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ON THE COVER Singapore Life Church **ARCHITECTURE** Maarof Mosque & Sultan Mosque in Singapore; RW Concrete Church in Seoul, Korea **INTERIOR** Bulgari Hotel in Milan & Sofitel So Singapore **LANDSCAPING** Vertical Gardens at Ocean Financial Centre & Dunman High School in Singapore **SHOW REVIEW** BEX Asia 2014 in Singapore **PLUS** 3D Printed Canal House in Amsterdam; Roof & Façade Projects & Power Reliability and Electrical Distribution



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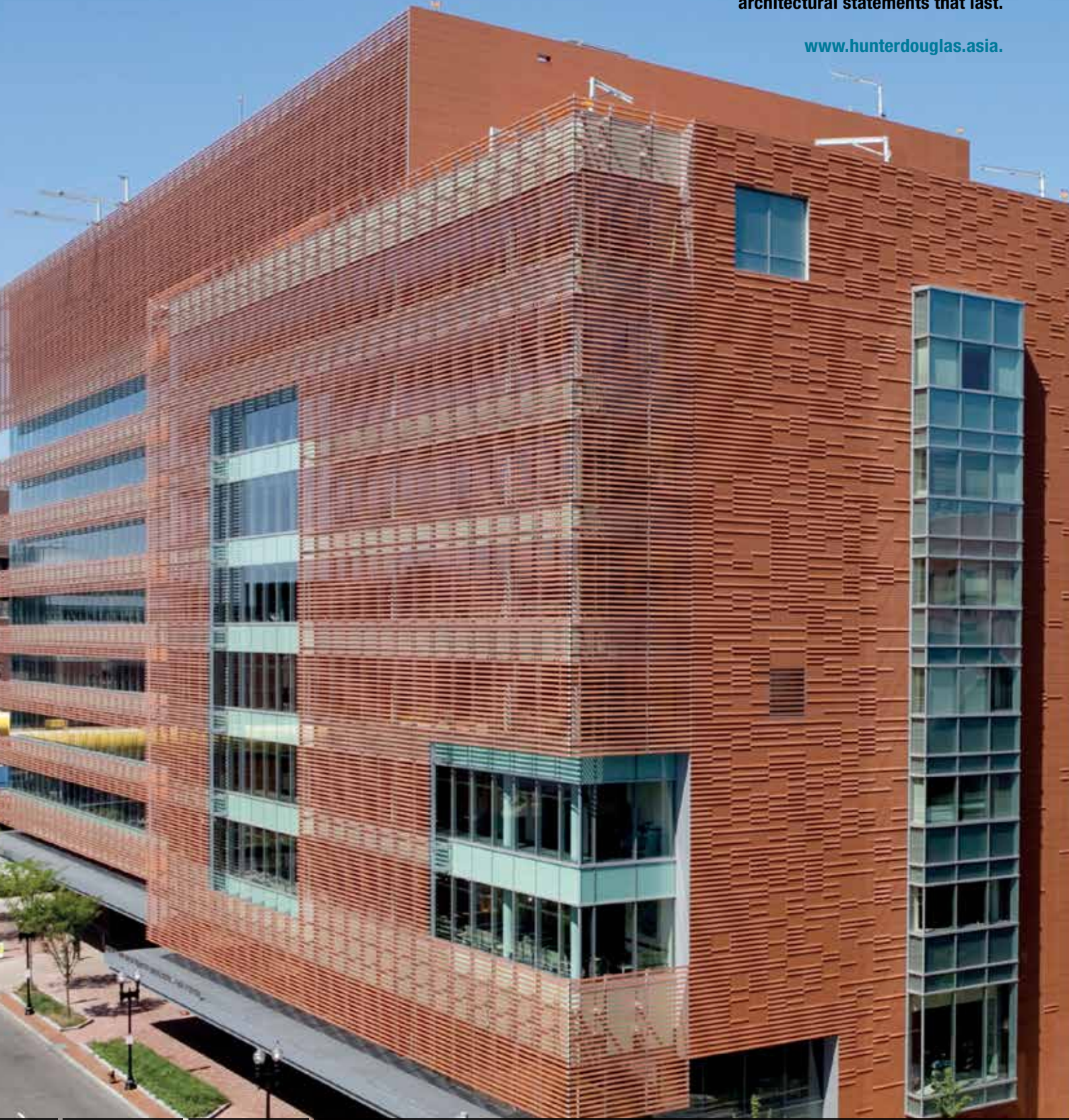


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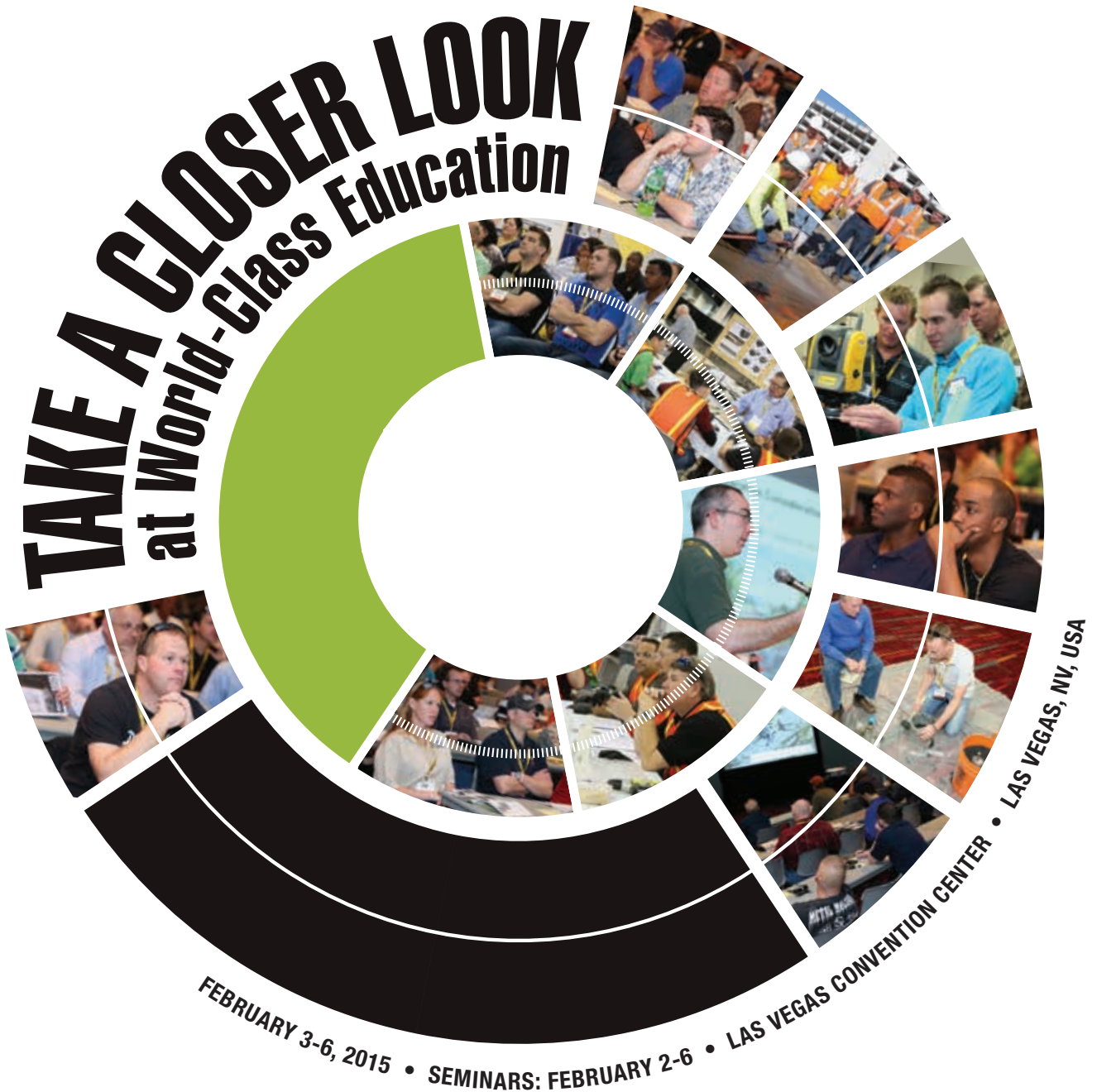
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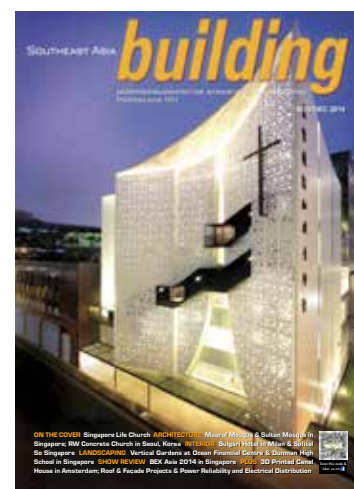
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On the Cover: Singapore Life Church at 144 Prinsep Street in Singapore. Photo: © LAUD Architects Pte Ltd

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editor's note



Welcome to the latest issue of *Southeast Asia Building!* From the cover of the magazine, you can pretty guess that the theme for the Nov/Dec issue is religious buildings. From churches to mosques, we take a look at how sacred places are being designed to be private, personal and non-public.

In the interior design section, we have put together some hotel features ranging from new to refurbishment projects. You can read about the renovated Bulgari hotel in Milan and the newly opened Sofitel So Singapore projects all in here.

Vertical gardens are becoming more popular than ever because of their aesthetic value and environmental advantages. In Singapore, the growth of vertical greenery has been extremely fast and impressive. We showcase two green walls projects in Singapore – the Ocean Financial Centre and Dunman High School.

Plus, we have put together a show review of BEX Asia 2014 exhibition, which was held at the Marina Bay Sands in September 2014. Now in its seventh edition, BEX Asia saw a large number of visitors from international countries and Singapore, visiting the exhibition to make it a grand success. If you want to learn more about the industry trends and products that were highlighted at the show, don't miss the review.

We hope you enjoy this issue and if you have any comments, please e-mail me at seab@tradelinkmedia.com.sg.

Amita Natverlal

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Atkins designs the iconic Window of Guangzhou

Hong Kong – An unusual Atkins-designed office development will become the new icon of Guangzhou, capital city of Guangdong Province in China and third largest in mainland China by gross domestic product.

Atkins was appointed by China Communications Construction Company (CCCC) to provide architecture services from concept through to extended preliminary design stage for the new Window of Guangzhou development. This is Atkins' first architecture project for the client, one of China's most powerful state-owned enterprises. Atkins has established a strong relationship with CCCC, which led to the signing of a memorandum of understanding for a global strategic cooperation in April 2014.

The development, due to be completed in 2018, consists of three stand-alone buildings which will house high-end office space. Two of the buildings resemble 'floating' windows and the other tower stands at 208 metres tall. From a distance, the development reads as '001' which symbolises Guangzhou as the first Chinese city open for international trading as a port for the ancient Silk Road several dynasties ago and again revitalized in the late 1970s.

Shu Guang, project director at CCCC, said: "Atkins' design concept demonstrates the importance of Guangzhou as a gateway to China for the world. The window-shaped buildings promote the city's image as an important location for China's import and export business."

KY Cheung, Atkins' senior design director, said: "Our design provides a dramatic visual impact, ensuring that the breathtaking view of the Zhujiang River is maximised for the occupants and the community behind the project as well. We incorporated green architecture design principles such as solar shading and air flow through the buildings to provide shelter from sun and rain typical in this hot and humid part of southern China."



Crystal Lagoons enters Thailand with luxurious master real estate project

Dubai, UAE – Crystal Lagoons Corp., the patented technology developer of giant crystalline lagoons continues to expand its presence in Southeast Asia with a launch of a 7-hectare project in Hua Hin, Thailand.

MahaSamutr, a US\$450 million luxury real estate project will have the crystal turquoise waters of the lagoon as its centerpiece, and is part of Thailand's leading real estate company PACE Development's flagship community.

"Thailand gives us an outstanding strategic position in Southeast Asia, and the opportunity to participate in a world-class development that adds prestige to our current project portfolio. Our partnership with PACE on MahaSamutr Hua-Hin gives us the opportunity to deliver an amenity like no other. Initially we chose to work with PACE because of their strong reputation which was reinforced by the success so far on the development we are working. Together we are collaborating to produce a lagoon using technology introduced for the first time in the South East Asian region. The lagoon which will cover a total area of 7 hectares is expected to be completed in early 2015," said Kevin P. Morgan, CEO of Crystal Lagoons.

Renowned Japanese architect, Kengo Kuma will design the development, which will include 90 luxury bespoke villas that will retain traditional Thai features. Ranging in price from US\$1.2 million up to US\$2.5 million, each 4 bedroom home will have direct access to the lagoon, a world first for any real estate project of this type.

MahaSamutr, will be located in Hua Hin, 200 kilometres south of Thailand's capital, Bangkok, and will be developed over a total area of 19.5 hectares, with the 7-hectare navigable crystalline lagoon at the heart of the project. Combining privacy and a sense of tranquility, residents will have access to exclusive Beach and Country Clubs with each offering a range of exclusive amenities including private swimming pool, spa, water sports, social events and waterfront dining. A limited number of non-residents will also be able to become members of the country club and enjoy access to the unique ambiance of the crystalline lagoon.

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Hydro International opens office in Singapore

Singapore – Hydro International, a leading global provider of solutions for the control and treatment of stormwater and wastewater, has opened an office in Singapore as a centre for its growing business across the Asia Pacific region.

As part of a programme to establish a direct presence in strategic international locations, Hydro has appointed Mr Andy Tang as APAC Regional Business Manager to run the Singapore office and develop sales distributorships across the region. Mr Tang's brief is to establish a platform for the introduction and support of Hydro's innovative and brand-leading vortex control and separation technologies.

"After significant sales growth in recent years, Hydro is now keen to consolidate its successes and grow its business potential in APAC," said International Business Director Mr Clive Evans. "Hydro is moving closer to the international markets it serves, providing a higher-profile and responsive service to customers in the region," said Mr Evans.

Hydro's proven record in the region



Mr Andy Tang

includes orders for more than 100 Downstream Defender vortex separators to improve surface water quality as part of the River of Life project in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Hydro has also seen significant interest in its wastewater grit removal solutions, and for its brand-leading Hydro-Brake® Vortex Flow Controls and Vortex Drop™ Shaft technologies.

Mr Andy Tang will be responsible for developing Hydro's business in Malaysia,

Singapore, Indonesia, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Myanmar, Australia and New Zealand. An engineering graduate of Aberdeen University, Andy has enjoyed a successful career to date with more than 18 years in senior sales management posts in the pumps and hydraulics industry in Singapore, notably with Boerger Pumps, Fuglesangs, and Viking Pumps.

Commented Mr Tang: "I have been very impressed by Hydro's vortex-based control and separation technologies and their no-power, no-moving parts design. Many countries in the region are prone to periods of intense, sudden rainfall leading to flooding and river pollution. Hydro's products are well-placed to address the growing desire to improve surface water control and treatment."

"I also expect to see growing interest for Hydro's wastewater grit removal systems, which promise operators new approaches to improving equipment performance and plant maintenance by eliminating harmful grit from downstream works," he added.

Ascott to launch its first Somerset Serviced Residence in Gurgaon

Singapore – CapitaLand's wholly-owned serviced residence business unit, The Ascott Limited (Ascott), has secured a contract to manage its first Somerset-branded serviced residence in Gurgaon. Slated to open by 2019, the 174-unit Somerset Diplomatic Greens Gurgaon is Ascott's second serviced residence in the city, after Ascott Ireo City Gurgaon which is scheduled to open in 2017.

The management contract for Somerset Diplomatic Greens Gurgaon was awarded by Puri Constructions Private Limited, a company focusing on real estate development in northern India.

Mr Tony Soh, Ascott's Chief Corporate Officer who oversees the company's business in India said: "We see strong growth potential for Ascott in India. By bringing our Somerset brand to Gurgaon through our partnership with Puri Constructions, Ascott's footprint in India will increase to over 1,400 apartment units in eight serviced residences across five cities. Our strategy for India is to expand in high-growth cities where there is significant demand for international-class serviced residences from expatriates, project teams and business travellers. Gurgaon is a fast-developing city where a large number of manufacturing, IT and construction companies are based. We are confident that our Somerset brand will do well in Gurgaon."

Strategically located next to Dwarka Expressway, Somerset Diplomatic Greens Gurgaon is nestled in the middle of about seven acres of expansive green landscaping, right in the heart of Gurgaon. The serviced residence will be located next to the retail zone and entertainment hub within the Diplomatic Greens development. Diplomatic Greens is a 20-acre residential area within an 82-acre integrated development that includes retail and commercial spaces.



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REC expects a strong worldwide growth in photovoltaics

Singapore – The photovoltaics (PV) market worldwide has grown steadily over the years and will continue to demonstrate strong growth in the near future. Martin Cooper, Chief Executive Officer, REC Solar ASA, revealed this to reporters during a media tour of REC's manufacturing plant in Singapore. At this world-class and state-of-the-art facility, REC solar panels are produced and certified to the highest health, safety, and environmental standards.

In his presentation, Mr Cooper said that worldwide installation of PV panels is projected to reach approximately 46 gigawatts (GW) this year and the company's capacity expansion is on track to meet the demand. "We are growing with the market and our capacity expansion is on track to meet the increasing demand," said Mr Cooper.

REC is expanding its production capabilities. Two new lines will increase its panel production to 1.3 GW by second half of 2015. It will also upgrade its wafer furnace capacity to 820 MW by the end of 2014 and start a module debottlenecking project to increase capacity to 1.0 GW by third quarter of 2014.

As a showcase of the company's manufacturing capabilities, the media were brought on a tour of its production facilities at its operating headquarters at 20 Tuas South Avenue 14. Sitting on a sprawling site of 25 hectares of land, the REC plant is designed as an integrated solar panel manufacturing facility for wafers, cells, and solar panels. The plant in Singapore is integrated, converting ingots into wafers and then highly efficient solar cells, which go into REC solar panels. Thanks to production all being at one site, this

ensures streamlined quality throughout the production process and allows traceability. Built at an investment cost of US\$1.8 billion (approximately S\$2.5 billion), the plant is believed to be the first-of-its kind in Singapore.

In terms of product technology, REC has invested heavily in new machinery and equipment to improve the efficiency of its solar panels and production processes. The perfect flow of processes with high automation at the plant reduces variability and produces modules with highest quality. Due to the improvement in cells and wafers, the company is able to provide 260-watt solar panels to its customers. The company also works closely with system integrators to deliver high-quality solutions to building projects in Singapore and Asia.

Clean energy is the future and REC is well-poised to develop leading market positions in Europe, Asia and the USA with its high-quality solar panel manufacturing, R&D and trusted brand.



Martin Cooper, Chief Executive Officer, REC Solar ASA. Photo: © REC Solar



Aerial view of REC Solar's manufacturing plant at 20 Tuas South Avenue 14 in Singapore where 3 million solar panels are produced every year. Photo: © REC Solar

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CAYIN to debut new digital signage at Infocomm MEA

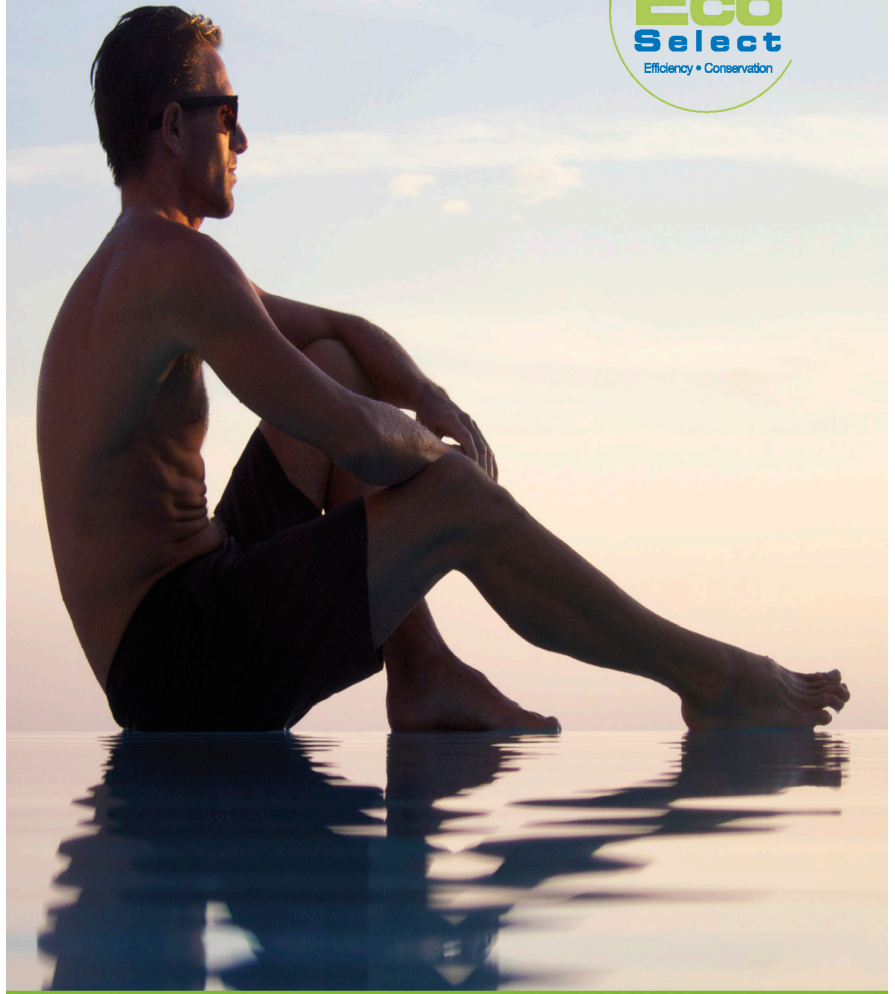


Taipei, Taiwan – From 13-16 October 2014, CAYIN took part in Infocomm MEA in Dubai World Trade Centre. CAYIN took this opportunity to showcase SMP-NEO series digital signage players and present the best practice of digital signage for advertising and marketing, messaging, training, and interactive entertaining. SMP-NEO has a whole new user interface. Integrating the Cloud service, web-based Skin Editor, and intelligent scheduling, SMP-NEO allows users to easily design and manage their own digital content. SMP-NEO also supports a variety of multimedia formats and can playback 1080p full HD video, Flash® animation, HTML5 web page, etc. Moreover, the unprecedented integrations with popular web services such as, Twitter, weather, news, streaming videos, can help users create dynamic multimedia communications to meet the needs of all occasions and applications.

With SMP-NEO, CAYIN can meet the four trends of digital signage, includes user-friendly content development, interactive solutions, instant communications, and analytic-driven digital signage. During the show, visitors will be able to experience the state-of-the-art multimedia integrated solutions and lead the next wave of media opportunities. CAYIN's digital signage system has been widely used in diversified industries. CAYIN has also successfully helped many corporations and organizations with its digital signage solutions in the Middle East, e.g. SABIC Academy and SWCC in Saudi Arabia, UAEU (United Arab Emirates University) and SEHA (Abu Dhabi Health Services) in UAE, EPA (Environment Public Authority) and KWI International Airport in Kuwait, etc. Ravel Chi, Vice President of CAYIN Technology, said, "We look forward to finding long-term partners in the ME and other regions in Asia, Europe, and Africa to lead the new trend of digital technology with us."



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Green leaders recognised at global green building awards

Sao Paulo, Brazil – Outstanding leaders in sustainable development have been honoured at the annual World Green Building Council Chairman's Awards. Nils Kok was presented with the prestigious David Gottfried Global Green Building Entrepreneurship Award for his work at the intersection of sustainability and finance in the real sector. Associate professor in Finance and Real Estate at Maastricht University, Mr Kok is the co-founder and executive director of the Global Real Estate Sustainability Benchmark (GRESB).

"Mr Kok's ground-breaking work has helped large portfolio owners understand how they can protect and enhance the value of their buildings by embracing sustainability. He essentially cracked the code that has made the business case for sustainability a 'no brainer'," explained the WorldGBC's Chairman, Bruce Kerswill.

Chairman's Awards were also presented to three individuals for their significant contributions to a growing global movement.

Mr Qiu Bao Xing, former Executive Vice Minister with the Chinese Government's Ministry of Housing and Urban Development, was acknowledged for his leadership, which helped elevate green building to the government policy agenda.

"Mr Qui was responsible for the establishment of the ChinaGBC and drove the development of China's 3 Star system. The scale of Minister Qui's task has been awe-inspiring, and inspirational to many of us around the world," said Mr Kerswill. Australian Tony Arnel, Global Director of Sustainability at NDY, was acknowledged for his contribution as the WorldGBC's Chairman from 2008 to 2012. "During his time at the helm of the WorldGBC, Mr Arnel developed a clear council member development pathway, and the WorldGBC's membership grew dramatically from just a handful of GBCs to 89 councils. He laid the foundations for a network that now exceeds 100," explained Mr Kerswill.

Chilean architect and executive director of the firm ELEMENTAL S.A, Alejandro Aravena, was celebrated for his work championing people-centred design. "Mr Aravena leads the way



Tony Arnel



Nils Kok

in using the design process to engage people to create their own communities. His work demonstrates how community-building is not just about government making decisions, but about communities deciding how they want to live. As the green building movement matures, it is no longer enough to focus on energy efficiency and technical solutions. Mr Aravena's work is an example to the world of true sustainability in action," said Mr Kerswill.

"Green building is now a global phenomenon, and in many countries, is a powerful and practical pathway to improve people's lives, acting as a shortcut to correct inequalities," said Mr Kerswill.

"The WorldGBC was established in 2002 with just eight green building councils and today is the largest organisation influencing the global green building agenda in more than 100 countries. These four award recipients have made valuable and measurable contributions that will deliver more sustainable, productive and livable built environments around the world," concluded Mr Kerswill.

Empower advises real estate developers to switch to green agenda

Dubai, UAE – Empower, one of the world's largest district cooling services providers, has urged regional real estate developers incorporate green building principles, as governments look into implementing sustainable initiatives as mandatory law.

"Applying sustainable principles is one of the single greatest opportunities we have in protecting our natural environment," said Ahmad Bin Shafar, Empower's Chief Executive Officer, ahead of Cityscape Global. "As the world proceeds in the collective journey in fighting climate change, national agendas of global governments are increasingly integrating sustainable principles as formal legislation. Soon, sustainability will be the norm rather than the exception so businesses must act on integrating green principles into every aspect of their operations now."

Bin Shafar, emphasised Empower's role in the UAE's in implement green principles. "Empower has adopted a unique cooling systems that use less energy and less fuel. Because these integrated systems are energy-efficient, these also result in huge savings of carbon dioxide emissions – a crucial aspect in mitigating the effects of climate change," he explained.

Empower currently operates projects across Dubai with an estimated 1 million Refrigeration Tonne capacity. In August 2014, the company commissioned the region's first district cooling plant built as per green building principles in Dubai's Business Bay neighbourhood.



Ahmad Bin Shafar, CEO of Empower.

DEWA awards consultancy contract for its Solar Innovation Centre to Ted Jacobs & Kettle Collective

Dubai, UAE – Dubai Electricity & Water Authority (DEWA) has awarded the consultancy services to design and supervise the construction of its new project, The Solar Innovation Centre, to Ted Jacobs Engineering Group (TJEG). Kettle Collective will work closely with TJEG as the lead architect for the project, which was launched by DEWA with support from the Dubai Supreme Council of Energy.

“DEWA designs and develops innovative projects in the field of clean energy to further support sustainable development in Dubai. Our efforts are in line with the vision of His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai to establish Dubai as a global hub of finance, trade, tourism, and sustainability,” said HE Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, MD and CEO of DEWA.

“The Solar Innovation Centre is a sustainable architecture and a value adding facility to the Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum Solar Park. The landmark design celebrates the unique identity of the energy park reinforcing a sense of green Dubai as a leading example of sustainable development regionally and internationally. The building will be a platform to showcase the latest solar and sustainable technologies and highlights DEWA’s achievements in this field,” added Al Tayer.

The Solar Innovation Centre will be a main focal point for companies, researchers, university students, individuals working in the field of solar energy as well as for developers and manufacturers of clean-energy technologies. The Centre is expected to be completed by November 2015.

“We are delighted to have been selected for this project, not only because of the competition that we were up against but because of the importance of this building in the future of Dubai,” said Tony Kettle, Director and Design Principal of Kettle Collective.

TJEG is a consulting engineering firm specialising in planning, design and construction of buildings in the healthcare, science and technology, and higher education sectors as well as mixed-use facilities. The core methodology of TJEG’s engineering services for these complex building types is based on their on-going research and development of the most sustainable design solutions. The company has a vast and rich experience in designing low-energy buildings.



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Sennheiser Asia expands operations with new branch in South Korea

Direct presence in South Korea reflects strong commitment to the market and targets to accelerate growth.



Sennheiser Asia's new branch office in Seoul, Korea is fully furnished with a premium service centre offering after sales service for all customers.



Daniel Sennheiser, CEO of the Sennheiser Group, officially opened Sennheiser Asia's new Korean Branch office.



Ng Chee Soon, President & Managing Director of Sennheiser Asia, will oversee the Korea Branch operations.

Seoul, South Korea – Sennheiser Electronic Asia (“Sennheiser Asia”), a fully-owned subsidiary of the Sennheiser Group, officially opened a branch in Seoul, South Korea on 21 August 2014, the first overseas branch office of Sennheiser Asia. It consists of business development and marketing functions as well as an after-sales service centre.

Sennheiser Electronic Asia (Korea Branch) will work together with local sales partners to develop the Korean market and serve customers in the consumer electronics, professional systems and integrated systems market segments. Ng Chee Soon, President & Managing Director of Sennheiser Asia will oversee the Korea Branch operations.

“For almost seven decades, Sennheiser is recognised as a global audio leader. Audiophiles, sound professionals, performers and music lovers worldwide support our vision - “Pursuit of Perfect Sound” - and use our products,” said Daniel Sennheiser, CEO of the Sennheiser Group. “The opening of Sennheiser Asia’s new branch office in South Korea reflects a commitment to our local customers, bringing closer the expertise, experience and excellent service and quality that Sennheiser is known for worldwide.”

Ng Chee Soon said, “South Korea is one of the most economically and culturally advanced countries in the world. Customers are willing to adopt the newest technologies and innovations. We have

also seen a steady growth in the country’s premium audio market. With our strong heritage in sound and our advanced technologies, we believe we will rise further to become the country’s preferred premium audio brand.”

In conjunction with the official opening, Sennheiser Asia announced its goal to grow its market share in Korea by expanding its sales channels, working with its local partners to open new innovative concept stores and corners, raising its brand visibility, and enhancing its end user customer engagement programs.

Ng Chee Soon said, “We doubled our revenues in the last four year. During this time, we grew our shares in the headphones market significantly and reinforced our professional audio leadership positioning, especially in the broadcast and performance venues segment. We are confident that we are on track to meet our goal.”

In the last three decades, Sennheiser has earned a reputation as a premium acoustic specialist among its Korean corporate customers and professional artistes. Over the years, it has been seeing consistent business growth in the local professional audio market, securing valuable long-term customers including the country’s major broadcast stations, large-scale performance and arts venues, as well as leading artistes in the country.

KONE received Green Label Certification from Singapore Green Building Council



Mr Anthony Tan, Managing Director of KONE Singapore receiving the certification from Mr Ng Eng Kiong, President, Singapore Green Building Council at the Singapore Green Building Council 5th Anniversary Dinner on 3rd September 2014.

Singapore – KONE, a global leader in the elevator and escalator industry, was the first elevator company to receive the Green Label certification by Singapore Green Building Council (SGBC) for KONE N MiniSpace™ and KONE N MonoSpace® elevators. Through this certification, KONE's elevators are recommended for Green Mark certified green buildings.

To support its mission to develop a truly sustainable and environmentally-friendly built environment, Singapore Green Building Council introduced its certification scheme in 2010 and adopted an independent, multi-criteria third-party approach that complies with the ISO 14020 Type I International Standard for environmental labeling. The assessment takes on a comprehensive and scientific approach and complements the Singapore Building and Construction Authority's (BCA) Green Mark Scheme.

KONE Singapore received the confirmation of the Green Label certification in October 2013 and received the green product certificates at Singapore Green Building Council 5th Anniversary Dinner on 3rd September 2014, held at the Raffles City Convention Centre.

"Contributing to development of next-generation green buildings is one of KONE's priorities and receiving the Green Label certification is a testament to our dedication to provide eco-efficient solutions that help people move safely and smoothly in our increasing urbanized environment," said Mr Anthony Tan, Managing Director for KONE Singapore.

KONE seeks to decrease the environmental impact of buildings by continuing to reduce the energy consumption of its elevators and escalators. KONE's volume elevator models launched in 2012 consume 60-75 percent less energy compared to the typical KONE elevator configuration from 2008.



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DP Architects scoops five awards at the 14th SIA Design Awards

Singapore – At the 14th Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA) Architectural Design Awards, DP Architects emerged as the biggest winner, sweeping five awards in total – the most for a single firm.

The firm bagged three design awards for Singapore Sports Hub, Zhongshan Park Integrated Development and Sunray Headquarters, a light industrial factory, as well as two honourable mentions for Four Acres Singapore and Stephen Riady Centre, a mixed-use facility located at NUS University Town. On the firm's multiple award wins, Ms Angelene Chan, deputy CEO of DP Architects, said: "Winning these accolades is a recognition of the professionalism and attention to detail that we put into our projects. While they span a range of typologies, what remains constant is our commitment to enrich the human experience."

Singapore Sports Hub, the new national sports icon, won for its excellent planning and unique ecosystem of sporting, retail and leisure spaces. It is Asia's first integrated sports, leisure, entertainment and lifestyle destination, and provides inviting and inclusive public spaces for everyday participation. Teoh Hai Pin, director at DP Architects and architect for the Sports Hub, said: "As the homegrown partner of a large international team of designers, we are proud to have built such an important national icon, and to have created many meaningful spaces within the Hub for all Singaporeans to spend time and enjoy." The design partners include Arup Associates and AECOM.

Winning in the new Greenscape category is Zhongshan Park Integrated Development, which integrates retail, hotel and office facilities seamlessly with a public park. The design adopts modern interpretations of Chinese architecture and garden principles, and remains sensitive to the surrounding Balestier context. Project director Suneeth Changaroth said: "The Park is vibrant with families and residents, particularly on weekends, and is a good testament of how the development has brought new life to the Balestier conservation area."

Sunray Headquarters stood out from other industrial factories with its distinctive yellow façade and stacked box design. Ms Chan, who is also the architect, said, "The design challenges the norms of the typical factory through the use of juxtaposed volumes, while keeping functionality and efficiency as the primary consideration."

The awards ceremony was held on the evening of 30 September at Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre.



DP Architects celebrating their wins at the 14th SIA Architectural Design Awards. Photo: © DP Architects

Crestron Pyng™ transforms home automation

Hong Kong – Crestron Asia Limited ("Crestron Asia"), the Asia headquarters of Crestron Electronics, Inc. ("Crestron") unveiled Crestron Pyng, the app that is the home automation system. For years, home automation apps have been add-ons to control systems that are programmed using computers. Now, technology integrators can create lifestyle scenes for each room, schedule events, and much more right from an iPad. The whole house can be ready in minutes without ever opening a laptop.

Setting up a new home is streamlined by pairing Crestron Pyng accessories with the app. Accessories include Crestron wireless lighting controls, shading solutions, thermostats, and Yale® wireless door locks, as well as security systems. Unlike home automation apps that control one device, or offer limited "DIY-level" performance, Crestron Pyng controls the same award-winning Crestron professional products found in the world's most prestigious homes.

A compact hub connects accessories with the app, runs scenes and events even without the presence of an iPad, and continuously backs up all home settings to the cloud – so making changes is easy and secure. Once the initial set up is complete, anyone can easily modify settings or create new scenes right from the app. Adding a new iPhone® or iPad is effortless. Simply open the app while connected to the home Wi-Fi® network and the controls appear instantly. Crestron Pyng empowers homeowners to make changes to scenes and settings themselves with the confidence that their integrator can restore to an automatic cloud backup if they wish to undo any adjustments.

Any Crestron technology can be easily added to a Crestron Pyng system, including DigitalMedia™, distributed audio, and more. Seamless compatibility with the rest of the Crestron product line enables the Crestron Pyng app to run right on a TSW touch screen, and for events in the AV system to trigger environmental scenes within Pyng.



Cersaie 2014 draws almost 101,000 visitors over five days of exhibition

Increase in numbers of unique visitors (66,096, +3.6 percent) and international professionals (23,363, +4.1 percent).



Photo Courtesy: www.laceramicaitaliana.it

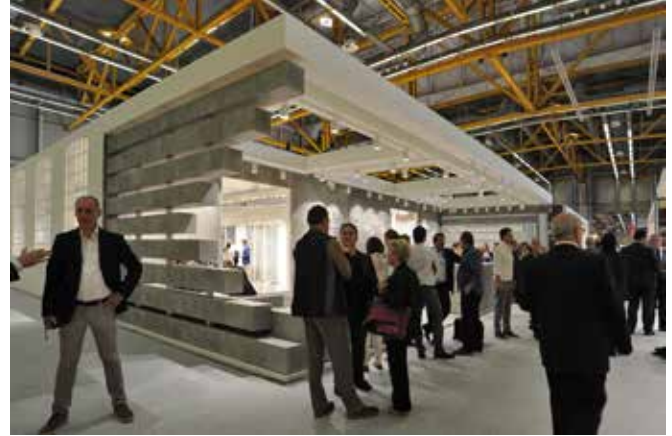


Photo Courtesy: www.laceramicaitaliana.it

Bologna, Italy – Attendance at Cersaie 2014, the international exhibition of ceramic tile and bathroom furnishings held in Bologna from 22 to 26 September, once again topped 100,000 visits, with increases in numbers of both unique visitors and international attendees. The commercial side of the event was complemented by initiatives catering for the world of architecture, interior design, installation and end consumers.

Representativeness and international appeal are the key characteristics of Cersaie, which for the first time opened its doors to exhibitors of wood, marble and natural stone. The 2014 show hosted 945 exhibitors (45 more than in 2013), including 339 non-Italian companies (+37) from 38 countries. It also attracted total attendance of 100,985 visitors (+0.2 percent), including 46,599 international visitors (46.14 percent of the total). The figure for 'first admissions' (a measure of unique visitors) also rose to 66,096, 3.6 percent more than last year. Numbers of international visitors increased even more sharply (+4.1 percent) to 23,363. The media were also well represented with 578 journalists in attendance (+3.39 percent), two fifths of whom came from outside Italy (235 journalists).

These figures confirm Cersaie's position as a key venue for developing global business in the ceramic floor and wall tile and bathroom furnishing sectors, while the more than 150 countries of origin of the visitors underscore the show's powerful role as an engine for international trade.

Cersaie is a vital appointment for architects, interior designers, tile fixers and the general public. This year Toyo Ito became the sixth consecutive Pritzker prize winner to give Cersaie's keynote lecture in front of an audience of more than 1,100 people. There was also strong interest in all the events in the 'building dwelling thinking' cultural programme, which for the first time granted training credits for participating architects.

Also popular were the various works in progress and meetings held at Tiling Town, the location for training young tile setters and presenting installation techniques. The initiative "Cersaie Designs your Home" proved a big success with consumers, many of whom came equipped with plans for their home renovation projects. The event also saw the participation of special guest Paola Marella. Another very popular event was Cer-Sea, the exhibition exploring ways of exploiting seaside resorts at all times of day and throughout the year so as to improve their capacity to generate revenues and attract tourists.

Bologna Water Design also hosted a strongly attended programme of events in the Ospedale ex Bastardini in Via d'Azeglio.



Photo Courtesy: www.laceramicaitaliana.it

Innovative technologies in the city of the future: “InnoCity” developing innovative steel structures and intelligent passenger transportation systems for urban mobility

Essen, Germany – One of the most striking examples of global change is the trend towards urbanisation. According to UN estimates, more than 2.5 billion more people around the world will be living in cities by the year 2050. By 2030, two thirds of the world’s population are expected to be city dwellers. One result of this trend is the rapid growth of megacities. In addition, towns and cities are expanding and merging. That means more people on the streets, more commuters, more cars, and more congestion. How can cities solve the problems associated with this trend? How will they be able to cope with the additional traffic volumes? “InnoCity”, an infrastructure concept for future urban mobility by ThyssenKrupp Steel Europe and ThyssenKrupp Elevator, provides answers.

Prof. Dr. Hans Ferkel, head of research and development at ThyssenKrupp Steel Europe, described the project: “InnoCity is about new approaches to traffic and transportation infrastructures that connect people and buildings. Solutions that can be integrated flexibly, sustainably and aesthetically into urban structures to provide a better quality of life.” InnoCity features innovative concepts, characterized by flexible infrastructures in the form of intricate steel bridges, elevated walkways and cycle highways

combined with intelligent and proven passenger transportation systems such as elevators, moving walks and escalators.

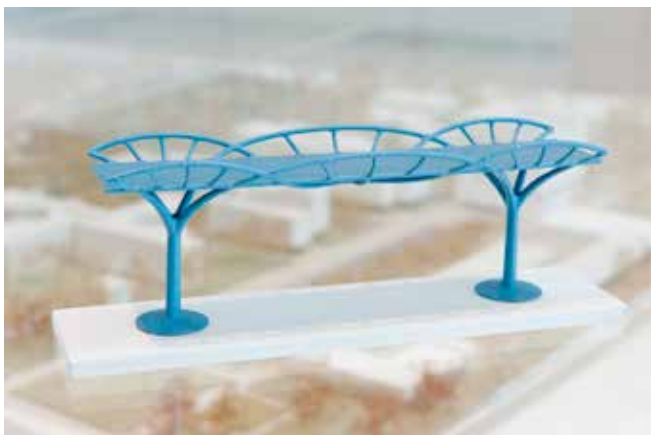
“In this project, we are taking our proven passenger transportation solutions to the streets,” said Patrick Bass, head of research at ThyssenKrupp Elevator. “Our technology is used at stations, airports and in many buildings. Wherever people congregate, our products keep things moving. That’s why we are specifically investing in the development of new technologies to raise urban mobility to a new level.” When it comes to meeting the future requirements of modern cities, innovative technologies are taking on increasing importance. Better solutions are needed to make more efficient use of energy, as well as faster and more intelligent logistics. Uncompromising safety is also a must.

The InnoCity project addresses the requirements of cities and communities and aims to combine attractive designs with flexibility of integration and short construction times. To meet these requirements, ThyssenKrupp Steel Europe has developed a new, intricate lightweight steel structure based on bionic optimization processes. The company is applying methods from the

auto industry to ensure this solution can be realised at low cost in the future. These approaches and the aesthetic design language used in vehicle construction will now feed into traditional steel construction. “Using a common parts strategy and automated manufacturing processes from the auto industry would make it possible to implement this solution cost-efficiently,” said Dr. Lothar Patberg, head of innovation at ThyssenKrupp Steel Europe.

There are a number of interesting applications for the steel structure. In the past, similar structures have frequently been used in overpasses and elevated tracks, for example on suburban rail routes in Hamburg and Berlin. Concrete projects such as the expansion of fast cycle routes in North Rhine-Westphalia and ideas for the “London Bicycle Highways” show that there is increasing demand for innovative infrastructure concepts. Combining these with ThyssenKrupp Elevator’s intelligent transportation systems will allow the creation of integrated solutions for urban passenger transportation.

The solutions developed as part of the InnoCity project will be offered by ThyssenKrupp in the future. “But we need more partners and more people interested in using our technology in real applications,” said Dr. Patberg.



As part of the InnoCity project, ThyssenKrupp Steel Europe has developed a new, intricate lightweight steel structure based on bionic optimization processes. There are a number of interesting applications for such steel structures, such as overpasses and elevated tracks.



InnoCity is the name of the innovative infrastructure concept for future urban mobility. Andreas Cott (left) and Ralf Stegmeyer are part of the project team at ThyssenKrupp Steel Europe.

Design Haus Liberty creates Raindrop Chandelier – “The Pour”

New York City, NY, USA – The Raindrop chandelier, “The Pour” is a light sculpture DH Liberty was commissioned to design in Tribeca, New York City. The existing site features exposed industrial columns on either end of a dropped beam within the living room. The design brief was to produce a light sculpture that would hang off of the existing beam and create an architectural relationship with the space.

DH Liberty began the design process by exploring the concept of rain and how each water droplet magnifies light in unique ways. Similar to the character of rain falling and creating varying ripple sizes on the surface of puddles.

DH Liberty worked with UK-based glass-blowers and metal engineers to create the crystal tear-drops. Each drop is hand blown by artisans and intricately engineered to house the lighting strategy for the chandelier. The drop itself is constructed of two parts: the brass screw cap, which houses the light, and the hand-blown crystal reflecting the light to create puddles on the floor below. To replicate the nature of raindrops, no two drops are blown identical.

The name “The Pour” derives from the distinctive shape that the chandelier forms: an exaggeration of the dramatic motion of water pouring out of a carafe. Designed by forming a grid mimicking how puddles ripple outward in concentric circles,

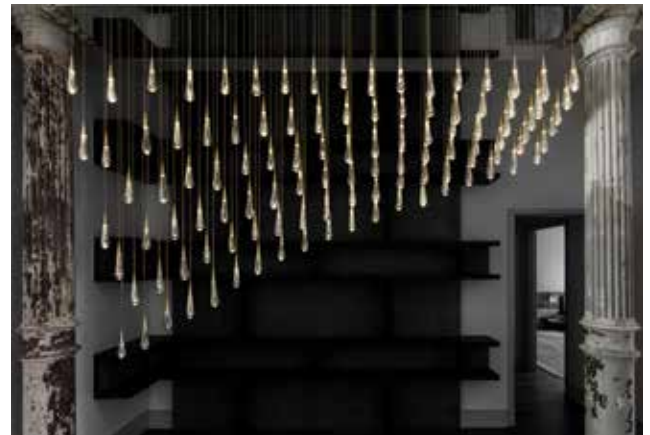


Photo: © Lauren Coleman

each teardrop is hung to brass pipes of varying lengths. Placed strategically on the grid, the teardrops lock into the mirrored base that fits seamlessly between the two existing columns. The mirrored base reflects the teardrops endlessly into the sky above and when lit. The chandelier echoes rain frozen in time with ephemeral puddles overlaid on the floor below.

Moriyama RAIC International Prize Sculpture unveiled

Ottawa, Canada – The Royal Architectural Institute of Canada (RAIC) and the RAIC Foundation have unveiled the sculpture that will accompany the inaugural \$100,000 Moriyama RAIC International Prize.

The sculpture by Canadian designer Wei Yew, together with a cheque for CAD \$100,000, will be presented to the winner of the Moriyama RAIC International Prize at a gala event at the Aga Khan Museum in Toronto on 11 October 2014.

The prize will be awarded to an architect, team of architects, or architect-led collaboration from anywhere in the world for a single work of architecture that transforms society by furthering humanistic values of justice, respect, equality and inclusiveness.

Designer Wei Yew first met the prize’s co-founder, Raymond Moriyama, FRAIC, two years ago to begin the design of the sculpture. The Moriyama RAIC International Prize sculpture is meticulously carved from four blocks of crystal acrylic. It stands 30 centimetres tall and weighs six kilograms.

The sculpture’s form derives from the two Japanese characters for Moriyama’s name, which means “forest-mountain” in

Japanese. Yew was also inspired by the trees and mountains of the Canadian landscape and the shape of the letter “M” for Moriyama. After much refinement, the final piece is both architectural and sculptural, and redolent with visual metaphors.

“Its quiet elegance is indicative of the qualities of humanity and humility prized by Raymond Moriyama,” said Wei Yew.

“The apexes of the four pyramids radiate energy, transforming these elements into mountains of ice, crystal or rock – a truly majestic Canadian landscape. The intersection of the four pyramids is a visual metaphor for convergence – the meeting of international talent with the spirit of working together for the greater good,” said Wei Yew.

Barry Johns, FRAIC, Chancellor of the College of Fellows of the RAIC, was involved in the decision to commission Yew to design the prize sculpture. “The depth of light and crystalline reflections that we see in this unique sculpture embodies for me the best of our rugged Canadian landscape and skies,” said Johns.

“Wei is a celebrated designer who



The Moriyama RAIC International Prize designed by Canadian designer Wei Yew.

has worked globally from Edmonton on projects as small as a corporate logo to an entire arts program for the International Olympic Committee (IOC). This sculpture is his passionate contribution to the Moriyama RAIC International Prize. It is infused with joy,” added John.

DORMA to launch Innovation Offensive at BAU 2015

The company aims to excite and delight customers worldwide under the banner "Access to Innovation" at the exhibition.

Ennepetal, Germany – In January 2015, BAU 2015 in Munich, Germany will be opening its gates to more than 230,000 construction industry professionals from around the world. And for DORMA, "the world's leading trade fair for architecture, materials and systems" marks the start of a major innovation offensive.

"At BAU 2013, we offered the enticing prospect of innovations covering the full range of access solutions and security systems. Now we are set to deliver on that promise. Adopting the banner slogan "Access to Innovation" at BAU 2015, we will be debuting the first products ready for commercialization, each of which more than underscores our claim to being the trusted global partner for premium access solutions and security systems," said Thomas P. Wagner, CEO of the DORMA Group, adding: "We intend to present access solutions offering both exceptional functionality and outstanding design quality, thus giving our customers real value added – be they architects, specifiers, retailers, fabricators or installers. In short: We're aiming to both excite and delight our customers."

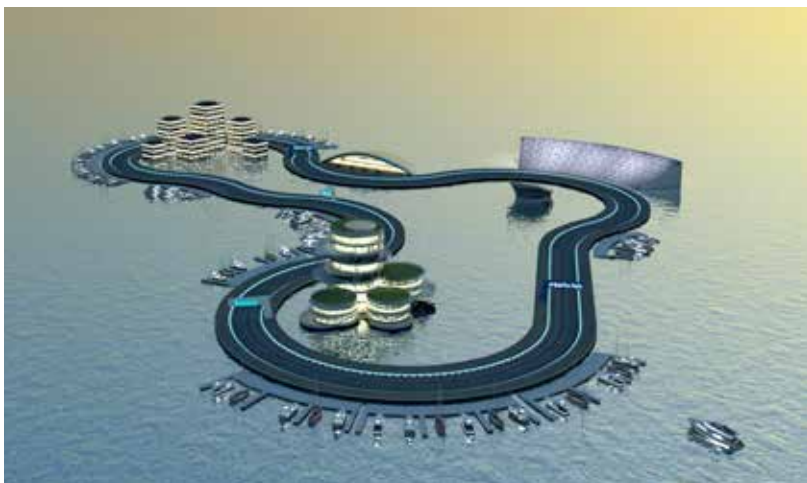
The new products will be on show and in launch mode next year, not only at the more than 850 square metres exhibition booth at Stand 319, Hall B1 in Munich, but also in the DORMA Design Centers and showrooms in New York, Dubai, Jakarta and Shanghai.

In the run-up to BAU 2015, DORMA intends to publish a monthly press release detailing its ongoing preparations and other aspects associated with the event.



DORMA - Access to Innovation

Baca reveals new racetrack concept



Aerial view of the floating race track. Photo: © Baca Architects Ltd

London, UK – Award-winning floating architecture specialists, Baca, have revealed their exciting new concept for a racetrack design, claimed to be revolutionary. The proposed circuit, pits, grandstands and accompanying eco-leisure resort will all float on the surface of the water, providing a unique racing experience for teams and spectators.

The innovative design of the structure, being explored with engineers Royal Haskoning, would permit it to be dismantled into transportable sections, allowing the track to be leased to various different destinations for periods of time. This extraordinary track would be complimented by an extensive marina, floating hotels and facilities.

The model of a mobile racetrack and accompanying complex opens the possibility of hosting Grand Prix and other motorsport events

to many more countries with international waterfronts around the world and would add a fresh and unique dynamic to racing. Images currently released are artistic representations of the concept without safety precautions, such as barriers and run-offs, which would necessarily be incorporated.

Broadway Malyan-led team wins international masterplan for new district in Chengdu, China

London, UK – Broadway Malyan has won an international competition to design the 'Chengdu Creative Centre' – the first phase of a landmark new urban district in Chengdu, the capital of Sichuan province and a major city in Western China.

The new high-tech business park and mixed use Centre will form the high-profile gateway to the new district which will be named Tianfu New Town.

Drawing inspiration from the local surroundings, the masterplan will create an integrated web of office, retail and green public spaces focused around a statement 110-metres central tower. The development will set the tone for the future growth of Tianfu New Town and create a new benchmark for sustainable development in the region by halving current energy consumption standards.

Jeremy Salmon, Shanghai-based Main Board Director at Broadway Malyan, said: "This international competition win is testament to our growing reputation in China for delivering schemes that have a real sense of place and establish successful and sustainable centres in growing cities.

Broadway Malyan worked in partnership with Shanghai-based designers the East China Architectural Design & Research Institute (ECADI) and environmental engineers Cundall to beat five international teams in the competition, which was commissioned by the Chengdu Tiantou Real Estate Development Company Limited. The team's close partnership and clear design vision were key factors in the competition win and these are now set to benefit the delivery of the masterplan as the project moves forward.



Bostik celebrates 125 years of innovation

Paris, France – Bostik has announced plans to mark its 125 year anniversary. The firm was founded in 1889 in Massachusetts, USA as the Boston Blacking Company, and numerous local events and promotional activities are planned to celebrate the role that innovation has played in the company's development.

Bostik Chairman & CEO, Mr Bernard Pinatel, commented: "I am proud to pay tribute to our company's rich history and to recognise the role that innovation has played in enabling Bostik to become a leader in the adhesives industry." He added: "We continue to pursue innovation just as vigorously as our predecessors and we look forward with confidence to the next 125 years."



Bostik's activities today are remarkably different from those of the Boston Blacking Company's leather treatment business for the shoemaking industry. What has remained throughout the years is the pursuit of innovation and applying the latest advances in technology to develop smart adhesive solutions for its customers and end users. Bostik's archives contain many examples of how its adhesive technologies have changed their respective markets, including the introduction of potato starch-based wallpaper adhesive in 1922, new packaging and application techniques for hot melt adhesives in 1960, the first elastic attachment adhesive for disposable diapers in 1975 and the first silyl modified polymer-based grab adhesives in 2001.

This commitment to delivering novel and original adhesive solutions continues, as demonstrated by Bostik's most recent product launches. For the disposable hygiene market, Bostik recently introduced *ZeroCreep Avance*, an elastic attachment adhesive, which combines unmatched elastic strand hold and elongation performance with significant cost-in-use advantages. Bostik's *Axios Tri-Linking polymer technology* is a breakthrough in the hardwood flooring adhesives category offering improved bond strength, moisture protection and acoustic benefits. In the transportation sector, *ISR 70-03 FR*, is a first-to-market fire retardant adhesive/sealant which exceeds the most stringent fire protection standards for mass transit applications.

To commemorate this important milestone, unique *Bostik 125 Years of Innovation* branding has been developed and will be featured in advertising, company materials and point-of-sale displays over the next year. Commemorative items, including a 125 year anniversary book, will be distributed to staff and customers in the coming months.

CTBUH names Lifetime Achievement Winners

Chicago, USA – The Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH) has announced the recipients of its two Lifetime Achievement awards for 2014. This year the CTBUH Board of Trustees awarded the Lynn S. Beedle Lifetime Achievement Award to Douglas Durst, Chairman, The Durst Organization. Durst is a member of the third generation to lead The Durst Organization, which was founded in 1915 and is one of New York's oldest and most respected privately held owner-builder-managers of commercial and residential real estate. Since 1968, Durst has shown leadership by making pioneering investments in energy-saving retrofits, and in new-build sustainable skyscrapers, such as One Bryant Park and 4 Times Square (Conde Nast Building).

The Lynn S. Beedle Lifetime Achievement Award recognises an individual who has made extraordinary contributions to the advancement of tall building and the urban environment during his or her professional career.

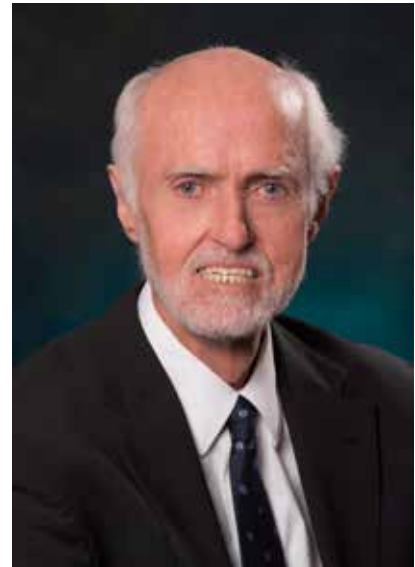
The Fazlur R. Khan Lifetime Achievement Medal was awarded to Peter Irwin, founding partner, Rowan Williams Davies and Irwin, Inc. (RWDI), who has led wind engineering on many of the world's tallest buildings, including the Petronas Towers, Taipei 101, Burj Khalifa, the Trump International Hotel & Tower,



Douglas Durst. Photo: © CTBUH

and Shanghai Tower. His Irwin Sensor, developed for wind tunnel studies of pedestrian impact, is now widely used at many laboratories around the world, and his work has ensured the safe and stable construction and operation of tall buildings worldwide.

The Fazlur R. Khan Lifetime Achievement Medal recognises an individual for his/her demonstrated excellence in technical design and/or research that has made a significant



Peter Irwin. Photo: © CTBUH

contribution to a discipline(s) for the design of tall buildings and the built urban environment.

All award winners, including the 2014 Best Tall Building Winners and Finalists, will be recognised at the CTBUH 13th Annual Awards Symposium, which will take place at the Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, on November 6. The symposium will be followed by the Awards Ceremony and Dinner in the iconic Crown Hall, designed by Mies van der Rohe.

WACKER expands test facility for thermal insulation systems in Burghausen

Munich / Burghausen, Germany – The Munich-based WACKER Group has built a new test facility for certifying modern external thermal insulation composite systems at its Burghausen site. The key features of the facility are two climatic chambers with weathering walls as per EOTA (European Organisation for Technical Approvals) guidelines. They can be used to test exterior insulation systems under a wide variety of climatic conditions. The Group invested around €1 million in the expansion project. WACKER is thus extending its range of services and consulting offering for customers and partners, while meeting the globally rising demand for high-quality exterior insulation systems.

The expansion was made necessary by the growing market for insulation systems and the associated rising customer demand for means of testing their polymer-modified exterior systems.



The EOTA test centre. Photo: © WACKER

The new test facilities, which belong to WACKER POLYMERS' applications laboratories, now have their own building at the Burghausen site. On an area of approximately 300 square metres, the EOTA test centre houses two ultramodern climatic chambers with six concrete test walls each, of which two can undergo weathering tests at the same time. The specially designed walls subject external thermal insulation composite systems (ETICS) to the toughest of climatic conditions. Aging and weathering processes are accelerated to ascertain the materials' performance and stability. The climatic chambers can simulate a wide range of conditions – from tropical humidity or rain to permafrost. In addition, tests as per EOTA guidelines can be performed: during a four-week test phase, the wall is subjected to 80 hygrothermal and five frost cycles, which involve temperatures ranging from -20 to +70 °C, variable atmospheric humidity and spraying with water, followed by a detailed inspection (as per test regulation ETAG 004).

"Prior to the expansion, the waiting period for a test wall was around one and a half years – simply too long for our customers, who want to certify their newly developed systems quickly and launch them on the market," said Dr. Christoph Riemer, head of dispersible polymer powder business at WACKER POLYMERS, explaining the need for the expansion. "Our new, state-of-the-art test centre enables us to reliably meet our customers' rising demand for first-class test methods and comprehensive service, now and in the years to come – thus securing our leading global position in dispersible polymer powders for modern construction applications."

In view of rising energy prices, efficient exterior insulation is playing an ever greater role worldwide. After all, the better a building's insulation, the less energy is needed for heating and cooling – significant energy savings are possible. WACKER's VINNAPAS® dispersible polymer powders ensure that the insulation system's insulating material is securely bonded to the adhesive and embedding mortar, and to the finish coat. As a result, the insulation system offers much greater resistance to weathering and wear, and lasts longer.

SCHOTT introduces new sales structure for architectural glass

Mainz, Germany – The international technology group SCHOTT has reorganised its sales of architectural glass products. Effective immediately, an elite group of partner companies in Europe and the Middle East will act as distributors, processors and refiners. All of the proven glass products for use in architecture, restoration, and display case and picture glazing can now be purchased via the new sales structure.

"We introduced this new sales structure to offer our customers the best possible service. Thanks to the distributor network, interested parties can now order the SCHOTT glasses they need in a quick and reliable manner. Here, we will be depending on our partners, who are not only known for their profound expertise in the area of distribution, but also for glass processing and refinement," noted Andreas Hädrich, Sales Manager EMEA at SCHOTT Advanced Optics.

The partners will all be listed on the SCHOTT Advanced Optics homepage and can be recognized by the SCHOTT Architectural Partner logo. By making this change, the manufacturer of specialty glass products will now be concentrating on its core area of expertise: developing and manufacturing high-quality glass products. The portfolio of SCHOTT's architectural glasses includes the machine-drawn restoration glasses GOETHEGLAS, RESTOVER® and TIKANA®, but also decorative ARTISTA® clear glass for indoor and outdoor applications. Furthermore, the company will continue to provide coated specialty glasses such as anti-reflective AMIRAN® and MIROGARD® glass, the semi-transparent reflective MIRONA® glass or the dichroic NARIMA® effect glass.



The facade of the car parks of the Abu Dhabi Financial Center is composed of 6,000 square metres of AMIRAN® Anti-Reflective Glass. Photo: SCHOTT.



The showcase 21 metres in length and 2.80 metres in height that contains exhibits at the German Museum of Books and Writing in Leipzig is more of a complete work of art than a traditional display case. The semi-transparent metamorphosis glass MIRONA® from SCHOTT proved to be an innovative way of presenting these milestones in media-related inventions in an impressive manner. Photo: SCHOTT.

Award winning Australian architect talks about sustainability



Tone Wheeler, award winning architect and guest speaker of the cocktail seminar.

Singapore – Tone Wheeler, an award-winning architect from enviro studio in Australia, was in Singapore recently to present a seminar on “Envelope First Approach For Building Sustainability.” The cocktail seminar, organised by Kingspan Insulation, a world-leading manufacturer of high performance thermal insulation products, was held at the Marina Mandarin Hotel on 16 September 2014.

Tone is the founding director of enviro studio in New South Wales in Australia. He is also an author, educator and consultant with an abiding interest in environmental architecture and sustainable design. Tone has designed several individual, and multiple housing projects, commercial buildings and urban design schemes, and is a former chair of the AIA National Sustainability Committee. He is on the NSW Building Professionals Board and the Board of the Association of Building Sustainability Assessors (ABSA).

In his presentation, Tone talked

about achieving thermal comfort in tropical architecture by designing the building envelope in a different way. He introduced his idea of ‘outsulation’, a method to protect the structure of the building from the outside and to improve the overall sustainability of the building.

Explaining his theory in the context of Singapore, Tone said: “If you are in a hot, humid climate like Singapore, you have to do three things: firstly you have to isolate the inside of the building from the outside, and that is best done by layers of insulation, starting from the outside, which is my ‘outsulation’, the idea of being on the outside of the building. Then the inside of the building has to be made of thermal mass or material that will hold constant temperature so it is radiant temperatures (comfortable) and then you control the way in which you put the cooling into the building. The cooling can still be air-conditioned. I think the cooling is better if you make most of the cooling out of chilled beams which is a form of radiant cooling.”

Tone added that ‘outsulation’ is a commonly used method in Australia and if he is given an opportunity to design a building in Singapore or any tropical country, he would be happy to give it a try. “I would certainly like to do that. I would do all the research and we could prove that this method will work better,” he said.

‘Outsulation’ is a design approach that goes beyond conventional building design to improve the sustainability of the building. But it can also have various cost implications. “The outside has to be a radically different way of constructing so you have to think about it and not many people are trained that way. Then, to put them amass in the building, means that a lot of those things like carpet and plasterboard need to be appropriate and it requires a different type of air-conditioning system,” said Tone.

On the other hand, Tone explained that cost wise may not be necessarily higher because the architect could either deliver better performance so

that the building could be smaller because he can have more flexibility in what he can do or he could target the specific performances that he wants. "In most of the buildings in Singapore, there are widely different temperatures throughout the building. But if you have an isolated interior at a constant temperature, then you get a better, more even distribution of it. Therefore, you don't need the waste spaces," he said.

In Australia, Tone and his firm has improved sustainability of historic and existing buildings using 'outsulation' and he has also conducted experiments with cross ventilation. "Our buildings are usually 70-80 percent the size of the usual buildings. The first thing we try and do is to reduce down the size of the building so that we don't have waste spaces. Building size can change because we can make it more modular, flexible, more adaptable and so on. It is a very holistic design," he said.

The company's Wayside Chapel project in Australia won the Milo Dunphy Award for Sustainable Architecture



Tony Ede (left), Export Sales Manager, Kingspan Insulation Pty Ltd and Tone Wheeler.

for "encompassing the true nature of sustainability" and demonstrating the concept of doing more with less. It also was the joint winner of the Lord Mayor's Prize.

In terms of building materials, Tone said that he found Kingspan AIR-CELL® and Kingspan Kooltherm® the best forms of 'outsulation' products in the market.

"We have a good relationship with the R&D at Kingspan and we have also designed their office and warehouse in Perth using the 'outsulation' method, which is a kind of demonstration building which I am talking about," he said.

The cocktail seminar with Tone was the first in the series of seminars planned by Kingspan Insulation to educate the market about sustainable buildings. It aims to invite different architects and industry experts specialising in green building design to share their knowledge with the architectural community. "We aim to hold the seminar on a regular basis to advance the knowledge of green building practices with professionals," said Ryan Hitzman, South East Asia Export Manager, Kingspan Insulation Pty Ltd (Aust).

The cocktail seminar attracted about 60 participants comprising of architects, contractors, designers and customers.



Tone Wheeler and his wife, Jan, who is also a director of their firm, enviroana studio.

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Three winners recognised for conservation excellence at the URA Architectural Heritage Awards 2014

Singapore – The Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) announced the winners of the URA Architectural Heritage Awards (AHA) on 2 October 2014 at a presentation ceremony attended by Minister of State for National Development Desmond Lee. This year, three winners were recognised for their exceptional work in heritage building conservation and restoration.

The three winning restoration projects are:

- 30B Phillip Street (Yueh Hai Ching Temple)
- 145 Neil Road
- 2,4,6,8 & 10 Townshend Road (J8 Hotel)

The Awards were inaugurated in 1995 to recognise the people who make conservation happen – dedicated owners, insightful developers, creative professionals and sensitive contractors. They exemplify the highest standards within the conservation movement and have gone beyond what is necessary to sensitively restore their heritage buildings for continued use. Now in its 20th year, the annual Awards also promote public awareness and appreciation of quality restoration of monuments and buildings with preservation and conservation status in Singapore. With these three winners, the total number of projects that have received the Awards has risen to 120.

In his opening speech, Mr Desmond Lee said: “Our conservation programme in Singapore is relatively young. In the span of 25 years, we have managed to conserve close to 7,200 buildings and structures. Given our small size and very limited land, it is our collective responsibility to make the best use of this collection of heritage buildings – by protecting and restoring them painstakingly and investing in them in the right way, so that their true, intrinsic value can be unlocked for society as a whole. I am glad that our restoration standards have matured as a result of us having more heritage specialists in the field. Without their historical and technical knowledge, and certainly without enlightened and enthusiastic building owners, we would not have so many well-restored heritage buildings in Singapore. But more can and should be done to allow people to enjoy and appreciate our built heritage. The Architectural Heritage Award winners have set a very good example – I encourage more to be trendsetters, pioneering new ways of treating and looking at old buildings that are sometimes forgotten or taken for granted.”

Awards scheme

There are two categories for the URA Architectural Heritage Awards:

Category A

This category is for National Monuments and fully conserved buildings in the Historic Districts and Good Class Bungalow Areas. Buildings fully conserved according to the restoration principles in other areas can also be considered under this category. They are assessed on how far they adhere to quality restoration principles of maximum retention, sensitive restoration and careful repair.

Category B

This category is for integrated “old” and “new” developments such as those in the Historic Residential Districts and Secondary Settlement Areas. They are assessed on the quality restoration of the “old” elements, the innovation and architectural excellence of the “new” elements, and how the “new” draws inspiration from the “old”.

2014 winners



30B Phillip Street (Yueh Hai Ching Temple). Front view of twin temple recovered and revitalised, complete with railings of original design and material. Photo: © Urban Redevelopment Authority

Category A**30B Phillip Street (Yueh Hai Ching Temple): a temple sanctuary**

Well known for its richly ornamented roof, vibrant wall reliefs and frescoes outside and within its walls, the Yueh Hai Ching Temple built in the 1820s has been faithfully restored to articulate detail, showing deep respect for the monument's architectural roots. At every turn, this stunning restoration demonstrates thoughtful choices informed by extensive archival research and technical consultation with local and overseas architectural experts and temple craftsmen.

Category B**145 Neil Road: a vintage home turned modern**

This terrace house of Transitional Style has been skilfully transformed through a series of clever interventions. Its charming vintage features have been retained as much as possible and lovingly restored. Elements that required replacement were reinterpreted with a refreshing touch to fulfil the building's purpose as a modern dwelling.

2,4,6,8 &10 Townshend Road: a hotel for the neighbourhood

This boutique hotel project has enhanced the qualities of five conserved two-storey shophouses and added a new six-storey tower to the neighbourhood skyline. The outcome is understated yet tasteful, and makes a considered and positive contribution to the surrounding streetscape.



145 Neil Road. Transitional-Style Shophouse restored and repaired in vintage-inspired blue. Photo: © Urban Redevelopment Authority



2,4,6,8 and 10 Townshend Road (J8 Hotel). Integration of five Transitional-Style shophouses with new six-storey tower to form a strong streetblock. Photo: © Urban Redevelopment Authority

Singapore launches inaugural ArchXpo exhibition

Singapore – The inaugural edition of ArchXpo 2014, an international exhibition for architecture and the built environment, was launched on 29 September 2014 at the Marina Bay Sands Convention Centre by guest-of-honour, Mr Lee Yi Shyan, Senior Minister-of-State, Ministry of National Development and Ministry of Trade and Industry.

ArchXpo 2014, co-organised by the Singapore Institute of Architects (SIA) and Conference and Exhibition Management Services (CEMS) is the first architectural exhibition by SIA in recent years and is also the latest addition to the key pillars of the Archifest series, alongside the Pavilion, Conference, Architours, Urban Lab and Partner Events in the festival line-up, together with the SIA Design Awards Presentation Ceremony. Archifest, Singapore's annual festival of ideas for the city, was first presented in 2007.

ArchXpo 2014 is also one of three exhibitions relating to the building industry under the umbrella title of Architecture & Building Services 2014 series (ABS 2014). Over the three days of the exhibition, ArchXpo 2014 along with the International Facility Management Expo 2014 (iFaME 2014) and LED+Light Asia 2014, played host to about 100 exhibitors from 6 countries over 8,000 square metres of gross exhibition space. Collectively, the three exhibitions are geared towards bringing together the captains of the industries and key players in Southeast Asia's architectural and building management industries through a strategic incorporation of conferences and the latest cutting-edge technologies and innovative products representing the highest quality in these industries. This invaluable platform will facilitate the exchange of research and innovation in architectural and built environment design, practice and education and present a comprehensive and integrated platform for all building needs under one roof.



Mr Lee Yi Shyan, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of National Development & Ministry of Trade & Industry addressing the guests during the opening ceremony. Photo: © Conference & Exhibition Management Services Pte Ltd



Opening speech by Mr Edward Liu, PBM, Group Managing Director, Conference and Exhibition Management Services Pte Ltd. Photo: © Conference & Exhibition Management Services Pte Ltd



Opening Speech by Mr Nelson Tee, President of Specialists Trade Alliance of Singapore, Strategic Partner of ArchXpo 2014 and Host of iFaMe 2014. Photo: © Conference & Exhibition Management Services Pte Ltd



Opening Speech by Mr Patrick Lee, Chairman of ArchiFest 2014 Organising Committee, Singapore Institute of Architects. Photo: © Conference & Exhibition Management Services Pte Ltd

In Singapore, sustainable facilities management has become an important dimension for companies striving for excellence in an ever-changing climatic and economic environment. However, successful facility management requires an integration of many aspects, such as workplace safety and health and the use of energy saving and sustainable fixtures such as LED lightings. ABS 2014's presentation of The International Facility Management Expo 2014, LED+Light 2014, the International Facility Management Conference 2014 (iFMc 2014), Singapore Architectural Lighting + Design Conference 2014 and WSH Forum for Built Environment, has successfully integrated these various aspects to serve the facilities management fraternity.

One of the key attractions of The Architecture and Building Services 2014 series were the booths created for the shows by the exhibitors. The show organisers introduced the inaugural UP Awards which will be presented to the winning booths designed with the most flair and innovation at ArchXpo 2014, the International Facility Management Expo 2014 and LED+Light Asia 2014.

The support of the architectural and built environment industries for ABS 2014 is apparent from the strong support of the industries' leadership. Mr Edward Liu, Group Managing Director of Conference & Exhibition Management Services Pte Ltd, remarked: "This year, we are also very fortunate to have the support of many organisations. The Singapore Institute of Architects, our co-organiser for ArchXpo 2014; the Specialists Trade Alliance of Singapore and the International Facility Management Association (Singapore Chapter), our host and strategic partner of the International Facility Management Expo 2014."

The supporting organisations of ABS 2014 include Association of Consulting Engineers Singapore, Lighting Association of Singapore, Real Estate Developers' Association of Singapore, Singapore Contractors Association Ltd, Singapore Furniture Industries Council, the Singapore Manufacturing Federation as well as the STAS Member Associations, for their show of strong support and involvement.

In his opening speech at the launch ceremony, Mr Liu also announced the plans for ABS 2015. He said: "Going forward into 2015, our ABS series will be expanded to include the 12th edition of Safety & Security Asia; the 10th edition of Fire & Disaster Asia and a new edition of Work Safe Asia; thus creating a mega conglomeration of six architectural and building services related events. We are indeed excited with the prospects of these six in-one shows which would feature at least 10 strategic conferences and seminars to address the future frontiers of Singapore's architecture and built environment."

For more information, visit www.cems.com.sg.



Ribbon cutting ceremony to mark the official opening ceremony of ArchXpo 2014 and ArchiFest Conference 2014. Photo: © Conference & Exhibition Management Services Pte Ltd



Mr Lee visiting the stand of Chop Ching Hin Pte Ltd. Photo: © Conference & Exhibition Management Services Pte Ltd



Mr Lee visiting the booth of Skyland Enterprise Pte Ltd. Photo: © Conference & Exhibition Management Services Pte Ltd

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Email: info@worldbex.com
Website: www.worldbex.com

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Orlando, Florida, USA
Tel: +1 703 273 7200
Fax: +1 703 273 5924
Email: InfoComm@compusystems.com / bjaffe@infocomm.org
Website: http://www.infocommshow.org

3-6 Feb 2015

World of Concrete 2015

Las Vegas Convention Center
Las Vegas, USA
Tel: +1 972 536 6379
Email: jjames@hanleywood.com

27-29 Mar 2015

CONSTECH 2015

Hall 7-8 IMPACT Exhibition & Convention Center
Bangkok, Thailand
Tel: +66 2 833 5208
Fax: +66 2 833 5127-9
Email: pasinc@impact.co.th
Website: www.Thailandconstech.com

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Fax: +31 20 240 2425
Email: office@iseurope.org
Website: www.iseurope.org

21-24 May 2015

LED Expo 2015

Hall 2, 3 & 4, IMPACT Exhibition and Convention Center
Bangkok, Thailand
Tel: +66 2 833 5328
Fax: +66 2 833 5127-9
Email: panvisutb@impact.co.th
Website: www.ledexpothailand.com

6-9 Mar 2015

Xiamen Stone Fair 2015

Xiamen International Conference & Exhibition Center
Xiamen, China
Tel: +86 592 5959 616
Fax: +86 592 5959 611
Email: info@stonefair.org.cn
Website: www.stonefair.org.cn

9-12 June 2015

Guangzhou International Lighting Exhibition 2015

China Import and Export Fair Pazhou Complex, Guangzhou, China
Tel: +852 2802 7728
Fax: +852 2598 8771
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Singapore Life Church

LAUD Architects Pte Ltd has designed a new building for the Singapore Life Church at 144 Prinsep Street. The new addition symbolises a “beacon of light” within the neighbourhood.

Founded in 1883, and sited in the current museum/art district, Singapore Life Church is one of the oldest Presbyterian Church in Singapore. The church was previously housed on the same site in a 70s-built modernist structure with an iconic sweeping visage. The old building had structural problems and the land was not efficiently utilised. The church wanted a new building that maximises land use to meet their growing numbers and an iconic building their members could be proud of. The new building is to be a beacon of light within the neighbourhood, symbolising the hope that Christ brings to the world. LAUD Architects Pte Ltd was commissioned to design the new building.

To address the smallness of the site (the area of which is half of what is typical of a church site in current standards) the floor plates of the first to third storeys are designed to fully occupy the footprint of the site. From the fourth storey upwards, the building strategically retreats from the common boundary to distinguish itself from the adjacent building while complying with setbacks for protection in case of fire.

Formally, the building comprises two volumes connected by an open courtyard. In keeping with the urban scale of Prinsep Street, the lower block is sensitively positioned to match the podium of neighbouring Burlington Square. This volume progressively steps away and sweeps up from a height matching adjacent buildings.



Evening view of Singapore Life Church along Prinsep Street.



Main Sanctuary of Singapore Life Church.



Main Sanctuary Foyer.



Alum perforated facade from interior.



5th storey open courtyard.



LAUD Architects project team members.

PROJECT DATA

Project: Singapore Life Church
Location: 144 Prinsep Street, Singapore
Client: Singapore Life Church
Architect: LAUD Architects Pte Ltd
Contractor: Huason Construction Pte Ltd
C&S Engineer: LSW Consulting Engineers Pte Ltd
M&E Engineer: Rankine & Hill (S) Pte Ltd
Project type: Religious
Size of project: 4,828 square metres
Completed: 2012
Photos & text: © LAUD Architects Pte Ltd

Although the new building would be visually outstanding, the young and old alike should find elements of the design that they can respond to or connect with. The sculptural sweeping roof of the new building is a nod towards the traditional symmetrical pitched roofs and steeples of early churches that metaphorically referenced the vertical ascension to heaven. In the new building, the roof form is made contemporary by an asymmetrical sweep that only takes on some form of symmetry when viewed from the corner of the site.

The previous church building also contributed to inform and shape the new one; the sweeping visage of the old building was inspired by the Mandarin Chinese character for 'people' (人). Along the main street, the façade is parted to pronounce an entrance at an axis that coincides with one of the entrance crevices of the LaSalle College of the Arts building across the street. It references the form of the Chinese character while creating a sense of connectivity by acting as a formal invitation to passers-by.

The building is primarily constructed with reinforced concrete, using post-tensioned beams to create column-free spaces. The first storey car park is enclosed with aluminium T-profiled louvers, which screens the car park and offers a bas-relief from which the upper floors are juxtaposed.

A sheath of perforated aluminium screens, in three sections, drapes across the entrance façade indirectly lit by the soft glow on the wall surfaces behind. The aluminium screens are 'sewn' together by two flights of black external staircases, stitching themselves across and upwards, leading the eye towards the cross. The triangulated perforations on the screen are also inspired by the (人) character. The white aluminium panels are clad seamlessly into a monolithic form that offers a striking contrast to the black College building directly opposite. This white aluminium filigree façade, together with the sweeping aluminium roof form, is a sun-shading screen for the building while creating shifting patterns of light and shadow during the transition from dusk to dawn.

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Maarof Mosque

– New mosque in Jurong West

A brand new mosque is to be built in Jurong West to accommodate the socio-religious needs of the large Muslim community living and working in the area. Named Maarof Mosque, the mosque will be built near the junction of Jalan Bahar and Jurong West Avenue 2, and it will serve residents in Jurong West and Boon Lay estates, workers from the Jurong Industrial Estate, Tuas and the planned Wenya Industrial Estate, as well as students from Nanyang Technological University and nearby institutions.

Once completed, Maarof Mosque will help ease the overcrowding at Assyakirin Mosque at Taman Jurong and Al-Mukminin Mosque in Jurong East. At full capacity, the new mosque can accommodate approximately 4,500 worshippers.

Minister-In-Charge of Muslim Affairs, Dr Yaacob Ibrahim, officiated the new mosque Design Roadshow at Assyakirin Mosque on Friday, 27 June 2014. At the event, Mufti Sohibus Samahah, Ustaz Dr Mohamed Fatris Bakaram, unveiled the name Maarof Mosque.

The term Maarof, generally refers to “goodness” and “kindness.” For example, *al-amru bil-Maaruf* is a concept that is highly emphasized in the Islamic tradition, related to the calling to and propagation of good deeds by Muslims. The term is also used in the Qur’an in relation to kind speech towards people, and maintaining good familial relationships, both of which are





encouraged in Islam. The choice of the name thus represents what is hoped of the new mosque and that which will represent the Muslim community in Jurong West, as a hub for the community to spread and multiply goodness.

Another reason for choosing Maarof is to relive the legacy of an old mosque, the old Maarof Mosque, which was located on Jeddah Street/Clyde Street. The mosque was built in 1870 and stood at the core of strengthening the communal ties of the Muslim community at that time. Due to redevelopment requirements in the area, the mosque was phased out in 1996. This act of appreciating history and buildings of legacy is in line with the national spirit for the year 2014 of appreciating pioneer generations. Members of the Muslim community from this generation have contributed to the development and growth of the nation and. It is without doubt, that the old Maarof Mosque played an important part in the coming together and unity of our Muslim community of the past.

The community's asset

Maarof Mosque will be the 25th satellite mosque funded by the Mosque Building and Mendaki Fund (MBMF), a community fund sustained through contributions by all working Muslims in Singapore. It is the third mosque under Phase 4 of the Mosque Building Programme¹ after Al-Islah Mosque in Punggol, which is expected to complete in 2015.

The cost of construction for Maarof Mosque is estimated to be about \$15 million. A Mosque Building Committee (JPM) has been set up to reach out to the local community to raise another \$2.5 million for the mosque's interior furnishings. The committee, a good mix of young and older professionals, including some from our pioneer generation is chaired by Haji Noordin Abdul Sukor, aged 58 years old.

Construction work for Maarof Mosque is targeted to commence before end of 2014 and is earmarked for completion in 2016.

Optimising space

The mosque was first announced in 2010 by Minister-In-Charge of Muslim Affairs, Dr Yaacob Ibrahim. Since then intensive planning work was done with various agencies, advisors and grassroots leaders of Jurong West and Boon Lay. The preliminary design of the new mosque was revealed by Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura (Muis) or the Islamic Religious Council of Singapore together with Warees Investments and the JPM.

Due to the direction of the kiblah² where the mosque is to be situated, the main prayer hall will be designed within a drum-shape building to optimise available prayer space. The building will be seamlessly connected to a four storey L-shape ancillary block which will house extended prayer areas, 12 rooms for Islamic education and seminar purposes, a library and a mosque office. The rooms can be expanded and turned into additional prayer space. A basement car park, which can be easily transformed into a function hall, will also be incorporated. Complementing the main prayer hall is a feature wall with *Kufic*³ pattern announcing the mosque's name.

Community friendly features

The female prayer area on the second storey is conveniently accessible from a lift and adjoining staircase. A greater area is also dedicated to facilities catering our female congregants, such as ablution area, toilets, changing room, nursing room, parents' lounge and a children play area.

For Maarof Mosque, a grand ramp leading into the prayer hall is designed close to the ablution area. There will be a dedicated seating

and storage area for wheelchairs and mobility scooters to cater to the needs of the elderly and physically challenged congregants.

The fourth storey of the mosque is equipped with a big function room, pre-function area and a roof terrace for community use. A pantry and gathering facility area will be set aside at the first storey plaza. Maarof Mosque will be a Wi-Fi enabled mosque upon completion.

Environmentally sustainable

Except for offices and seminar rooms which have the option of air-conditioning, the entire mosque building is designed to be fully naturally ventilated. The main prayer hall will have more than four storeys of ceiling volume with tall weatherproof glass louvre windows to ensure generous cross natural ventilation for passive cooling. The ancillary block will be designed with a façade that blocks heat and glare. Most rooms are placed at the edges to enjoy natural day lighting. This arrangement should help in lowering the utilities charges for the mosque. To provide visual relief and block off noise from Jalan Bahar, the mosque compound is surrounded with ample green spaces.

Engaging the community

Ongoing efforts are in place to ensure that the mosques become active centres for the community. The Design Roadshow aims to garner feedback from worshippers and the community-at-large on the design, facilities and programmes/services of the new mosque. The public can pen down their thoughts, ideas and suggestions and submit them at the roadshow. The feedback collated will better assist Muis to build ‘functional mosques’ that not only cater to the religious needs of congregants, but also provide relevant programmes as well as services for the community. For example, during the Design Roadshow for Al-Islah Mosque, public suggestions to relocate the crescent moon and the star – symbol for mosques – from the side to the top of the minaret was taken into consideration and implemented in the final design and construction.

PROJECT DATA

Project Information

- Project:** Maarof Mosque
- Developer/ Owner:** Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura
- Owner Representative:** Warees Investments Pte Ltd
- Project Manager:** CPG Consultants Pte Ltd
- Architect:** RSP Architects Planners & Engineers (Pte) Ltd
- Structural Engineer:** Aecom Singapore Pte Ltd
- M&E Engineer:** Aecom Singapore Pte Ltd
- Quantity Surveyor:** Surbana International Pte Ltd

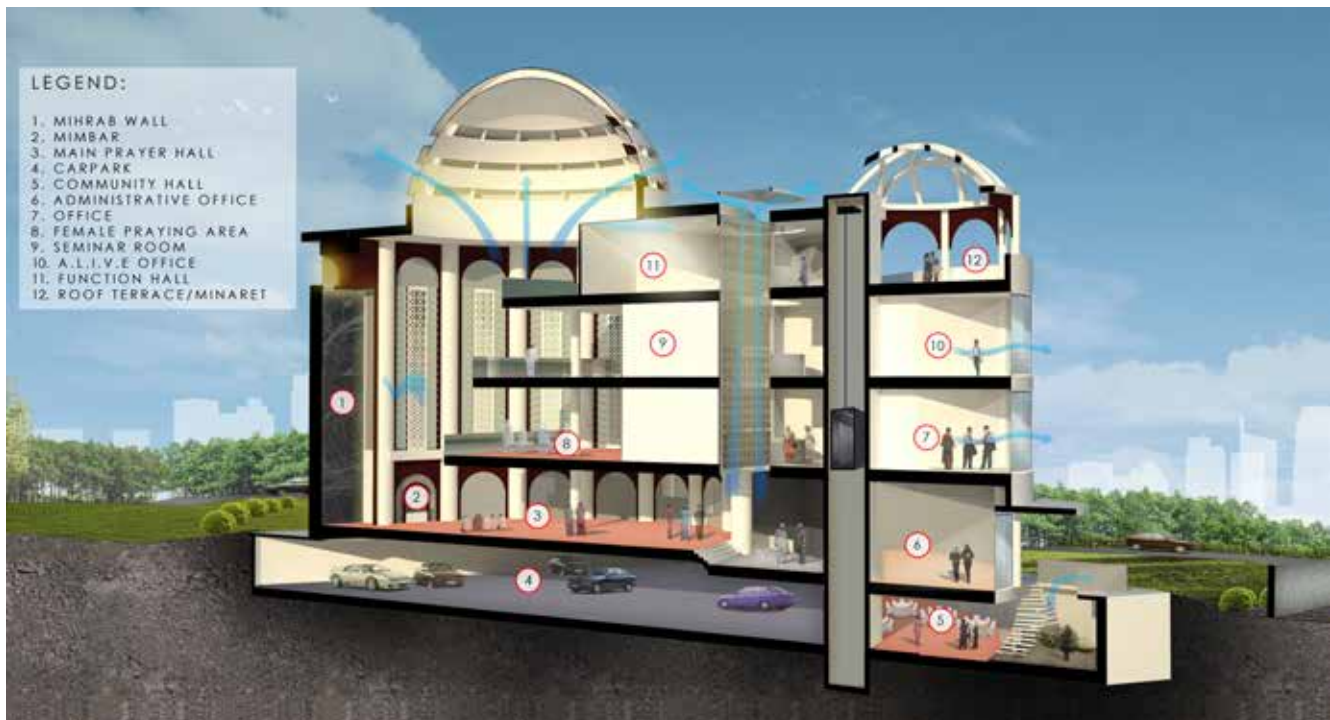
Mosque Information

- Site location:** Jurong West Street 24
- Site area:** 2,500 square metres
- GFA:** Approximately 4,000 square metres
- Capacity:** Approximately 2,500 normal days, approximately 4,500 Fridays/ Events
- Budgeted construction cost:** Approximately \$15 million
- Construction period:** 18 months
- Commencement of construction:** 2014
- Handover date:** 2016

¹ The first mosque under this phase is Al-Mawaddah Mosque in Sengkang, which was completed in 2009.

² Muslims all over the world face towards Ka’aba in Mecca when performing salat (prayers).

³ Kufic is the earliest Arabic script used to record the Al-Quran.



All renderings courtesy of RSP Architects, Planners & Engineers (Pte) Ltd

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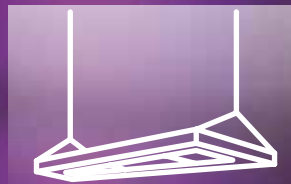
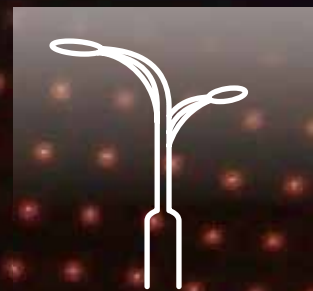
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Current Sultan Mosque. Image courtesy of Warees Investments

Addition & Alteration Works at Sultan Mosque

Sultan Mosque, one of Singapore's oldest mosques, is undergoing renovation and upgrading works of its facilities, to give it a brand new look.

History of Sultan Mosque

Built in 1824, Sultan Mosque is one of Singapore's oldest mosques and has been gazetted as a National Monument on 8 Mac 1975. Ever since the mosque was rebuilt in 1920, the only major addition was the Annex Building next to it, completed in 1993. Besides the usual minor upgrading, maintenance and repainting works, the mosque unique with its mix of Classical, Persian, Moorish and Turkish theme that form what is known as the Islamic Saracenic style by architect from Swan and Maclaren. It is relatively unchanged since almost a century ago, and is acknowledged by many as a very important and significant mosque not only among Muslims, but also Singaporeans in general.

Located at Muscat Street, right at the heart of the historical landmark of Kampong Gelam – which used to be the seat of the island – the mosque has a capacity of 3,000 congregants. The original mosque completed in 1826 on the same site was a brick structure with an area sufficient for the Muslim population then. The Ruler of Singapore, Sultan Hussain Shah had proposed to build the mosque two years earlier and Sir Stamford Raffles promised the East India Company will donate \$3,000 to assist in the building of the mosque.

Upon completion of the mosque, a constitution was drafted where the trustees of Sultan Mosque shall comprise of six different



Sultan Mosque (circa early 1900s). Image courtesy of Warees Investments

Muslim ethnic groups – Malay, Javanese, Bugis, Arab, South Indian and North Indian. Though the current mosque, built at a cost of \$200,000, differs much from the earlier one, the ethnic mix is still practised in the current Board of Trustees (BOT).

Meeting diverse needs

With the number of aging congregants now increasing, the need to erect barrier free amenities to cater for these seniors, as well as those with special needs, becomes eminent. In 2008, a member of the BOT mooted the idea of a barrier free project, and soon the idea expanded into a total upgrading of the mosque facilities.

Sultan Mosque addition and alteration (A&A) works is a planned project under Phase 2 of Group 1 of the Mosque Upgrading Program (MUP). Two lifts will be constructed at the mosque to provide comfort and ease for congregants to access the higher floors. A glass lift will be constructed on the southern face of the mosque main building for congregants to access to the second level prayer hall. A lift will also be constructed at the Annex Building, which will serve up to Level 3 of the building. This Annex Building houses an air-conditioned auditorium, which can sit 390 people, and the mosque office, both of which will be upgraded in the current A&A works.

Besides elderly friendly features, a new 'congregation friendly' ablution area will also be built, replacing existing ones at the main mosque building. Repair and refurbishments work, especially to the domes and structures, and rewiring of electrical installations will also be done, along with a new coat of paint for the entire mosque and Annex Building, giving it a brand new look - foreseen to attract more tourists and visitors to the mosque and the Kampong Gelam heritage and conservation area. The total cost for the A&A works is estimated to be about \$4.37 million and construction is expected to be completed by 4th quarter of 2015.

Challenges of a national monument

As with all National Monuments, Sultan Mosque is also subject to a preservation order under the Preservation of Monuments Act. As such, no parts of the mosque can be altered without authorisation from the Preservation of Sites and Monuments (PSM) under the National Heritage Board (NHB).

Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura (Muis) or the Islamic Religious Council of Singapore, together with Sultan Mosque and Warees Investments, have been working very closely with the relevant national agencies, including the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA) and PSM, to ensure that the A&A works can be done smoothly and carefully, taking into consideration the heritage value of the monument and the convenience for congregants and visitors.



New external lift. Rendering courtesy of Interconsultants Pte Ltd

PROJECT DATA

Project Information

Project: Sultan Mosque A&A works
Owner: Majlis Ugama Islam Singapura (Muis)
Owner representative: Warees Investments Pte Ltd
Project manager: Lee & Lee Consultants Pte Ltd
Architect: Interconsultants Pte Ltd
Structural engineer: Lee & Lee Consultants Pte Ltd
M&E engineer: CMP Consultants Pte Ltd
Quantity surveyor: Oliver Ho & Associates

Mosque Information

Type of mosque: Wakaf
Building type: Detached 3-storey with ancillaries
Site area: 5,293.50 square metres
Existing gross floor area: 6,191.30 square metres
New gross floor area: 6,224.30 square metres
Capacity: 3,000
Construction cost: \$4.37 million
Main contractor: Tang's Engineering Pte Ltd
Construction period: 15 months
Commencement of construction: August 2014
Contract completion date: 4th Quarter 2015



Ablution area. Rendering courtesy of Interconsultants Pte Ltd

RW Concrete Church



Designed by NAMELESS Architecture, RW Concrete Church is located in Byeollae, a newly developed district near northeast Seoul, Korea. It evokes a feeling, not of a city already completed, but a building on a new landscape somewhere between nature and artificiality, or between creation and extinction. The church, which will be a part of the new urban fabric, is concretized through a flow of consecutive spaces based on simple shape, single physical properties and programs.

The use of simple volumes and a single material adapted to the site collects a range of desires created in the newly developed district. Concrete, which is a structure as well as a basic finishing material for the building, indicates a property that penetrates the entire church, and at the same time, a firm substance that grasps the gravity of the ground it stands on, which is contrary in concept from abstraction. Concrete reveals its solidity as a metaphor for religious values, which are not easily changed in an era of unpredictability. Moreover, the cross as a religious symbol substitutes for an enormous bell tower and is integrated with the physical property of the building through the empty space at the upper part of the staircase. The minimised symbol implies the internal tension of the space.

The first thing encountered upon entering the building is the empty concrete yard on the ground floor. This is a flexible space that acts as a venue for interaction with the community while also accommodating varying religious programs. By the time you become accustomed to the dark as you walk past this empty yard, and climb the three stories of closed stairs, you come face to face with a space full of light.





PROJECT DATA

Project: RW Concrete Church

Client: RockWon Church

Architect: NAMELESS Architecture

Architects In Charge: Unchung Na, Sorae Yoo

Location: Byeollae, Namyangju, South Korea

Area: 3,095.5 square metres / 33,319.7 square feet

Photography: © Rohspace / NAMELESS

Collaborating Architect: Jplus (Jungtaek Lim, Hwataek Jung)

Structural consultant: Mido Structural Consultants

Mechanical consultant: One Engineering

Design: 2011-2012

Completion: 2013



This interior space has a cantilever structure protruding 6.9 metres, and you must pass through this hall before entering the chapel. This cantilevered space is a physical as well as spiritual transition that connects daily life with religion. The chapel creates a sense of peace with a single space, using a slope that is not so steep, evoking the feeling of attending a worship service on a low hill. The subdued light gleaming through the long and narrow clerestory embraces the entire chapel and lends vigor to the static space.



Bulgari hotel in Milan

Eco-sustainable products for the wooden floors in the suites.



In a private street between Via Montenapoleone, Via della Spiga (which are located in the fashion district of Milan), the La Scala Theatre and the Brera Academy, a building in Milan dating back to the 18th century has been tastefully renovated to become the Bulgari Hotel in Milan. It is set in the heart of the commercial and cultural district of a city that hides behind its facades delightful courtyards and unexpected gardens. One such example is the 4,000 square metres private garden owned by the Bulgari Hotel, a regenerative oasis of serenity and relaxation set amongst the frenetic rhythms of Milan.





In these photos. The rooms in the Hotel Bulgari in Milan after finishing off the wooden flooring with ULTRACOAT HIGH TRAFFIC.

Its 58 rooms and 11 suites offer guests unexpected tranquillity in the centre of Milan. The furnishing and finishes help create a refined, welcoming atmosphere. The rare, high quality materials used, such as teak and oak, create an atmosphere of warmth and intimacy.

To keep the wooden floors in perfect condition, Mapei products have been used for some time to keep the flooring alive, in cycles that vary according to the hospitality requirements of the hotel. Recently, this periodic maintenance involved the parquet in some of the suites. After a roughing operation with sandpaper, the surfaces were grouted with ULTRACOAT BINDER solvent-free, waterbased binder with no NMP (N-Methyl-pyrrolidone), which is mixed with sawdust from any type of wood. A coat of ULTRACOAT PREMIUM BASE was then applied, a two-component, water-based primer with high insulating capacity, specially developed to enhance the natural colour of wood without creating undesired colour variations in species rich in tannins or other extracts (oak, teak, etc.). The final finishing operation was carried out by applying ULTRACOAT HIGH TRAFFIC, a two-component, 100 percent polyurethane and water-based varnish containing no NMP for wooden floors, with very low emission level of volatile organic compounds (certified EMICODE EC1 R) and high resistance to wear and abrasion. The most suitable products for floors subjected to intense pedestrian traffic, that are destined to last for years.

For more information, e-mail mapei@mapei.com.sg.

Article source: *Realtà Mapei International* no. 47/2014

Mapei Products

Finishing wooden floors: Ultracoat Binder, Ultracoat Premium Base, Ultracoat High Traffic

PROJECT DATA

Project: Bulgari Hotel, Milan (Italy)

Period of Construction: 18th century

Year of Intervention: 2013

Intervention by Mapei: supplying products for finishing wooden floors

Laying Company: Castiglioni SpA

Mapei Co-ordinators: Davide Zanotti and Andrea Pillepich, Mapei SpA (Italy)



An elaborate fusion of French luxury with Singapore's cultural heritage marks the arrival of a new era in luxury boutique hotel style – Sofitel So Singapore – in the heart of Robinson Road.

Sofitel So Singapore – A luxurious boutique hotel

Singapore recently welcomed a sensational new addition to the luxury hotel scene with the opening of Sofitel So Singapore. With stylish design credentials – interior design developed by Isabelle Miaja and chic touches courtesy of the hotel's signature designer Karl Lagerfeld – Sofitel So Singapore features the best of the east and the west by combining French elegance with Singapore flair.

The design concept brings together both cultures, housed in a heritage building but decked in modern interiors; creating a unique fusion representative of modern Singapore.

Where Paris meets Singapore

An address of prestige, 35 Robinson Road is a landmark heritage building with almost 100 years of history. A rarity in Singapore, the façade features impressive symmetrical columns and large balconies overlooking the bustling central business district, a perfect location to feel the pulse of the city. This iconic frontage transports guests back to the past and upon stepping through the doors, the contemporary urban interior of Sofitel So Singapore is revealed.

Developed by renowned Singapore-based, MIAJA Design Group led by French Interior Designer Isabelle Miaja, the flagship So property is Singapore's very own version of the So label – a reflection of the destination and its distinctive traditions, values and increasingly creative outlook. The mingling of the old with the new is a key element of Singapore's dynamic identity, as a thriving cosmopolitan city brimming with a myriad of cultures.



Lobby



So Comfy room



So Cosy room



So Studio room



So Lofty room



So VIP room



So Urban room

By combining the *crème de la crème* of French luxury with the island's uniquely blended local culture, Singapore as a 'melting pot' of diversity is represented throughout the hotel's design.

Rooms and suites dressed to impress

Sofitel So Singapore features 134 guestrooms, including 9 suites, all equipped with cutting-edge technology and designed to create an elegant, rich ambience unlike any other bedroom in Singapore. French 18th century decadence combined with local touches and contemporary comforts welcome visitors as they step in to any of the rooms at Sofitel So Singapore.

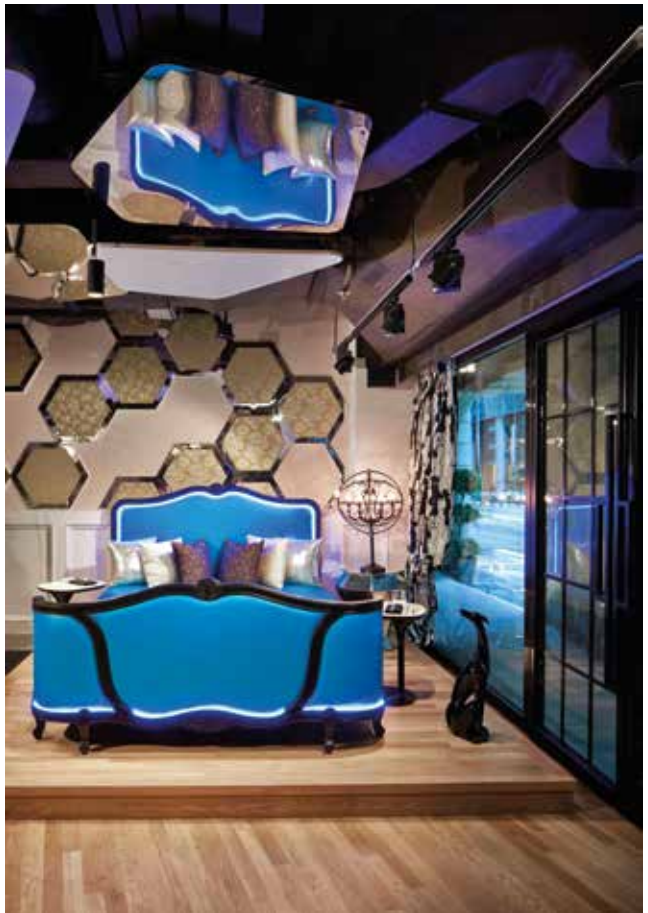
The rooms are splashed with hues inspired by the city of Paris and its picturesque apartments. Enhanced by three-metre high ceilings, rooms are bright and spacious with a sumptuous Parisian feel. Bespoke light boxes, set above each bed, feature images of palatial glass domes inspired by the traditional architecture of Europe and modern constructions in Singapore. An ethereal experience awaits guests, to sleep under an 'open' sky, and waking up to the view of a stunning 'coupoles'. Each inviting Sofitel MyBed features a headboard with a contemporary interpretation of an Orchid, Singapore's national flower.



Xperience restaurant

Meticulous suites exude opulence with regal balconies flanked by antiquated columns and overlooking a thriving city, complemented by expansive bathrooms with lavish fittings and bespoke amenities. Specially produced for the hotel, these products carry Sofitel So Singapore's signature scent. The complimentary mini-bar is inspired by Singaporean aesthetics and filled with local goodies. Each element of the room has been carefully designed to exceed expectations in terms of both service and design – French elegance is combined seamlessly with the innovations of modern Singapore. A fully customisable guest technology platform, developed in partnership with DirectStreams, ensures Sofitel So Singapore guests experience the only completely Apple®-based guest technology solution in the world.

Commenting on the design, Isabelle Miaja said, "Sofitel So Singapore comes with a bold vision to stand out from the other hotels. It digs deep into its DNA by mixing French elegance with Singapore touches, resulting in a unique experience based on introducing playful luxury to the island. The juxtaposition and infusion of two distinct cultural aesthetics provided us with an opportunity to be creative, daring and imaginative in our concepts. We worked closely with the hotel's management team to ensure that the design complements function to create a visually captivating product that works for each type of guest."



Bed concept at Xperience restaurant.



Facade



Rooftop bar with So's signature golden-tiled swimming pool.