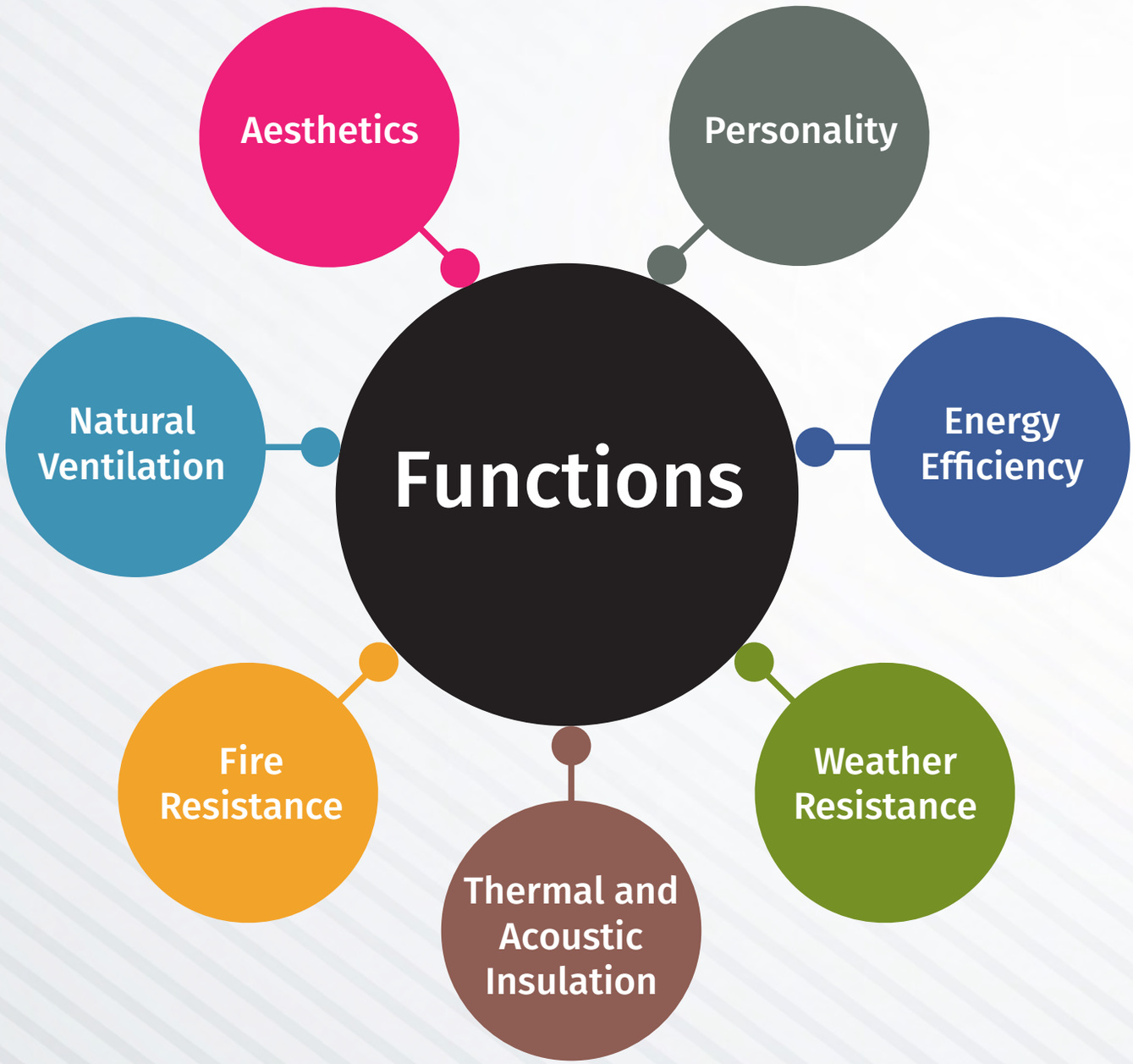
Li Xiang. Photo: © X+LIVING

"We did not merely stick to the lineage and imitation of the original shape, but draws the cultural spirit and well integrates it with the space of childlike design. The spaces are, therefore, able to serve as a bridge to complete a precise cultural output and heritage education for children."

- Li Xiang, Chief Designer, X+LIVING

Amazing Facades

Facades, the principal front of a building, are an important part of a building's structure. Besides being an integral piece to the overall design of a building, they also serve many purposes. There are a wide variety of facade materials and products for the architects to showcase their creativity and talent. In this section, we feature some facades with cool and unconventional designs.



P.C. Hooftstraat 138

PROJECT DATA

Name of Project: P.C. Hooftstraat 138
Location: Amsterdam, The Netherlands
Client: Warenar Real Estate
Architecture Firm: UNStudio
Total Area:
Building surface:
Retail: 340 square metres (approximately)
Residential: 130 square metres
Facade Material: Glass, Steel, Brick
Facade Product Manufacturer:
Glass: Cricursa, Spain
Steel: Veratio, Netherlands
Facade Contractor: Octatube Nederland
Completion: 2019
Photo: © Evabloem

Jinlong Prefab School

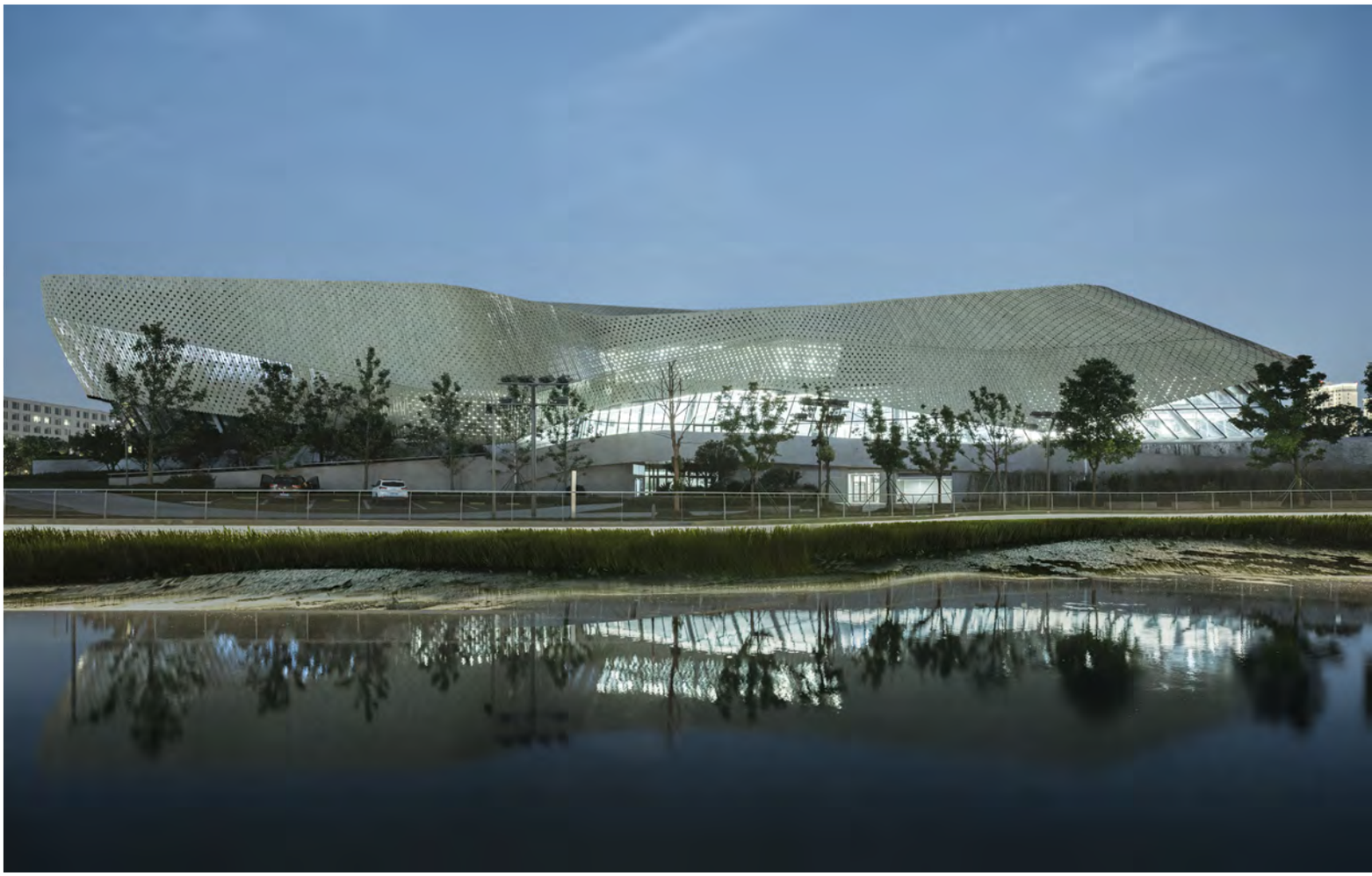
PROJECT DATA

Name of Project: Jinlong Prefab School
Location: Shenzhen, China
Client: Shenzhen Pingshan District Building and Works Bureau
Architecture Firm: Crossboundaries
Total Area: 54,465 square metres

Facade Material: Prefabricated Concrete and Metal Paneling
Facade Product Manufacturer: Shenshan PC (Prefabricated Concrete) Factory, China Construction Science & Technology Co., LTD.

Facade Contractor and Overall Cooperator and Construction Team: China Construction Science & Technology Co., LTD.
Completion: 2020
Photo: © Wu Qingshan

Ningbo Urban Planning Exhibition Center



PROJECT DATA

Name of Project: Ningbo Urban Planning Exhibition Center
Location: Ningbo, China
Client: City of Ningbo
Architecture Firms: playze & SCHMIDHUBER
General Floor Area: 24,929 square metres
Facade Product: Glazed ceramic panels
Facade Product Manufacturer: Frontek
Facade Consultant: RFR Group, Shanghai
Completion: 2019
Photography: © CreatAR Images, Shanghai

Shenzhen Energy Headquarters

PROJECT DATA

Name of Project: Shenzhen Energy Headquarters
Location: Shenzhen, China
Client: Shenzhen Energy Company
Architecture Firm: Bjarke Ingels Group
Size: 96,000 square metres
Facade Products: Double glazing low-e tempered glass DGU and rippled aluminum panel
Facade Contractor: Fangda Group
Completion: 2018
Photo: © Chao Zhang

Archiproducts Milano

PROJECT DATA

Name of Project: Archiproducts Milano
Location: Milan, Italy
Client: Archiproducts
Architecture Firm: Truly Design
Total Area: 63 square metres

Facade Material: Anodized aluminium links
Facade Product Manufacturer: Kriskadecor
Completion: 2019
Photo: © Marcela Grassi

Refurbishment of The HUB

PROJECT DATA

Name of Project: Refurbishment of The HUB
Location: Hong Kong
Client: Hutchison Property Group Ltd
Architecture Firm: LWK + PARTNERS
Total Area: 31,854 square metres
Facade Material: Aluminium
Facade Product Manufacturer: Tak Shun, SKK
Facade Consultant: HS+A
Facade Contractor: Tak Shun
Completion: 2018
Photo: © LWK + PARTNERS

Viceroy Chicago

PROJECT DATA

Name of Project: Viceroy Chicago
Location: Chicago, Illinois USA
Client: Convexity Properties
Architecture Firm: Goettsch Partners
Total Area: 13,940 square metres

Facade Materials: Glass and Brick
Facade Product Manufacturer: Alliance Glazing Technologies
Curtain Wall Facade Consultant: Goettsch Partners

Historic Brick Facade Consultant: Klein & Hoffman
Completion: 2017
Photo: © James Steinkamp Photography

Ningbo New Library

PROJECT DATA

Name of Project: Ningbo New Library
Location: Ningbo, China
Client: City of Ningbo and Ningbo Library
Architecture Firm: Schmidt Hammer Lassen Architects
Total Area: 31,800 square metres
Facade Material: Travertine
Facade Consultant: UAD (The Architectural Design & Research Institute Of Zhejiang University)
Facade Contractor: GME (Yonggang Modern Engineering Co., Ltd.)
Completion: 2019
Photo: © Adam Mørk

"The phrase 'flatten the curve' was coined to help reduce the burden on hospitals by evenly spreading the number of patients over a longer period of time."

- An interview with Stephanie Costelloe, Principal & Director of Healthcare, Asia, B+H Architects

Stephanie Costelloe

In this interview, Stephanie Costelloe, Principal & Director of Healthcare, Asia, B+H Architects, shares with us the lessons learnt so far from the COVID-19 situation and how spaces in healthcare facilities can be designed in the future to cope with pandemics and other health crisis.

Whilst hailing originally from Ireland and graduating in architecture from Edinburgh, Stephanie has spent the last 12 years of her career working in Australasia and Asia, with projects in locations such as New Zealand, Australia, Singapore, Hong Kong and China. Based in Asia for the last 5 years, Stephanie has been involved in the design and delivery of several significant healthcare and research projects ranging from 2,000 square metres to 500,000 square metres, working predominantly between Shanghai, Hong Kong and Singapore. Stephanie has been involved in all aspects of briefing, designing and delivering hospital projects, and she has a passion for creating innovative healing environments which combine the efficiency and functionality necessary in successful health facilities, and importantly which align with stakeholder ambitions and resonate with the users of the building. Her background spans across architecture, medical planning and interior design, which enables her to thoroughly understand and navigate complex project requirements whilst weaving diverse clinical inputs into robust and innovative building solutions.

Changi General Hospital – Integrated Building — a sustainable, regenerative healthcare campus with nature as a focus. Photo: © B+H Architects

SEAB: Challenges of providing care for COVID-19 patients in current hospital environments

STEPHANIE: Whilst the lessons learnt through infectious disease outbreaks such as SARS, MERS, and H1N1 have influenced the planning and design of hospitals over time, there are still a number of unique and unprecedented challenges rendered by the COVID-19 crisis.

It is well documented that hospitals have struggled to cope with the sheer volume of patients, which have been affected by COVID-19, as most are simply not sized to accommodate such an overwhelming patient load. The phrase 'flatten the curve' was coined to help reduce the burden on hospitals by evenly spreading the number of patients over a longer period of time. However, even if there was enough physical space just to accommodate the patient numbers, there are other issues, which impact the delivery of appropriate care to these patients.

As a disease which attacks the respiratory system, large numbers of COVID-19 patients require mechanical ventilation, often for long periods of time. Many patients remain on ventilators for several weeks before they are well enough to be extubated. Intubated patients are typically cared for in an intensive care (ICU) or high-dependency environment which is specifically sized and equipped to deal with this level of high acuity care. These rooms are larger than a typical patient room to allow for the additional equipment requirements such as multiple piped gas valves, other service outlets for connecting life-saving equipment, and ample space for close monitoring and care by staff. The number of ICU beds in a typical hospital is a relatively modest proportion of the overall bed number, which may suit the maximum patient load on most days of a typical year but is severely insufficient to deal with the patient surge or average length of intensive care presented by this crisis.

As a contagious disease that can spread through the air as well as through droplet and contact, patients should be cared for within an isolated environment with negative air pressure – meaning that the contaminated air in the room cannot pass to other spaces in the hospital. Much like ICU spaces, such a specialized air ventilation system is typically provided in a certain proportion of patient rooms within a hospital – this can range anywhere from 5 percent to 20 percent of rooms – rendering it impossible to accommodate all COVID-19 patients in such an environment and therefore increasing the risks of cross-contamination, most often to front-line workers who have suffered enormously during this time.

But the challenges extend beyond providing patient care. As hospitals have responded by converting every available space for patient care, staff areas are reduced to an absolute minimum whilst at the same time needing to accommodate complicated procedures for gown-up/down to prevent cross-contamination.

SEAB: Creative responses from architects to help hospitals deal with limited space and prevent contagion during the COVID-19 outbreak

STEPHANIE: In terms of permanent physical infrastructure, accommodating for future flexibility and adaptation is often the best response to designing healthcare environments in general, as they are so often susceptible to change even over a short space of time. Future advances in medical equipment, technological requirements, or the rare demands of crises such as this can almost never be predicted, so it is critical that architects plan and design healthcare spaces which have a high degree of adaptability and 'updatability' to enable either temporary or permanent changes to occur with ease (or at least with minimum disruption and cost).

There is a misconception that such

> **""Pandemic mode" will no longer be an optional 'luxury' to be considered during the design process, it will be a compulsory way of thinking about how the hospital can quickly convert, physically as well as operationally."**
> **– Stephanie Costelloe**

flexibility in design must come at high cost or compromise to the 'base' design solution. In practice, it can be as simple as the considered placement of corridor doors which would enable a department to be compartmentalized into smaller sub-units during a pandemic, or the provision of rooms with a 'soft' function which can be re-purposed for staff gown-up/down at building or department entries to suit adjusted decontamination requirements during a pandemic.

But this crisis has also seen the industry deploying their skills beyond traditional bricks and mortar solutions. As architects and designers, we are fortunate to have the ability to visualize things that don't yet exist whilst bringing an important practicality and clarity to complex issues. This has enabled many architects and designers around the world to quickly take action in the ongoing fight against COVID-19. Examples range from the conversion of shipping containers into fully-functioning ICU pods, patient self-screening booths which limit the exposure of healthcare staff whilst allowing for effective triage, and the overnight conversion of spaces ranging from airports and hotels to convention centres and sports stadiums into temporary hospitals for COVID-19 patients.

SEAB: Changes in hospital design in the future after the COVID-19 pandemic

STEPHANIE: It goes without saying that the harsh reality of pandemics and other outlier events will be front and centre in discussions about hospital design in future, be that in the construction of new hospitals, or renovation and conversion works to existing buildings. "Pandemic mode" will no longer be an optional 'luxury' to be considered during the design process, it will be a compulsory way of thinking about how the hospital can quickly convert, physically as well as operationally.

Flexibility in hospital design will remain the key to mitigating the impact of such unpredictable events which will each present their own particular challenges. However, considering the potential magnitude of such crises, changes to the physical design of hospital environments alone will be insufficient – this flexibility will need to extend to multiple building typologies to improve our response if such an event like this should occur again. Consider the difference in handling this crisis if other building typologies already had the capacity to be speedily converted to support our hospitals dealing with the most serious cases – sports stadiums into screening and triage centres, exhibition halls into large-scale patient care or recovery facilities for less acute cases, hotels and serviced apartments into quarantine facilities. Our greatest opportunity lies in harnessing other assets in our built environment. The lessons learned in effective hospital design can be applied to other buildings in our urban fabric, at various scales, to create a sustainable rapid response model at a local scale.

"Whilst the lessons learnt through infectious disease outbreaks such as SARS, MERS, and H1N1 have influenced the planning and design of hospitals over time, there are still a number of unique and unprecedented challenges rendered by the COVID-19 crisis."
– Stephanie Costelloe

Likewise, the crisis hasn't only raised questions about the ability of our hospital environments to deal with a pandemic, but on almost every physical environment we inhabit – from our homes and workplaces, to airports, hotels, restaurants and public recreation spaces. The question is not about how we will change our designs to suit the pandemic, but how the pandemic will ultimately force us to question the very roots of our design thinking, and lead to greater introspection about why and how we will design in future.

Waiting area at National University Centre for Oral Health, Singapore (NUCOHS) designed with flexibility to convert to other uses. Photo: © B+H Architects

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