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Baku National Stadium


Baku, Azerbaijan

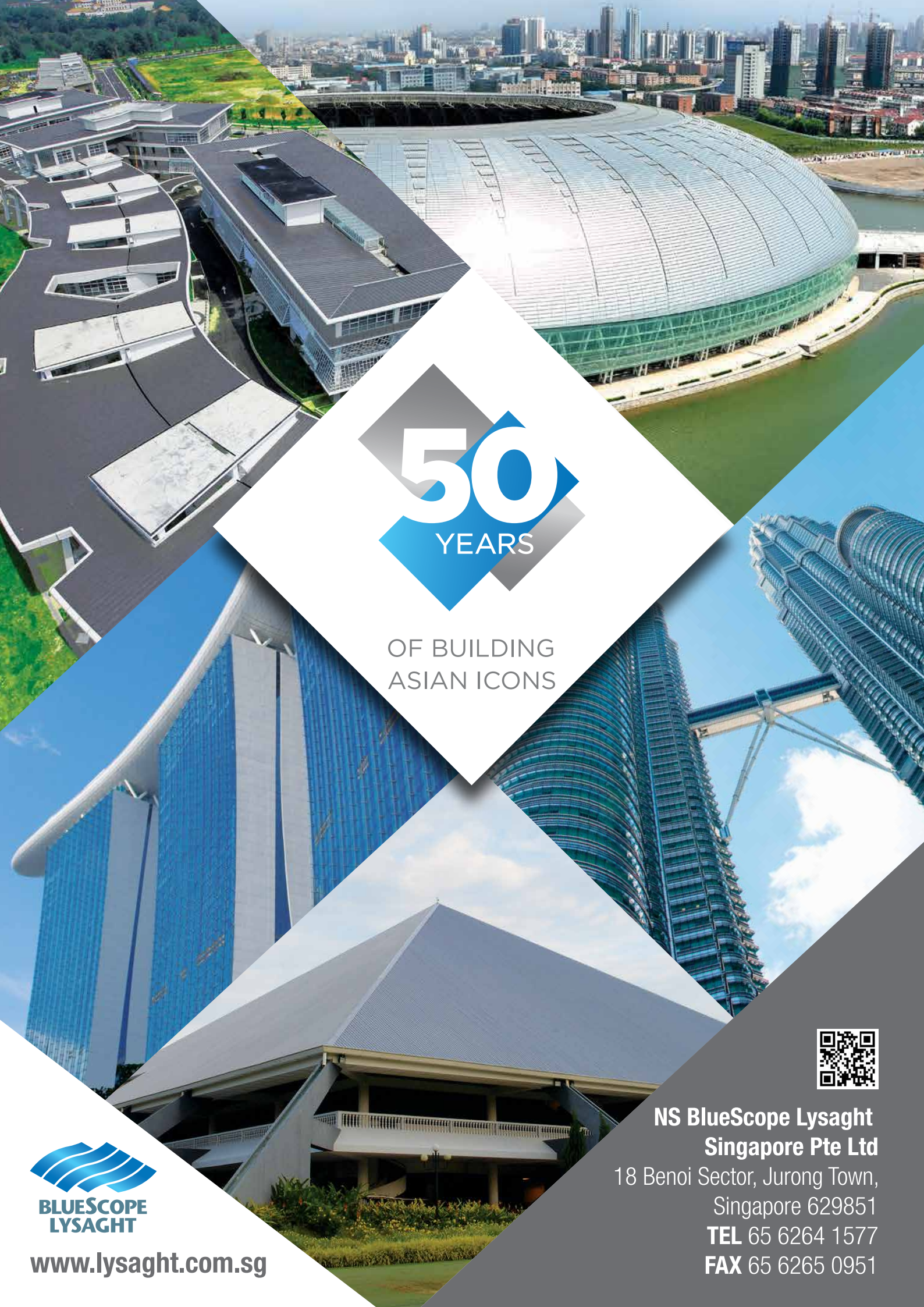


In memory of
Lee Kuan Yew
1923-2015

ARCHITECTURE Margaret Court Arena Redevelopment Design; Reconstructed Orlando Citrus Bowl reopens; Technology upgrade at Melbourne Cricket Club; 'Fans first' design for New Perth Stadium and Castelão Stadium reconstruction project by Mapei **INTERIOR** KU DÉ TA Bangkok **LANDSCAPING** Playground projects by Playpoint (Singapore) Pte Ltd; International Play Company & Dynamo Industries; Interview with Matt Miller, CEO of Playworld Systems **SHOW PREVIEW** GILE 2015



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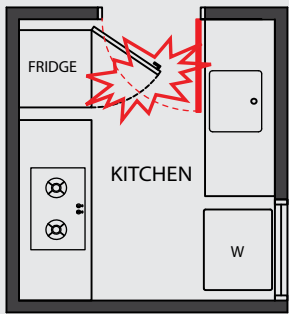
SLIDEHIDE Optimises and Creates more space



Utility hardware (eg. switches) can be fixed directly onto the casing surface and these fixtures can be embedded inside the wall finishes.

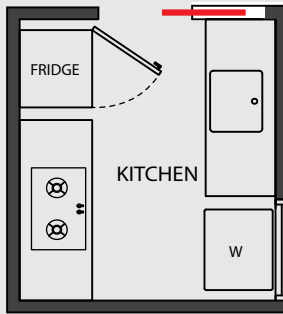
FLAWS OF TRADITIONAL DOOR

Problem: Swing door tends to clash with home appliances, cabinet and furniture.

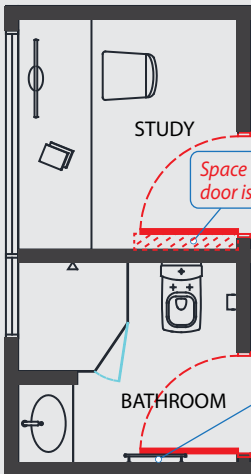


BENEFITS OF SLIDEHIDE

Solution: No more clashing



Problem: Tight room space reduced further by the swing door.



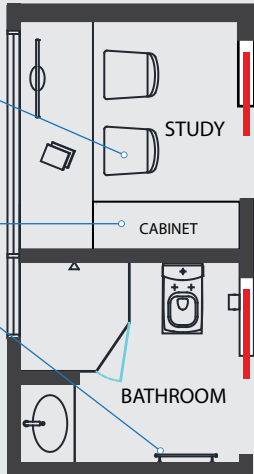
Solution: More storage and working space. More space for occupant to manoeuvre

Now can accommodate two persons

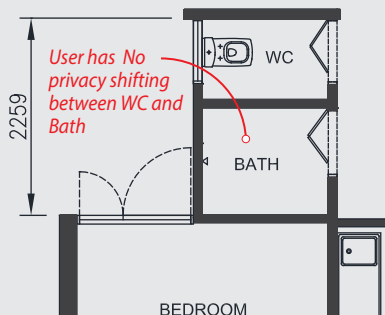
Free-up space for cabinet shelving

Towel rail can be accessed freely

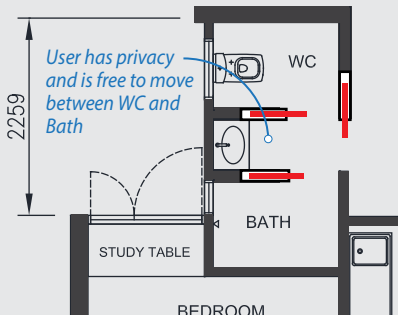
Accessibility of towel rail is always obstructed by swing door



Problem: Space constraint and traditional doors leads to rigid and unfriendly layout.



Solution: SLIDEHIDE allows more creative layout and better usage of space.



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- Ritz Carlton Residences
- Damansara City
- Setia Sky Residences
- Somerset Puteri Harbour
- Suasana Bangsar

CHINA

- Four Seasons Hotel
- Marriot Hotel
- Sheraton Hotel
- Crowne Hotel

OTHER Countries

- Emperor Hotel (Sri Lanka)
- The Dubai Mall (UAE)
- Panorama Apartments (Ho Chi Minh)
- Daiwahouse-Retirement Home (Japan)

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Spanish Glass Mosaic at



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may - june 2015

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On the Cover: Baku National Stadium in Baku, Azerbaijan. Photo: Courtesy of Tekfen Construction

Cover design by Fawzeeah Yamin



GCC Sliding And Stacking Wall System



GCC Sliding And Folding Wall System

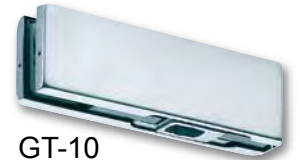
The three core principles of **GCC** are to provide **good quality, creditable and consideration products and services** to our customers since its establishment.

GCC has dedicated huge efforts in glass hardware and system development since 1981. **GCC** also provides variety of great solutions for users to create wide, fresh, and comfortable spaces. The product range cover from houses, office buildings, restaurants, hotels to department stores, etc.

Space planning is always a key point that designers and users focus on. To better serve user's expectation and the market trend, **GCC** launches "**Heavy Duty Sliding And Stacking Wall System**" and "**Sliding And Folding Wall System**". There are two major features of these two creative systems. First of all, it does not require to drill through glass and no need to use AB glue on glass. These two features offer more convenient operability to users and significantly cut down the installation time. Moreover, it does not require floor guide anymore, and it keeps the floor flawlessly from washing and dust and maintains simple and neat partition system. In addition, **GCC** offers anti-UV PVC seal, weather resisted rubber seal and weather brush to keep mosquitoes and insects away. All these options allows customer to flexible apply **GCC's** products in different conditions.

To provide great living experiences to customers, **GCC** has its QC team to oversee the product with high-standard, and never compromise product quality, safety and endurances of market price competition. **GCC** develops its unique designs and holds patents in many countries. Quality assurance is always the top priority for **GCC** and we hope thorough our effort we can see application for glass hardware and systems in numerous spaces.

Looking forward, **GCC** will continue to devote its effort in developing more user-friendly systems to offer more effortless solutions, and most importantly to provide better living experiences to users.



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editor's note



Hello readers of *Southeast Asia Building* and welcome to the May/June issue. This issue looks at the design of sports venues around the world. Sports architecture has undergone profound changes over the years to include various aspects such as aesthetics, reduced energy use and environmental sustainability. We showcase some of these features in the projects that we have put together. Enjoy the read with plenty of colourful photos!

In the interior design section, we bring you a feature on KU DÉ TA Bangkok. Opened in 2013, KU DÉ TA Bangkok houses two world class dining rooms, an electrifying nightclub and two unique themed bar.

In the Landscaping section, we have an interview with Matt Miller, CEO of Playworld Systems who shares with us trends in playground equipment design and the challenges ahead for the company. We have also lined up some exciting playground projects by Playpoint, International Play Company and Dynamo Industries.

Finally, as a tribute to the late Mr Lee Kuan Yew, Singapore's first Prime Minister, we have reproduced an interview between Mr Lee and Chairman of the Centre for Liveable Cities, Dr Liu Thai Ker who spoke with Mr Lee on 31 August 2012.

We hope you enjoy this issue and as always welcome your comments or feedback.

Amita Natverlal

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Third project from ONYX Hospitality Group breaks ground in Sri Lanka introducing Amari Galle

Bangkok, Thailand – Thailand-based ONYX Hospitality Group marked a key development in the expansion of its Amari brand with a ‘ground breaking’ ceremony to mark the start of construction of the third ONYX project in Sri Lanka; Amari Galle.

The hospitality group’s savvy hotel brand OZO, has already made an indelible footprint in Sri Lanka’s hospitality landscape, with OZO Colombo which opened in June 2014 and OZO Kandy which is due to open in May this year.

Owned by Sino Lanka Hotels Galle (PVT) LTD., and headed by Mr Bob Kundanmal, Amari Galle will be managed by ONYX Hospitality Group under its full-service Amari brand. The 172-room hotel is located on Galle Road, approximately 2.5 kilometres north of the Galle Fort. The hotel’s facilities will include a swimming pool, gym, Breeze Spa, banqueting facilities and two restaurants.

Proud of its Asian roots, Amari creates memorable experiences that embody the spirit of local culture as well as enhancing the renowned traditions of Asian hospitality. Every Amari property shares the flavours and texture of its setting, so whether travelling for business or pleasure, guests will discover contemporary spaces where they can relax and enjoy the gift of time.

Commenting on the proceedings, Peter Henley, President and CEO, ONYX Hospitality Group said: “We are thrilled to be breaking ground on our third project in Sri Lanka. Tourism is thriving and we think a full service hotel product like Amari will be very well received in the market. The brand aims to provide guests with culturally enriched and memorable shared experiences, and with the array of historical sites and the warmth of Sri Lankan hospitality, Galle is an obvious location for our next Amari property.”



From left to right: Mr Peter Henley, President and CEO, ONYX Hospitality Group; Mr Manu Bhojwani Director, Sino Lanka Hotels Holdings (Pvt) Ltd; Mr Rajan Bharvani, Director, Sino Lanka Hotels Holdings (Pvt) Ltd; Mr Stefan Furkhan, Director, Sino Lanka Hotels Holdings (Pvt) Ltd; Hon. Naveen Dissanayake, Minister for Sports & Tourism, Mr Bob Kundanmal, Chairman, Sino Lanka Hotels Holdings (Pvt) Ltd; Hon. Dr Hemakumara Nanayakkara, Governor of the Southern Province; and His Worship Methsiri De Silva, Mayor of Galle, Sri Lanka.



Perspective of exterior of Amari Galle in Sri Lanka.

2015 LIAS Awards of Excellence - Call For Submissions

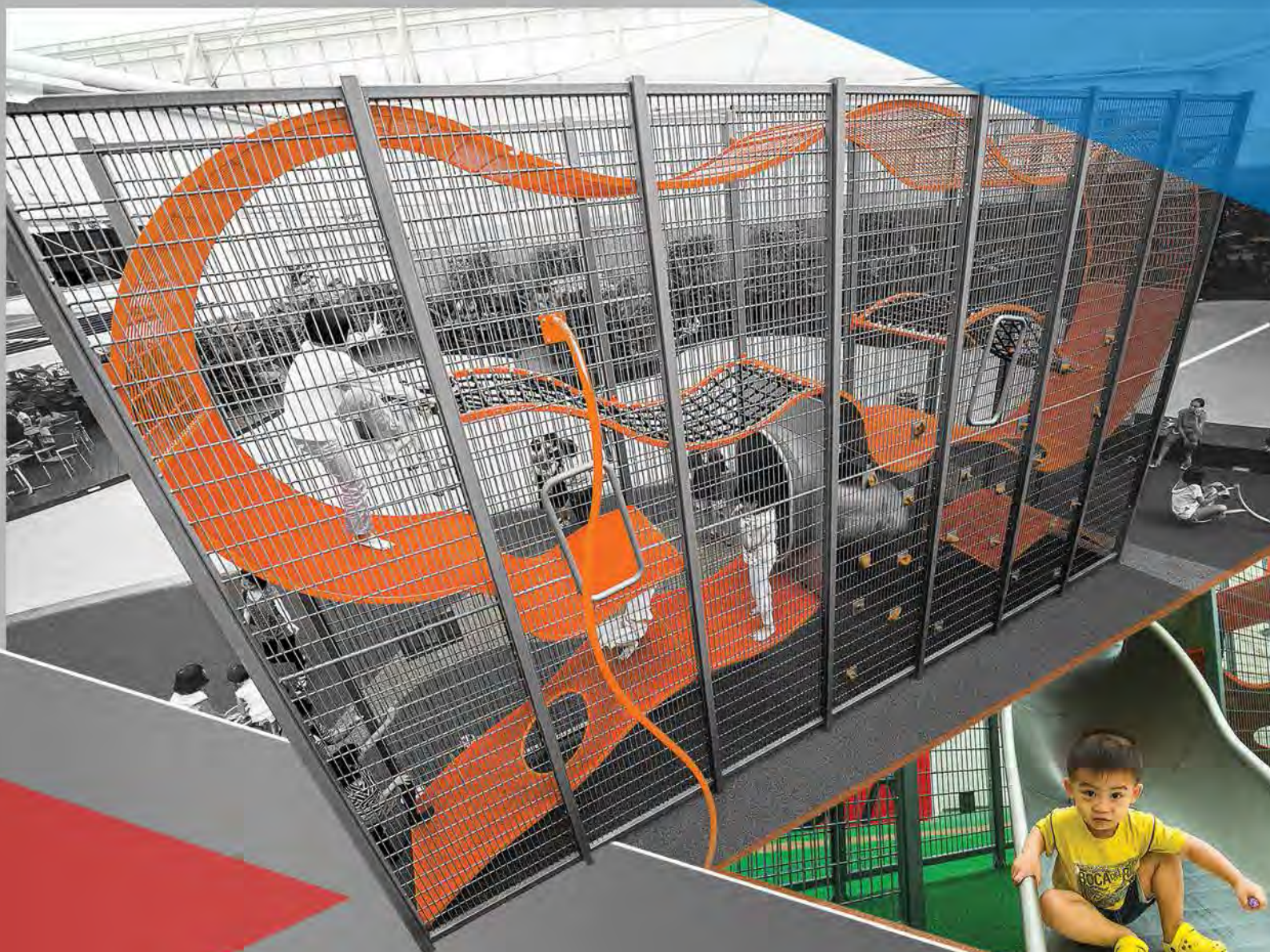
Singapore – Organised by the Landscape Industry Association (Singapore) [LIAS], the LIAS Awards of Excellence is part of the association’s efforts to recognise and commend outstanding landscaping works in Singapore, raising the standards and professionalism of the contractors, designers and workers in the landscaping industry.

LIAS Awards 2015 is in its 6th edition. This is a competition conceived to set benchmarks on the quality and excellence of work expected of landscape and related practitioners in Singapore. Through this competition, LIAS aims to generate awareness and recognition of outstanding projects and the works of landscape contractors, designers and other related practitioners in both interior and exterior landscapes.

This prestigious Awards Competition is open to all landscape designers, practitioners, contractors and owners in the landscaping and horticultural industry. An Awards Ceremony & Exhibition will be held in the last quarter of 2015 to commemorate the winners. More information for the registration will be disseminated in April.

If you would like to be informed of the submission details, please contact LIAS secretariat at secretariat@lias.org.sg.





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Ascott expands global network with its first foray into fast-growing Istanbul

Singapore – CapitaLand’s wholly-owned serviced residence business unit, The Ascott Limited (Ascott), has secured a contract to manage its first serviced residence in Turkey, Somerset Maslak Istanbul. Ascott’s entry into Turkey will expand the footprint of the world’s largest international serviced residence owner-operator to 90 cities across 25 countries.

Slated to open in 2016, the 159-unit Somerset Maslak Istanbul has a prime location in one of Istanbul’s main business and leisure districts. It will be part of an integrated development, Maslak 1453, which comprises a 1,453-metre long shopping promenade and 24 towers of commercial, residential, dining and recreational facilities. Ascott, which pioneered luxury branded serviced residence with the opening of its first property in Singapore in 1984, has been awarded the management contract for Somerset Maslak Istanbul by real estate company Maslak Konaklama, an affiliate of the Saudi-based Abduljawad Group of Companies.

Mr Lee Chee Koon, Ascott’s Chief Executive Officer, said: “Turkey is an attractive market for foreign investors and we see significant growth opportunities for international branded serviced residences. The country is amongst the world’s top 20 largest economies. It has a strategic location at the crossroads of Europe, Middle East and Asia, a large domestic market and stable policy environment. As the financial hub of the country, Istanbul is a natural choice for multinational corporations setting up headquarters in Turkey. Tourism is also a significant contributor to the country’s GDP. Visitor numbers have been seeing double-digit growth in the past three years and tourism revenue has been increasing steadily.”



Photo: © The Ascott Limited

DEWA lights Alathba Primary School playgrounds and entrance with solar power

Dubai, UAE – Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA) has installed state-of-the-art solar-powered street-lighting and energy-efficient floodlights for Alathba Primary School for Girls in Dubai. The move supports DEWA’s sustainable development strategy and its efforts to implement the rational use of energy and water, spread awareness on saving the environment, and conserve resources for generations to come.

The lights were installed at the entrance and playgrounds of the school, located in Al Khawaneej, Dubai. The school lacked sufficient outdoor lighting, which limited outdoor sporting events and other activities and programmes in the school’s playground and nearby yards after sunset.

The inauguration ceremony was attended by HE Saeed Mohammed Al Tayer, MD & CEO of DEWA and HE Dr Ahmed Eid Al Mansouri, Director of Dubai Educational Zone. It was also attended by Waleed Salman, Executive Vice President of Strategy and Business Development, Dr. Yousef Ibrahim Al Akraf, Executive Vice President of Business Development and Human Resources, Khawla Al Mehairi, Vice President of Marketing and Corporate Communications at DEWA, a number of directors from DEWA and Dubai Educational Zone, DEWA and Alathba School staff, and students from Lootah Technical Centre.

“To achieve the Green Economy for Sustainable Development initiative, launched by His Highness Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, and the Dubai Integrated Energy Strategy 2030 to reduce

energy demand by 30 percent by 2030 and diversify the energy mix in the Emirate to include 15 percent from solar power, DEWA works to protect the environment and save our resources. We do this by keeping up with the global environmental changes and developments to achieve environmental targets. We made sure we used environmentally-friendly lights in the school, some of which use renewable energy. This supports DEWA’s efforts in energy management and the optimal use of our resources,” said Al Tayer.

DEWA sent a specialist team to review the school’s playgrounds and entrance and install the necessary lighting. This is part of DEWA’s commitment to all segments of society, including citizens, residents, and visitors. The team assessed the premises and installed state-of-the-art LED floodlights and solar-powered street lights for the school’s main entrance and playgrounds.



Photography: @Technal Architect: Akimedia



TECHNAL & Akimedia in Malaysia

The University College of Technology Sarawak in Sibul has been designed to be a flagship eco-friendly building of Malaysia. **A first in the area!**

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The world looks better



Atkins to design landmark supertall development in China

Hong Kong – Atkins has been awarded a contract to design the centrepiece development for a new expansion project in Changsha, in the province of Hunan in China.

Changsha Northstar Real Estate Development Company will be developing the Northstar Delta site to create a new landmark - Northstar Changsha Centre - on behalf of the government for the city of Changsha, and has appointed Atkins to provide architecture design services for this development.

The Centre will integrate residential, cultural, retail and commercial space of the riverside area to create a central public space for activities. This will include a supertall 400 metre landmark office tower, regional convention centre, department stores, a five-star hotel and serviced apartments. The project will cover a floor area of 406,000 square metres.

Ian Milne, Atkins' senior design

director, said: "Our design ambition is to create a spectacular centrepiece to this important new urban quarter. Connectivity is a major concept in our design and we want to connect not only places, but people. The civic plaza will be located between the proposed iconic landmark tower and convention centre and will be an ideal meeting point due to its convenient location, plus the wide range of cultural and recreational activities that can be staged there."

Based on existing road planning, the development has been designed to be very pedestrian friendly, and a major civic plaza will connect the buildings with a network of elevated walkways. Vertical recesses running up the sides of the towers will make them look more slender and the tops of the towers are 'stepped' to add differentiation to the overall shape, ensuring the towers will create a dramatic and unified group on the city's skyline. Sustainability is another focus for the project, and the



convention centre in particular will set new standards in passive energy efficiency due to its careful orientation and sophisticated roof design. Rows of large skylights orientated to the north will bring diffused light into the halls and foyers below, utilising natural light effectively.

Curtin University awarded Australia's first 5 Star Green Star – Communities rating

Sydney, Australia – Curtin University has been awarded Australia's first 5 Star Green Star – Communities rating from the Green Building Council of Australia (GBCA). Western Australia's largest university received the rating for its Master Plan, which will see its Bentley Campus developed into a 'city of innovation'.

Green Star – Communities is one of the world's first independent, transparent, national schemes designed to assess and certify the sustainability of large-scale master planned development projects. According to the GBCA's Chief Executive Officer, Romilly Madew, the Curtin University Master Plan was assessed against best practice benchmarks for governance and innovation, design excellence, environmental sustainability, economic prosperity and liveability. "A 5 Star Green Star rating signifies 'Australian Excellence', sets new sustainability benchmarks for Australia's universities, and provides Curtin University with independent proof that its vision will deliver environmental, economic and social sustainability," said Ms Madew. "We applaud the leadership demonstrated by Curtin University, and also acknowledge the hard work and commitment of the project team responsible for delivering this outstanding result," added Ms Madew.

James Rosenwax, AECOM Managing Director, Design, Planning + Economics, said: "The Curtin University Master Plan's 5 Star Green Star Communities certification is a ringing endorsement of Curtin University's commitment to sustainability; AECOM is proud to have been a part of what is an Australian first. As the master planner consultant



Photo: © Curtin University

for the Curtin University Master Plan, AECOM worked with the University to embed sustainability through the design development, then work with the University on documenting and confirm its sustainability commitments within the Green Star – Communities rating tool." The Curtin Master Plan will see 114 hectares of the University's Bentley Campus transformed through urban regeneration over a 20-year period. It supports an urban economy based on education, business, technology, housing, public transport, the arts and recreation. Stage 1 of the Master Plan is underway. As part of Stage 1, Wesfarmers Court – a dynamic economic and innovative hub – was opened in December last year and was supported by listed company Wesfarmers.

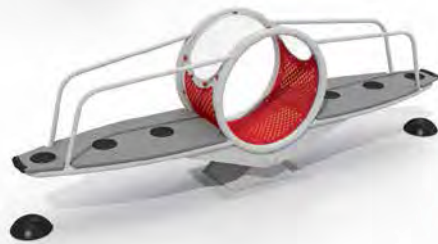
Unity™ Collection



A



B



C



D



E



F

The Unity Collection

A. Dome; B. Rushmore; C. Teeter Tunnel; D. Slide Climber E. Canopy; F. Steppers

The past propels us into the future

The post and platform structure has become standard play equipment on today's playgrounds. When we look back a few decades, playgrounds were a play space that hosted several different pieces of individual play equipment—slides, seesaws, monkey bars, geodesic climbing domes and swings. This decentralized playground layout lets children maneuver throughout the playground, encouraging them to move around and use their imaginations to create new ways to play.

While still fundamentally used, "retro" play equipment isn't as relevant to today's children. It doesn't engage them in a meaningful way.

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The University of Sydney expands

Sydney, Australia – Minister for Planning Pru Goward has approved of The University of Sydney's concept proposal to cater for significant future growth at the Camperdown and Darlington campuses.

The Campus Improvement Program will generate almost \$1.4 billion in investment, with up to 15,000 jobs created during construction, and an extra 400 full-time employees once the expansion is complete.

The concept plans include new education facilities to cater for around 10,000 extra students, and provision of extra campus accommodation for around 4,000 students. "The University of Sydney is part of our \$15 billion education sector, and is world renowned for its quality education standards," said Ms Goward.

Dr Michael Spence, Vice-Chancellor and Principal, University of Sydney commented: "Our students, staff and the local community value our Camperdown Darlington campus as a place where excellent teaching and research is conducted through collaboration. This plan maintains our heritage by ensuring legacy buildings are protected and preserved, significantly increases affordable housing places for students and addresses environmental sustainability through building height restrictions and a campus greening project."

While only 21 percent of journeys to and from the campuses are by private vehicles, the proposal includes measures to improve access and parking at the university, with modern, underground parking envisaged for many of the new buildings, as well as designated drop-off and pick-up points that can be used by private vehicles, as well as taxis and buses.

"The plans also include establishing pedestrian and cycling networks across the campuses, as more than a quarter of its students and staff either walk or ride their bike to the university," said Ms Goward.

The Campus Improvement Program is also in line with the NSW Government's recently released A Plan for Growing Sydney. "The approval means the university can play a major role in providing the world-class education facilities that are essential to the competitive Sydney of the future that our metropolitan growth plan envisages," said Ms Goward.



The Main Quadrangle which is part of the Camperdown/Darlington campus. Photo: © The University of Sydney

BCA pushes for energy efficient building technologies through \$20 million GBIC-Demo scheme

Singapore – The Building and Construction Authority (BCA) has released details of the \$20 million scheme, called the GBIC-Building Energy Efficient Demonstrations Scheme (GBIC-Demo), to spearhead the test-bedding of new energy-efficient technologies in fully operational buildings. GBIC-Demo scheme is one of the three key initiatives (refer to Annex A) under the \$52 million (Green Buildings Innovation Cluster) GBIC programme first launched by BCA in September 2014.

"The scheme will help mitigate the risks involved in trialling new technologies by co-funding incurred costs such as equipment, installation, and commissioning. In doing so, we hope to spur wider replication and eventual commercialisation of novel energy-efficient solutions for buildings in the longer term," said Mr Tan Tian Chong, BCA's Group Director of Research.

To push the boundaries of building energy efficiency, technologies to be test-bedded should achieve 20 percent to 40 percent improvement over the current best-in-class technologies. These technologies could come from successfully completed research and development (R&D) projects or proven technology, either local or overseas, that have not been implemented widely in Singapore yet. Examples include innovative air-conditioning technologies, such as chilled ceilings and under-floor cooling systems.

The scheme will also cover the cost of removing the technology should the trial be deemed unsuccessful. United

World College South East Asia (UWCSEA) is keen to participate in the GBIC-Demo scheme to facilitate the implementation of '3for2@UWCSEA' at the college's new high school block in Dover. Scheduled to be completed by 2017, the facility will boast several technologies that are new to Singapore such as a control and building management system (BMS) optimised for decentralised ACMV systems. The project will be developed by researchers at the Future Cities Laboratory of the Singapore-ETH Centre and engineers at Siemens Building Technologies.

Mr Simon Thomas, Director of Operations and Facilities at UWCSEA, said: "This GBIC-Demo scheme will provide a significant opportunity for building owners to reduce their risk whilst providing a much needed platform for real world learning, the results of which could give a clear direction of future possibilities."

"It is important to test new technologies in a real-world setting and the GBIC-Demo scheme helps remove some of the barriers towards the adoption of cutting-edge technologies for building," said Mr Nilesh Y. Jadhav, Program Director of EcoCampus at Nanyang Technological University. "Apart from incentivising early adopters, the scheme also provides valuable data to subsequent adopters. The sharing of performance data provides opportunities for investigating further improvements in the technology and making it adoption-friendly."



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Promising outlook for Guangzhou Electrical Building Technology 2015

Hong Kong – The 12th edition of Guangzhou Electrical Building Technology will be held from 9-12 June 2015 at the China Import and Export Fair Complex in Guangzhou, China. The four-day event is expected to host approximately 300 exhibitors in over 20,000 square metres of exhibition space. Highlighted at the 2015 show will be electrical engineering, as well as building and home automation, in an attempt to accommodate the growing needs of China's building industry.

Recognised as one of Asia's premier platforms for electrical engineering and building and home automation technologies, the show continues to garner substantial confidence from leading industry players. New and returning exhibitors confirmed for 2015 include Berker (Germany), BOCHO (Switzerland), Control4 (the US), DOOYA (China), Echelon Technology (the US), EnOcean Alliance (the US), HDL (China), HEE (China), IISFREE (China), KNX Association (Belgium), Lite-Puter (Taiwan), Murata (Japan), Schneider Electric (France), T&J Electric (the UK), WAGO Electronic (Germany), Z-Wave Alliance (the US) and many others.

Furthermore, Guangzhou Electrical Building Technology will be held concurrently with the Guangzhou International Lighting Exhibition and Wire & Cable Guangzhou. The three shows together serve as a comprehensive platform for demonstrating the latest electrical engineering, lighting, and building and home automation technologies and solutions.

A diverse range of visitors is anticipated to join such as energy service providers, power companies, system integrators, architects, designers, contractors and end-users. In 2014, Guangzhou Electrical Building Technology and the Guangzhou International Lighting Exhibition attracted 129,885 professional visitors from around the world.

Specialised fair supports China's fast-growing building technologies market

China's fast-growing new urbanisation construction is raising standards for building quality and building energy efficiency. Resultantly, there is a boost in the market demand for building electrical engineering and automation control technologies and products.

According to the China Academy of Telecommunication Research of the Ministry of Industry and Information Technology, the total investment in smart cities in China will exceed RMB 1.6 trillion (USD 255 billion) by the 12th Five-Year Plan. The Intelligence Community and Smart Home are highlighted as two key areas of this development by the National Development and Reform Commission in "Opinions on Promoting the Healthy Development of Smart City".

In support of this rapid development, the event will feature related exhibits in the following categories:

Building and home automation

- Lighting control systems
- Intelligent sun shading systems
- Audio and video systems
- Air conditioning and cooling systems
- Integration systems
- General cabling systems
- Video surveillance, access control and home security systems
- Power supply and distribution systems, and energy management systems

Electrical engineering

- Electrical accessories and materials
- Power supply, instruments, gauges and tools
- Electrical energy-efficiency modification equipment
- Control equipment, meters, dimmers and monitoring switches
- Sockets and switches
- Lightning protection systems and equipment

Strong and steady support from industry associations

The 2015 show's five new supporters are the China Smart Home Industry Alliance, the Intelligent Engineering Branch of China Exploration and Design Association, Modern Architecture Electric Magazine, the Asia Pacific Intelligent Green Building Alliance and the Bluetooth Special Interest Group Inc. Other show supporters include:

guangzhou electrical building technology



Photo: © Guangzhou Electrical Building Technology fair



Photo: © Guangzhou Electrical Building Technology fair

- Building Electricity Magazine Agency
- China Hotel Purchasing and Supplying Association
- Guangdong Association of Automation
- Guangdong Real Estate Association
- Intelligent Building Branch of China Construction Industry Association
- Asian Institute of Intelligent Buildings
- Continental Automated Buildings Association
- Electrical and Electronics Association of Malaysia
- EnOcean Alliance
- Federation of Asian and Pacific Electrical Contractors Associations
- Hong Kong Federation of Electrical and Mechanical Contractors Ltd
- Hong Kong Institution of Engineers - Building Services Division
- KNX Association
- LonMark International
- Macau Construction Association
- Macau Institution of Engineers
- Taiwan Intelligent Building Association
- ZigBee Alliance
- Z-Wave Alliance



Guangzhou Electrical Building Technology is organised by Guangzhou Guangya Messe Frankfurt Co Ltd. For more information e-mail building@china.messefrankfurt.com or visit www.building.messefrankfurt.com.cn.

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Spadework to begin for Northpoint City

Singapore – Frasers Centrepoint Limited (“FCL”) has awarded the main contract for the construction of Northpoint City to Lum Chang Building Contractors (“LCBC”) and spadework will commence on 15 April 2015. When completed in 2018, Nee Soon’s most iconic integrated development will cap the landmark change envisioned for the precinct, one of the earliest townships developed in the late 1970s.

The transformation of Nee Soon involves close collaboration between the private and public sectors. FCL will be working towards amalgamating the development’s residential and retail components with the town’s main transportation network and community facilities.

With a gross floor area of about 1.33 million square feet, Northpoint City will include the 920-unit North Park Residences, the largest retail mall in the Northern region of Singapore with over 500 outlets, a first-of-its-kind Community Club within a shopping mall, a vibrant Town Plaza equivalent to the size of 10 basketball courts, as well as an integrated transport hub consisting of an air-conditioned bus interchange and shopping underpass to Yishun MRT Station.

“The partnership between the agencies and FCL will create a new Nee Soon. The changes will be exciting. Residents and businesses can look forward to a greener landscape. There will be integration of community and healthcare facilities, transport infrastructure, as well as attractive lifestyle offerings,” said Mr K Shanmugam, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Minister for Law and Member of Parliament for Nee Soon Group Representation Constituency.

The rooftop Community Garden in the upcoming Northpoint City, which underpins this strong community focus, accordingly takes pride of place in FCL’s blueprint for the development.

The size of nearly three basketball courts and readily



An artist impression of the Community Garden at Northpoint City. Photo: © Frasers Centrepoint Limited

accessible to Nee Soon residents, the Community Garden will supplement the existing Town Garden and the needs of residents by providing them with an easily accessible green respite that also offers a host of recreational activities. The multi-purpose plaza set amid lush tree formations in the Community Garden offers residents with an expansive area under the cover of green canopy for various leisure activities such as morning strolls, outdoor exercises and picnics.

Northpoint City elevates the concept of an integrated development to a new level. Its retail underpasses and covered walkways will give commuters and shoppers comfortable and seamless access to the air-conditioned bus interchange and Yishun MRT Station. This integrated transport hub will bring residents within ‘doorstep’ distance in, around and beyond Nee Soon with seamless connectivity.

Qingjian paves the way for private smart homes with Samsung

Singapore – Private homeowners will soon be able to ride on the crest of the technological wave as Singapore’s Smart Nation initiative gets underway. Qingjian Realty (South Pacific) Group Pte Ltd (Qingjian) and Samsung Asia Pte Ltd (Samsung) entered a partnership on 25 February 2015 that will see the integration of smart living technology into new developments as these innovations become commercially available.

“In the last few years, we have seen technology evolve significantly. A mobile phone has been transformed into wearable technology and 3D-printing has reinvented the construction industry. In two to three years, our lifestyles will be very different from how we live today. So what we aim to do is to start anticipating

and building today the smart Qingjian home that you will be receiving the keys to in three to five years. One that already has the latest technology and infrastructure to integrate with your smart lifestyle at that point in time,” said Mr Li Jun, General Manager, Qingjian.

In anticipation of the rapid technological improvements, Qingjian hopes to ‘future-proof’ its upcoming launches by incorporating the necessary infrastructure to support smart homes as they are constructed. This would ensure that future Qingjian homebuyers will be able to plug into the smart home immediately, with minimal need for infrastructural enhancement.

One of its latest initiatives is the introduction of CoSpace Flexi units, which allow homebuyers to reconfigure

and customise their layouts and interior design, enabling them to fit their new homes to their lifestyle. As lifestyles and needs of homeowners in Singapore evolve, especially with the advent of Smart Nation, it is imperative for Qingjian to partner Samsung, the leader in consumer electronics, to keep abreast of the latest developments to ensure that its developments are built with future needs in mind.

The two partners expect some of the smart home technologies to be ready for commercial integration within years, and plan for these to be offered in Qingjian’s upcoming executive condominium in Sembawang, expected to be launched in 2016. As part of the agreement, Qingjian will endeavour to use Samsung products in its upcoming developments.

Homeowners of Qingjian development who are expected to receive the Temporary Occupation Permit (TOP) from 2015 will also be able to purchase Samsung appliances at a preferential rate.

“This collaboration comes as a natural fit. Both Samsung and QingJian are committed to the Smart Nation initiative and we are thrilled to start at the heart of any nation – with its people and their homes,” said Andy Sim, General Manager, Enterprise Business, Samsung Asia Pte Ltd. “Samsung has been appointed by QingJian to be the single brand of choice to enable smart technologies for home owners as we have the breadth of appliances, solutions and ecosystem to deliver a truly connected experience and a better quality of life for homeowners,” added Andy.

Through seamless connectivity between personal smart devices and home appliances, one can, today, operate his/her washing machines and vacuum cleaners remotely, at the touch of a smart device. Wherever you are, you can operate



From left to right: Mr Li Jun, General Manager, Qingjian Realty (South Pacific) Group Pte Ltd, Mr Song Xiu Yi, Executive Director, Qingjian Realty (South Pacific) Group Pte Ltd, Mr Stephen Suh, President, Samsung Asia Pte Ltd and Mr Andy Sim, General Manager, Enterprise Business, Samsung Asia Pte Ltd during the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signing to mark the collaboration between Qingjian and Samsung.

multiple smart appliances concurrently. The partners hope to take this technology further, and explore greater ways to leverage on the Internet of Things (IoT) to enable homeowners to better

integrate their household technology with personal smart devices. This is the first step towards building a smart home that can respond to the living needs of its occupants.

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RAK Ceramics supports its growth strategy with two senior appointments to its management team

Dubai, UAE – RAK Ceramics has announced the appointment of two new senior members to its management team in the UAE. These new senior hires are in line with RAK Ceramics' commitment to strengthening its management team by hiring top talent from the global industry.

The two new senior appointments are Stefan Schmied and Raaqib Mutvalli. Stefan Schmied has been appointed as the President of Tiles and Sanitary ware at RAK Ceramics and brings to the business a wealth of industry experience. In his new role, he will be responsible for the sales and marketing of tiles and sanitary ware products both regionally and internationally. Prior to RAK Ceramics, Stefan held several key management roles within Geberit, one of the most successful and renowned brands in the sanitary industry, as Managing Director for the business in South East and North East Asia, based in Singapore. Before this, he was Managing Director for the Gulf Region within the firm; based in Dubai with responsibility for the growth of the Middle East and Africa business. Stefan started his career at Roland Berger Strategy Consultants where he was responsible for numerous international assignments focusing on restructuring, turnaround, M&A, PMI and Corporate/Business Strategy across different industries.

Raaqib Mutvalli has been appointed as the Head of the Performance Management Office at RAK Ceramics and will be working closely with the leadership team to drive key projects, which will enable the business to achieve its 2017 vision. Raaqib joins RAK Ceramics after spending his entire career as a Management Consultant, most recently with PwC Consulting in the UK where he advised Fortune 500 companies on how to make sustainable improvements to their organizations and implement cross-functional changes in leading companies.

Abdallah Massaad, Chief Executive Officer of RAK Ceramics said: "As a global brand, we continue to take actions to ensure that we have the resources in place to support our new corporate strategy. These appointments underpin our commitment to strengthening our organisational and management activities. Stefan and Raaqib join RAK Ceramics at a key point in our on-going growth and I look forward to their valuable input in their respective roles."



Raaqib Mutvalli



Stefan Schmied

KONE wins order for Sengkang General and Community Hospitals

Singapore – KONE has won an order to supply elevators and escalators to Sengkang General and Community Hospitals. Upon its completion, the 1,400-bed integrated hospital development will bring holistic, multi-disciplinary and patient-centric care to meet the healthcare needs of the residents in northeast Singapore.

KONE will be installing energy-efficient KONE MiniSpace™ elevators, KONE S MonoSpace® machine room-less elevators, KONE TranSys™ elevators, KONE TravelMaster™ 110 escalators and dumbwaiter elevators from an external source.

All elevators and escalators will be linked up by KONE E-Link™ monitoring solution with remote management capabilities. KONE E-Link™ provides real-time status updates of the equipment

performance and facilitates rapid resolution deployment to ensure operational quality. In addition, some elevators will be equipped to interface with Automated Guided Vehicles (AGV), ensuring smooth and on-time delivery for meals, documents, etc.

"We are delighted to be awarded the contract for this new development. As an insightful organization, we were able to understand the end-user requirements in a medical segment and provide the right kind of solutions," said Neeraj Sharma, Executive Vice President for KONE Asia Pacific and Middle East. "KONE's people flow planning expertise will enable patients, hospital staff, and visitors to move smoothly and safely within the hospital," he added.



Artist's impression of the Sengkang General Hospital in Singapore.



Mr Neeraj Sharma

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Keppel Land China listed amongst Top 10 ASEAN Companies in China by China-ASEAN Business Council

Singapore – Keppel Land China Limited (Keppel Land China) has been conferred the Top 10 ASEAN Companies in China award by the China-ASEAN Business Council (CABC) in a ceremony held in Beijing on 5 February 2015. This is the third consecutive year that Keppel Land China has been recognised for its economic and social contributions to the local Chinese communities.

The award ceremony took place in the presence of Mr Liu Guchang, former Chinese Vice Foreign Minister and Chairman of China Foundation for International Studies, Mr Ge Zhirong, Counsellor of State Council and President of the China Entry-Exit Inspection and Quarantine Association, Mr Xu Ningning, Executive Secretary-General of China-ASEAN Business Council, and ambassadors to China from all 10 ASEAN countries.

Receiving the award on behalf of Keppel Land China was Mr Ho Cheok Kong, President of Keppel Land China, who said: “Keppel Land was one of the first foreign property developers to enter China in the early 90’s. Over the years, we have been privileged to play a part in China’s urbanisation. Today, China is one of Keppel Land’s core markets and our portfolio of award-winning residential, commercial, waterfront and lifestyle developments across 10 Chinese cities is distinguished for its quality and thoughtful innovations.”

He added: “We are confident that Keppel Land is well-poised to continue to grow with China as we deepen our presence in our five focus cities of Shanghai, Beijing, Tianjin, Chengdu and Wuxi, where we have built our presence and strong local teams.”



On behalf of the company, Mr Ho Cheok Kong (third from left), President of Keppel Land China, received the award for “Top 10 ASEAN Companies in China” by the China-ASEAN Business Council in a ceremony held in Beijing on 5 February 2015. On his left is Mr Liu Guchang (fourth from left), former Chinese Vice Foreign Minister and Chairman of China Foundation for International Studies. This is the third consecutive year that Keppel Land China has been honoured for its economic and social contributions to the local Chinese communities.

One Space celebrates 10-year milestone

Hong Kong – The award-winning architecture and technology firm One Space celebrated its 10th Anniversary at the Upper House, Hong Kong. Founders James Oliver and Greg Pearce took the occasion to highlight the substantial progress the company, which remains at the forefront of offering integrated design and technology solutions in South East Asia, has made since coming into existence.

Starting out in a small office with a handful of team members a decade ago, One Space quickly established a



Asurion, One Island South, Wong Chuk Hang – a project by One Space in 2013. Photo: © Graham Uden Photography

market presence and reputation for consistent design quality through the powerful synergy of its founders. Technology infrastructure expert James Oliver has over 21 years’ experience delivering high-quality technology services and solutions, and Greg Pearce is an award-winning architect with a track record in interdisciplinary design and management. This effective symbiosis, backed by One Space’s collaborative approach to offer a truly customised experience for every client, is what propelled the company’s strong growth throughout these years.

During the firm’s anniversary celebration, the founders thanked their clients for their unwavering support, loyalty and vision; their business partners, “who help develop our ideas into real, functioning facilities”, for being the firm’s “everyday ambassadors”; and the One Space team for their irrepressible team-spirit, talent, and commitment.

“One Space thrives on the provocative notion that architects and interior designers are not the sole authors of creative ideas. Instead, we believe that the highest forms of creativity emerge when people with different vantage-points and experiences come together to solve a problem. With this simple concept in mind, the idea for One Space was born,” said Greg Pearce, Co-Founder of One Space Ltd. “We are very proud of our projects and clients. This anniversary is an important milestone for us, as we advance our design services into new markets and sectors,” he added.

ONG&ONG completes Sanctuary @ Geylang

Singapore – Sanctuary @ Geylang is the latest to join the ONG&ONG Group's line-up of 360° Solution projects. Located at 1 Lorong 30 Geylang, this freehold, 21-unit residential development is a boutique condominium with convenient access to nearby amenities, such as food centres and transportation lines, while also being just minutes away from the city.

Despite the relatively narrow plot on which the development sits, the eight-storey structure makes efficient use of the land with a mechanised car parking system as well as automated security measures. Residents can come home to a quaint garden entrance that shares the ground floor space with a communal access area.

Each unit is equipped with a generously sized balcony that allows one to enjoy the scenic beauty of the surrounding areas. Steel metal mesh encircles the balcony, giving the façade a sophisticated feel, while the timber deck gives a more natural and comforting feel to each home. The screen also has a sun-shading function and can be closed or opened throughout the day.

The Sanctuary's governing design principles are elegance and simplicity, affording its residents tranquility and comfort in their daily living.



Photographer: Jaume Albert Marti

Al Zorah invests over AED 500 million in infrastructure development; awards final contract for Phase 1 works

Ajman, UAE – Ajman's premier waterfront and organically connected lifestyle development project, Al Zorah has invested over AED 500 million in infrastructure, with the awarding of an AED 115 million contract for the final stage of Phase 1 infrastructure works.

With the initial stages of infrastructure development already completed, the new contract to AIMS Group covers the rest of the road and utility networks to support all Phase one components of the premiere destination. The work is scheduled for completion in the fourth quarter of this year.

Located along the breathtaking natural peninsula on the coastline of Ajman, the flagship project of Al Zorah Development Company is spread over an area of 5.4 million square metres. Set apart from other destinations by its exotic setting of natural mangroves and seafront, Al Zorah blends the best of nature with the finest in modern amenities to create refined places for life. A freehold development encompassing 12 kilometres of waterfront, 1.6 kilometres of sandy beaches and a 700,000 square metres golf course, Al Zorah is slowly rising up from the ground to create unprecedented communal living at its best.

The first phase of the AED 2 billion development will welcome its first residents later this year. The key components that will provide a refreshing and vibrant lifestyle for residents and visitors include: a 113 key beach resort operated by Oberoi, a 192 key beach resort operated by Lux, an 18-hole Golf Course by Nicklaus Design, 42 premium residential villas on the golf course, serviced residential apartments, and The Pavilion, Al Zorah's sales centre.

The Phase 1 infrastructure works included the design, earthworks, work on four marinas that can accommodate over 200 boats, the 18-hole championship golf course, highway linking Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Road to Al Zorah, the entire



Al Zohra infrastructure development in progress.

road and utility network, bridge, and water edge protection across 3.5 kilometres of waterfront.

Imad Dana, Chief Executive Officer of Al Zorah Development Company, said: "The foundations of the success of any property development project spread over such a large area like Al Zorah, is dependent on the connectivity of its individual components.

"We are committed to the comforts of our future residents right from the start and we are ensuring that the entire project is geared to provide a holistic lifestyle from day one when people move in. Al Zorah is all about creating that special value for our investors and we can see that vision coming to life already."

The development is all set to energise Ajman bringing in a truly world-class lifestyle destination that will enhance the Emirate's competitiveness and development.

Al Zorah is masterfully crafted and planned by Solidere International, renowned for developing refined 'Places for Life,' and principally established in Dubai International Financial Centre by Solidere, the Lebanese public company that is responsible for the urban regeneration of downtown Beirut.

IFFS 2015: Design-centric show trio opens to a strong start

Singapore – The International Furniture Fair Singapore 2015 / 32nd ASEAN Furniture Show (IFFS/AFS 2015), The Décor Show, and Hospitality 360° opened on 13 March 2015 to welcome trade professionals of the furniture, interior design, and hospitality industries from all over the world. Mr Lee Yi Shyan, Senior Minister of State, Ministry of Trade and Industry, graced the occasion as the Guest of Honour.

Over the four days, 487 exhibitors from a record number of 39 countries showcased an impressive range of furniture and the latest design elements in interior décor. “In the last decade, we’ve seen a steady growth in the soft furnishings and home accessories segment within our show,” commented Mr Ernie Koh, Chairman of IFFS Pte Ltd. “This development has benefitted exhibitors as well as buyers, and it also confirms The Décor Show’s unique identity next to IFFS,” added Mr Koh.

Since 2011, The Décor Show has offered attendees a mix of high quality and trendy decorative items, such as bedding and linen, carpets and rugs, decorative accessories, home textiles, handicrafts, lacquer ware, mirrors, paintings, and wall coverings. This year, more than 150 companies from the ASEAN, Asia Pacific, North American, and European regions showcased their original, functional designs, and superior craftsmanship at the show.



Photo: Courtesy of IFFS



Photo: Courtesy of IFFS

Design Hall 4 from 13 to 15 March. These complimentary sessions featured prominent practitioners and luminaries from various industries such as, architecture, furniture, interior design, and hospitality. The seminar programme included a plenary on intellectual property (IP) and designs - jointly organised by British High Commission Singapore, UK Intellectual Property Office, IFFS, and Halo Creative & Design – as well as sessions that explore industry trends, business strategies, and success stories.

For more information on IFFS 2015, The Décor Show, and Hospitality 360°, visit www.IFFS.com.sg, www.TheDecorShow.com.sg and www.Hospitality360.com.sg.

MAISON&OBJET ASIA returned to Singapore for its second edition

Singapore – The second edition of MAISON&OBJET ASIA 2015 took place from 10 to 13 March 2015 at the Marina Bay Sands Expo and Convention Centre. The show featured an expanded selection of the best of high-end decoration and home fashion by prestigious brands and designers in the Interior Design and Home Decoration sectors.

Featured in the Interior Design section were leading brands offering the highest quality in decoration and design, ideal for residential, contract and hospitality projects. Within the Home Decoration section, an eclectic group of the most coveted and innovative brands in furniture, lighting and decorative accessories were showcased.

The very same spirit of creativity and sophistication that characterises its Parisian event, and which distinguished the first Asia edition, continued to be evident in MAISON&OBJET ASIA 2015. The salon brought together the arts of living, gather together players in the sector, deciphered new trends, offered new sources of inspiration, unveiled new talents, stimulated the market, promoted creativity and provided a springboard for brand enhancement – all under one roof.

“At MAISON&OBJET ASIA, we are committed to being a unique platform that brings together a wide offering of brands together with a large diversity of visitors. These visitors range from retailers to buyers, from interior designers to architects, and from property developers to hotel and restaurant owners. In 2014, we had more than 13,700 visitors with Asian visitors making up 51 percent and a total of 265 brands with 30 percent of them from Asia. For 2015, we are delighted to now have 300 brands from 26 countries, of which 32 percent are from Asia. There are 153 brands which are new exhibitors and 47 percent are exclusive to the MAISON&OBJET ASIA, not having exhibited in Paris before,” said Philippe Brocart, Managing Director, MAISON&OBJET.

Highlights for 2015 in the Asia edition included the staples which make up the salon’s distinctive traits: Designer of the Year and Rising Asian Talents, as well as the Interior Design & Lifestyle Summit which featured keynote addresses by renowned industry personalities and presentations on market trends.



Photo: © MAISON&OBJET ASIA 2015

TECHNAL at the 4th Annual Vertical Cities Conference

Singapore – The 4th Annual Vertical Cities, hosted at Suntec Singapore Convention and Exhibition Centre, took place from 9 to 11 March 2015.

This year, the event was specifically designed to meet all building industry practitioners’ demands to secure and guarantee their investments. Local and international attendees: around 180 delegates coming from all continents including Africa.

The TECHNAL brand – one of the world’s market leader of aluminium joinery systems: doors, windows, curtain walling, etc – demonstrated his know how in building



Technal stand and the audience.

construction amongst Industry’s key players. Property developers, architects and consultants, more than 30 people, were pleased to discover TECHNAL booth and learn more about TECHNAL products and solutions.

During the three days conference, an expert in aluminium building systems coming from Sapa group (the owner of the TECHNAL brand) highlighted the most advanced concepts designed by TECHNAL for tall and Green buildings. The presentation impressed quite a number of delegates.

Afterwards, everyone enjoyed the cocktail and a good chit chat at the Marina Bay Sands Skypark. “It was a really good opportunity to talk about what we do, we can do and what others are doing,” said Remi El-Zouki – TECHNAL South East Asia Sales Manager.

Visitor experience central to design for Port Macquarie Hospital

Melbourne, Australia – Hospitals are often stressful for patients, staff and visitors. HASSELL set out to deliver a positive patient and visitor experience in the A\$104 million expansion of the Port Macquarie Base Hospital, in NSW, Australia.

The newly updated building offers relief for medical staff who spend much of their time indoors in sterile environments as well as offering the local community better access to improved health care services.

Set within a natural woodland the HASSELL design creates frequent interaction with the surrounding landscape and will create 300 new jobs in the local community.

The expansion includes a seven-theatre operating suite, new 34-bed theatre recovery unit, new cardiac catheterisation laboratory, new 24-bed critical-care ward, relocation of the paediatric ward, and 200 more car parking spaces, which will ease traffic congestion.

“Functionality and seamless interaction between the internal and external environment was at the core of our design approach for this particular health project,” said Jeff Menkens, HASSELL Principal.

“Hospitals require a great level of functionality in their design, given the nature of medical work. The HASSELL design helped to ensure the health service delivery of the hospital was maintained, while still creating a space for visitors, patients and staff with an element of calm,” added Jeff.



Photo: © HASSELL

Dubai Parks and Resorts highlights the importance of world-class guest experiences at IAAPA Leadership Conference in Dubai

Dubai, UAE – Providing unrivalled guest experiences through innovative and thorough destination management should be the priority of every entertainment developer. This was the message Dubai Parks and Resorts – set to be the region’s largest multi-themed leisure and entertainment destination when it opens in October 2016, underscored during the annual International Association of Amusement Parks and Attractions (IAAPA) leadership conference, held for the first time in the Middle East this year.

The IAAPA leadership conference brought together entertainment professionals from across the globe to share their knowledge and experiences to ensure the future success and growth of theme parks, amusements and attractions around the world. It is the first time the conference has been held in the Middle East and the location was chosen due to the number of world class attractions the area has to offer.

Matthew Priddy, the Chief Technical Officer for Dubai Parks and Resorts, delivered a keynote speech, at The Atlantis – The Palm resort, to more than 200 of his peers on the importance of delivering excellent guest experiences – the theme of this year’s event.



He said: “Dubai Parks and Resorts is built on the belief that every aspect of the park – from the construction, through to the attractions and the additional offerings such as dining have been thoroughly considered since the very start of the project to ensure maximum customer satisfaction.”

The October 2016 opening of Dubai Parks and Resorts will be a landmark moment for the UAE as three world-class theme parks open at the same time. The first phase of the project will comprise of motiongate™ Dubai, LEGOLAND® Dubai and Bollywood Parks™ Dubai – all connected by Riverland, a retail, dining and entertainment walkway. Lapita will also open at the same time on the site.



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Visual Asia Expo 2015 lines up Asia's top-notch speakers for two-day Expert Forum

Singapore – Themed “Transforming Ideas Into Creative Expressions”, Visual Asia Expo 2015’s two-day expert forum will feature distinguished speakers hailing from visual design, display technologies, digital signages, photography, imaging, lighting, printing and architecture sectors – to offer a multifaceted perspective of Asia’s booming visual communication industry. Space Arena, the organiser of Visual Asia Expo 2015, announced its featured speakers for the two-day expert forum, which will be held in conjunction with the trade show at Suntec Singapore Convention & Exhibition Centre, from 5-7 November 2015.

VISUALASIAEXPO
2015

Positioned as “Asia’s definitive trade show for visual communication industry”, Visual Asia Expo is Space Arena’s signature event and a professional trade show in Asia, spotlighting the best and complete variety of visual communication offerings now and the future.

Transforming Ideas Into Creative Expressions

To mark the inaugural visual communication tradeshow in Asia, the forum will bring together a panel of eight industry leaders to engage the audience with stories of how they are transforming ideas into creative expressions – and winning business propositions – in the regional and global visual solutions marketplace. “We have designed the forum for professionals who recognise that Asia’s visual communication landscape is highly diverse, is transforming dramatically and growing rapidly in the recent years,” said Organiser & Director Thomas Ang. “The forum will be an exciting learning and interaction platform for experts from the creative, branding, corporate and marketing communication fields, owners and trade operators of retail and malls, hospitality, banking, transportation, sports and entertainment, as well as government agencies and academic leaders from all over Asia,” he added.

The event is supported by Singapore Tourism Board (STB), Association of Accredited Advertising Agents Singapore (4AS), Professional Photographers Association (Singapore) (PPAS), the Design Alliance Asia (tDA Asia), and Print & Media Association, Singapore (PMAS).

The forum will feature a panel of prominent speakers including:

- Sebastian Tan, Group Managing Director, Photographer and Director of Shooting Gallery Asia
- Mark Phooi, Designpreneur and Principal of First Media Design School
- Jerry Tan, Co-Founder and CEO of Light10 Industries Pte Ltd
- Rohan Abdullah, Director of LightingImages
- Alan Lim, Founder of Alan Lim Studio and Eleven Photography, Principal Instructor at School Of Photography Singapore (SOP)
- Ken Wheatley, Director of Sales, Business Products, Asia Pacific, Christie Digital Systems USA, Inc.
- Jeslyn Tan, Senior General Manager of SMRT Media & Digital, SMRT Investments Pte Ltd
- Lee Chee Yong, Managing Director of Film Screen Pte Ltd



Alan Lim, Alan Lim Studio,
School of Photography



Mark Phooi, First Media
Design School



Rohan Abdullah, LightingImages



Jerry Tan, Light10 Industries Pte Ltd



Jeslyn Tan, SMRT Media &
Digital



Lee Chee Yong, Film Screen



Sebastian Tan,
Shooting Gallery Asia



Ken Wheatley, Christie
Digital Systems USA, Inc.

“Visual Asia Expo 2015 will be a spot for the best of Asia’s visual communications to converge,” remarked Thomas, “and I can imagine a highly power-packed and energised two-day event for visual communicators to connect, not only to interact with and learn from each other, but also to collectively transform Asia’s visual communication landscape.”

Admission to the expert forum is free of charge and open to trade and institutional guests. Prior registration is however required as seats are limited. Online registration will be made available in April.

For more details about forum topics and speakers’ profiles, www.visualasiaexpo.com/forum/forum-synopses-and-speakers-profile.

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Alvar Aalto Medal awarded to Spanish architects Fuensanta Nieto and Enrique Sobejano

Helsinki, Finland – The Alvar Aalto Medal has been awarded to the Spanish architect duo Fuensanta Nieto and Enrique Sobejano. First awarded in 1967, the medal was now presented for the twelfth time. The winners were announced at a seminar marking Architecture Day at Helsinki City Hall on 3 February 2015.

Creative collaborators since the early 1980s, Nieto and Sobejano are renowned for the great variety of their portfolio, although their best-known works are galleries and museums. Employing a team of forty, Nieto Sobejano Architects has offices based in Madrid and Berlin. The duo has received abundant professional recognition, including the prestigious Aga Khan Award for Architecture. Their work has also been exhibited at the Venice Biennale and at MoMa in New York. Both architects divide their time between creative assignments and lecturing at European University of Madrid and the Berlin University of the Arts (UdK).

The architectural philosophy of Nieto and Sobejano is strongly rooted in the culture and history of their homeland. Both have ranked among Spain's leading architects since 1975. The jury commented as follows: "The work of Nieto and Sobejano demonstrates how an architect's cultural background can inspire architecture of outstanding quality and expressive power. Nieto and Sobejano's work has a primal energy ranking it among the world's most compelling statements and groundbreaking achievements in architecture." The jury further added that Nieto and Sobejano restore faith in the adaptability of contemporary western architecture, also answering the contemporary demand for sustainability and ecological sensitivity.

Nieto and Sobejano always prioritise the environment when designing. In their latest competition entry for the Arvo Pärt Centre (Laulasmaa, Estonia, 2014), they have adapted their philosophy to Nordic latitudes and a northern boreal setting. History and climate likewise inspired the subterranean design of the Museum & Research Centre Madinat Al Zahra (Córdoba, Spain, 2009), which blends subtly with the flat plains surrounding it.

The members of this year's jury were professor and architect Rainer Mahlamäki (Finland), architect Simo Freese (Finland), architect Wessel de Jonge (The Netherlands) and professor and architect Dorte Mandrup-Poulsen (Denmark). The medal is conferred by the Museum of Finnish Architecture, the Finnish Association of Architects SAFA, the Architectural Society, the Alvar Aalto Foundation and the City of Helsinki.



Fuensanta Nieto and Enrique Sobejano,
Photo by ©2010 Luis Sevillano
(Ediciones EL PAÍS, SL)

Benoy completes Elephant Park Retail Strategy

London, UK – Benoy has officially completed its Retail Strategy for Elephant Park, located within the Elephant and Castle Masterplan in Central London.

This pivotal London regeneration project will revitalise a major thoroughfare within the UK capital's city centre. Benoy was appointed to provide the overall site's Retail Strategy Concept which creates a cohesive design dialogue for the wider development. Working with Lend Lease on this intricate, mixed-use scheme, Benoy's Retail Strategy, including the Shopfront Design Guide, blends a genuine London culture with the cosmopolitan nature of the global capital.

The primary goal of Elephant Park is to engender an environment for the residents to appreciate and call home. Incorporating the best of British Retail and amenities to attract local shoppers, this approach aims to be an example for the future of the High Street.

With a strategy focused on creating a place for the residents to enjoy their shopping in a relaxed, community-centred neighbourhood, Benoy is projecting life and vibrancy into the redevelopment with a scheme, which balances High Street tenants with innovative new businesses generating a fresh atmosphere for everyone.

Benoy Associate Director Nikhil Pase described the project as "A leading example of the positive improvement London is undergoing. Our strategy incorporates all the complex facets of the overall plan into a scheme which attracts the residents of Central London as well as the travellers from around the world who come to London to see where British heritage meets international design."

Elephant and Castle is one of the many areas of London undergoing a major renovation. Benoy's Retail Strategy received sign off in December 2014 and is now under construction. The firm is also working on several phases for the Battersea redevelopment as well as acting as a Strategist and Architect for Silvertown in East London.



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Broadway Malyan-designed luxury 'Boutiq' completes in Singapore



Photo: © Broadway Malyan

London, UK – 'The Boutiq', a luxury 39,972 square foot residential apartment-led scheme in the heart of Singapore, designed by Broadway Malyan, has opened to residents. The scheme features two 10-storey blocks and provides 130 one to two-bedroom apartment units and one to three-bedroom penthouses ranging from 506 square feet to 2,853 square feet, with all units including luxury fixtures and fittings by renowned brands.

It offers residents a complex of unique communal 'sky gardens', each serving a different function and offering different recreational facilities, including a swimming pool, a fitness suite and a bar, with the development set in tranquil, landscaped grounds.

The practice's design has delivered contemporary and functional spaces, and communal and social areas, with a range of amenities for ease of convenience and the privacy of a domestic residence – plus a distinctive façade playfully inspired by an Irish Tartan pattern.

It balances the demand for luxury lifestyle and urban living with that of a sustainable development. The south-facing orientation and use of large windows, plus the passive design approach and use of natural ventilation, result in a light and airy environment throughout the day. Sky gardens punctuate every floor and provide a multi-level forum for residents to relax, play and interact, while also affording spectacular views across Singapore.

The practice provided architectural and landscape design services to its client, a consortium comprising Heeton Holdings, KSH Holdings and TEE International, resulting in a strong synergy between the architecture and landscape, from ground level up to the sky gardens.

Singapore-based Director Ian Simpson said: "Our expert design team has partnered with the client to deliver an exquisite residential development that offers residents a restful sanctuary from the bustle of the city. The scheme is a strong addition to our global portfolio of market-leading residential projects."

Hydro International expands into China

Clevedon, UK – Hydro International, a global leader in innovative control and treatment technologies for urban water management, is expanding its activities in China with the appointment of a dedicated business manager and strategic distributors to support growing business opportunities across the country.

Hydro has recruited Charlie Zhong as Business Manager, based in Shanghai, to co-ordinate Hydro's introduction of stormwater and wastewater treatment technologies in Greater China. Charlie will be responsible for developing Hydro's distributor network and promoting market-leading vortex control and separation solutions in China, Macau, Hong Kong and Taiwan.

To help fast-track the adoption of Hydro's ground-breaking fine grit removal technology for municipal and industrial wastewater treatment in China, Hydro has appointed TianSheng Environmental Engineering (Chengdu) Co Ltd (TCEE) to be a Hydro distributor. TCEE already has extensive relationships with wastewater treatment plants across China and significant experience of introducing western wastewater technologies for new plants and equipment upgrades, particularly in the Beijing, Chengdu and Chongqing regions.

Hydro has also signed an agreement with Inter Flow Control Technologies (Tianjin) Co Ltd (IFC) to focus on the introduction of Hydro's hydrodynamic vortex technologies for controlling and treating surface water and preventing sewer overflows. IFC will focus its activities initially around Tianjin, Beijing, Shanghai, Nanjing, Hefei, Wuxi and Guangzhou.

Clive Evans, International Business Director for Hydro International said: "China is facing huge urban water management challenges to keep pace with the country's rapidly-urbanising economy. The Chinese Government is committed to major investment in water infrastructure through the twelfth five-year plan." "China needs rapid access to the latest urban water management technologies, so it can build new efficient wastewater treatment plants and upgrade its existing facilities. Tackling the growing challenge of urban flooding and removing pollutants from urban waters is high on the city planners' environmental agenda. China therefore offers Hydro a significant opportunity to introduce its well-proven and innovative technologies for water control and treatment," he added.



Yang Wu, General Manager TianSheng Environmental Engineering (Chengdu) CO. LTD and Michael Jennings, Chief Executive of Hydro International.



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Casalgrande Padana dresses up Shitang

Casalgrande, Italy – With less than 3 months to go until the opening of Expo 2015, the Shitang pavilion of Chinese property mogul Vanke has finally taken shape. The building stages that followed the allotment-delivery ceremony included the foundations and the spectacular installation, with a crane, of each offsite prefabricated piece of the skeleton of the pavilion. These special calendered steel beams have been progressively bolted together to mould the intricate parametric geometry designed by Daniel Libeskind, the famous architect who is the author of the project.

After completing the skeleton and installing the bracing steel rods, the corrugated steel horizontal beams were quickly fitted in, and the insulating core of the casing, made up of mineral wood fibre panels, was quickly secured in place. Finally it was all covered in a layer of shotcrete on top of a special backing.

The unusual construction will soon be ready for the installation of a special metal underlayer, which the ceramic coating will be anchored to. The installation system has been designed to emphasise the disruption of the traditional coplanar surfaces through a partial juxtaposition of the ceramic features. The spectacular facing consists of three-dimensional stoneware slabs glazed in a quaint lacquered red. The dye is a special colouring that has been specifically formulated and developed for this project by Casalgrande Padana's colorimetric laboratory.

The exclusive ceramic material used in the Vanke pavilion is from the new Fractile range, designed by Libeskind himself. A creative experience that naturally follows on the process of research that the famous architect and Casalgrande Padana started in 2013 with the Pinnacle, an installation created for the Cersaie – Bologna Water Design Week in the 17th Century Cortile del Priore dell'ex Maternità, entirely covered in these innovative three-dimensional ceramic slabs.

In the wake of such experiment, the Fractile slabs developed for the Vanke pavilion at Expo 2015 have an outstanding dynamic three-dimensional pattern emphasised by a vibrant metallic surface, a unit that can open up new prospects and define innovative expressive languages in the design of ceramic facings.

Made in a 60x120 size and then cut into two separate 60x60 units, the Fractile slabs are the result of a sophisticated industrial process, which includes glazing and baking at 1250°C, using carefully selected blends of clay, quartz and feldspar, and oxide-rich metallic glazes that give the ceramic surface a unique, dynamic shot effect. All this, while offering excellent technical and performance standards in terms of endurance, strength and quality.



The Fractile slabs developed for the Vanke pavilion at Expo 2015.



The Shitang pavilion of Chinese property mogul Vanke has finally taken shape.

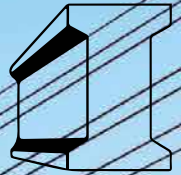
OMA opens new office in Dubai

Dubai, UAE – The Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA) has opened a Dubai office to design and oversee projects in the MEA region. Together with headquarters in Rotterdam and offices in New York, Hong Kong, Beijing and Doha, OMA Dubai will strengthen the practice's presence in the Middle East, and also provide a connection point for future work in Africa and India. The office is located in Al Warsan Tower in TECOM.

OMA Dubai has a staff of approximately 20 architects, urban planners and researchers, and is headed by partner Iyad Alsaka, who will continue to manage OMA's Doha Office. Alsaka joined OMA in 2007, and led the design on Dubai Waterfront City masterplan. He is currently overseeing several projects in Doha, including the Qatar National Library, the Qatar Foundation Headquarters, and a masterplan for the Hamad International Airport.

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Heatherwick Studio and Joanna Lumley develop the Garden Bridge project, London

London, UK – Following Transport for London's (TfL) tender for proposals to improve pedestrian links across the river, Heatherwick Studio and actor and campaigner Joanna Lumley have developed an idea for a new pedestrian 'Garden Bridge' across the River Thames; a scheme to connect North and South London with a garden. As one of the greenest cities of its size in the world, this precious new piece of landscape will add to London's rich and diverse horticultural heritage of heathlands, parks, squares, allotments and community gardens and support many indigenous river edge plant species.

The revival of the South Bank over the past two decades has created a vibrant and artistic district attracting large number of visitors to its art galleries, theatres, music halls, restaurants and outdoor entertainment. However, visits to Temple and the north bank area east of Somerset House and Waterloo Bridge are far less frequent. The bridge will grow and nourish the connection between these distinct areas whilst providing new walking routes to and from Covent Garden and Soho.

With a structure that widens and narrows across its span, the elevated garden will not only be a safe and easy way for London's many commuters and visitors to cross the river, it will also make places along its length for pedestrians to stop and better enjoy the remarkable river setting and unparalleled views of the city. The addition of careful planting with variety in scale, openness and intimacy will create a new kind of public space in the city.

Heatherwick Studio is currently working closely with Transport for London and world-renowned engineering consultant Arup to develop the scheme.



Artist's impression: © Arup

Goettsch Partners designs new Warsaw Tower development



Artist's impression of the Mennica Legacy Tower. Photo: © Goettsch Partners

Chicago, USA – Architecture firm Goettsch Partners (GP) has been retained by developers Golub & Co. and Golub GetHouse Sp. z o.o to design a new Class A office development project located in Warsaw, Poland. The Mennica Legacy Tower development is located in the Central Business District of Warsaw at the intersection of Prosta and Żelazna Streets. GP will collaborate with Epstein, a design firm with offices in both Chicago and Warsaw, which will guide the project through the government approval process in Warsaw and serve as architect and engineer of record as well as design engineer for MEP and structural engineering services.

The program is divided into a 35-storey tower located on the south east side of the site and a smaller 10-storey building on the west side of the site. It is part of a newly-approved master plan that governs development in this area. The project consists of approximately 100,000 gross square metres, with 80,000 gross square metres of Class A office space which includes a conference and a fitness centre as well as ground level retail. Four levels of underground

parking and ancillary services encompass the remaining 26,000 gross square metres. Between the two structures is a large open plaza that provides ample space for outdoor seating and a variety of landscape features.

James Goettsch, FAIA, CEO and Chairman of GP explains one of his firm's goals for this project, "...an opportunity to do more than just build a building. The office tower and the lower block are designed to be integrally linked with the large urban plaza, and the result will be an ensemble that will create a unique 'sense of place' which we hope will enhance the public realm of Warsaw."

Construction on Mennica Legacy Tower is expected to begin late in 2015 and will be completed late in 2018.



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ThyssenKrupp provides mobility solutions for new Jinyu New World Complex

Essen, Germany – ThyssenKrupp Elevator recently won a contract to supply and install 78 units at the Jinyu New World Complex in Hohhot, Inner Mongolia, which has a built-up area of 500,000 square metres and will incorporate numerous shopping malls, residential towers, and commercial offices.

Inner Mongolia, which occupies approximately 12 percent of the entire Chinese land mass, brings to mind vast grasslands, fierce horsemen warriors, grazing cattle, and clear blue skies. But the region's wealth of natural resources is bringing sweeping change to this formerly remote area - it recently gave its nod for the development of four wind energy schemes and the Chinese government has reportedly spent over 490 million Yuan, around 70 million Euro, to construct a series of 'model villages', bringing inhabitants here the convenience of central heating, piped water, and improved sanitation.

China's national trend of rural to urban settlement shifts applies also to Hohhot, witnessing a steady population growth from some 700,000 residents in the 1980s to its present 3 million inhabitants. This growth has resulted in rapid building construction and the extensive development of different areas of the city, such as the Jinyu New World Complex.

"We are working closely with the customer to deal with the challenges of a project of this size, including the intrinsic constraints of the building structures and Inner Mongolia's harsh weather conditions in order to successfully ensure completion by September 2015," said Juergen Boehler, CEO of ThyssenKrupp Elevator in China. The surge in high quality and multifunctional complexes in cities like Hohhot is also generating increased business opportunities for elevator manufacturers in China. To deal with this increase, ThyssenKrupp Elevator, which currently operates more than 220 offices and service stations in China, will have over 250 by 2016. This means that the company will have a location in every Chinese city with a population above 1 million. With a population of well over a billion people and fuelled by unprecedented urban migration, China currently has the largest global elevator market with an estimated value of 15 billion euros.



Jinyu New World Complex Hohhot. Photo: © ThyssenKrupp

Populous Arena team announced as architects of Bristol Arena

London, UK – International design practice Populous, the architects for Philippine Arena and joint architects for Darling Harbour Live in Sydney with HASSELL, have now been named as Architects of the Bristol Arena, in the UK.

Mayor of Bristol George Ferguson announced today that the Populous Arena Team had won the RIBA international design competition for the venue. He said: "The Populous team presented an innovative design. The new arena shone out as the best of five great designs and will sit comfortably on the 'Arena Island' site next to Temple Meads and the Bath Road."

The team brings together the expertise of entertainment and sports design firm Populous, award winning locally-based architects Feilden Clegg Bradley Studios, renowned international practice BuroHappold Engineering and sound specialists Vanguardia.



The Bristol Arena Design. Image: © Populous

Speaking at the announcement in Bristol, Populous Senior Principal Nicholas Reynolds said: "We believe Bristol Arena will be the catalyst for the creation of a vibrant new quarter in the city. The design is flexible enough to cater for a wide variety of events and creates a range of spaces inside and out of the venue itself, for people to come together right through the year." "Our design for Bristol Arena is unique. It delivers a world-class live concert venue for 12,000 fans and, with seamless conversion, the atmosphere and intimacy of a 4,000 seat amphitheatre. The adaptive façade will provide the canvas, defining the identity of the building within the Bristol skyline as it transitions between an ephemeral form by day to a dynamic event backdrop by night," added Reynolds.

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Wacker builds new production plant for specialty monomers in Burghausen

Munich, Germany – Wacker Chemie AG is currently building a new plant for specialty monomers with an annual capacity of 3,800 metric tons at its Burghausen site. The Group has budgeted around €8 million for this. The specialty monomers vinyl neodecanoate and vinyl laurate are key raw materials for the manufacture of specific dispersible polymer powders. The plant is scheduled for start-up in the second quarter of 2015. This new development allows WACKER to meet increasing demand for high-quality polymeric binders and strengthens its position as the world's leading manufacturer of dispersible polymer powders.

WACKER aims to meet the globally rising demand for its dispersible polymer powders, which is driven by worldwide trends such as urbanisation, renovation and energy efficiency. With the construction of the new plant for specialty monomers, the Munich-based chemical Group is creating the necessary capacity to independently secure the supply of key raw materials

for the manufacture of the powders at its Burghausen site over the long term. The specialty monomers vinyl neodecanoate and vinyl laurate confer special properties on WACKER's dispersible polymer powders, such as hydrophobicity.

"The construction of the new plant for specialty monomers is an important strategic step," explained Christoph Riemer, head of dispersible polymer powder business at WACKER POLYMERS. "It makes us more independent of raw-material price fluctuations and boosts supply security during peak-demand periods. In addition, it strengthens the position of specialty products in our dispersible polymer powder portfolio."

"The new plant uses a process that was specifically developed and patented by WACKER. It is state of the art and allows us to strengthen our market and cost position over the long term," said Bors C. Abele, head of acetyls business at WACKER POLYMERS.



Burghausen production site. Photo: © WACKER

VINCI wins a further high-rise building construction contract in Malaysia

Rueil-Malmaison Cedex, France – The Malaysian property developer Jesselton Group has awarded to VINCI Construction Grands Projets the construction of a 125,000 square metres mixed-use development on the Kota Kinabalu seafront in northern Borneo.

The project covers a 7-storey podium over two underground levels that will house a 20,000 square metres shopping centre and more than 900 parking spaces, as well as a complex made up of three 20-storey residential towers with a total of 333 apartments. The value of the contract, which does not include the foundations and underground levels, is €70 million. Handover is scheduled in July 2016.

This further success confirms VINCI Construction Grands Projets as an operator in Malaysia, where local developers appreciate the quality of the structures it has completed and is currently building.

VINCI Construction Grands Projets is currently carrying out the Menara Hap Seng tower project in Kota Kinabalu under a design-build contract and is also operating in Kuala Lumpur with the current Berjaya Central Park residential and office complex, having previously handed over the Berjaya Time Square shopping centre in 2003.



The mixed-use development will be built on the Kota Kinabalu seafront in northern Borneo.

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Frei Otto receives the 2015 Pritzker Architecture Prize

Chicago, Illinois, USA – Frei Otto has received the 2015 Pritzker Architecture Prize, Tom Pritzker. Mr Pritzker, Chairman and President of The Hyatt Foundation, which sponsors the prize, said: “Our jury was clear that, in their view, Frei Otto’s career is a model for generations of architects and his influence will continue to be felt. The news of his passing is very sad, unprecedented in the history of the prize. We are grateful that the jury awarded him the prize while he was alive. Fortunately, after the jury decision, representatives of the prize traveled to Mr Otto’s home and were able to meet with Mr Otto to share the news with him. At this year’s Pritzker Prize award ceremony in Miami on May 15 we will celebrate his life and timeless work.

Mr Otto becomes the 40th laureate of the Pritzker Prize and the second laureate from Germany. The Jury of the Pritzker Architecture Prize selected Mr Otto as the laureate earlier this year, and shortly thereafter the Executive Director of the prize traveled to Otto’s home and studio in Warmbronn, Germany, near Stuttgart, to deliver the news in person. Learning that he had received the Pritzker Prize, Mr. Otto said: “I am now so happy to receive this Pritzker Prize and I thank the jury and the Pritzker family very much. I have never done anything to gain this prize. My architectural drive was to design new types of buildings to help poor people especially following natural disasters and catastrophes. So what shall be better for me than to win this prize? I will use whatever time is left to me to keep doing what I have been doing, which is to help humanity. You have here a happy man.”

Mr Otto practiced a holistic and collaborative approach to architecture, working with environmentalists, biologists, engineers, philosophers, historians, naturalists, artists, and other architects. A distinguished teacher and author, Otto pioneered the use of modern lightweight tent-like structures for many uses. He was attracted to them partly for their economical and ecological values. He believed in making efficient, responsible use of materials, and that architecture should make a minimal impact on the environment. Frei Otto was a utopian who never stopped believing that architecture can make a better world for all.

In contrast to the heavy, columned, stone and masonry architecture preferred by the National Socialists in the Germany in which he grew up – Otto’s work was lightweight, open to nature and natural light, non-hierarchical, democratic, low-cost, energy-efficient, and sometimes designed to be temporary. He is best known for the roofing for the main sports facilities in the Munich Olympic Park for the 1972 Summer Olympics (with



Roofing for main sports facilities in the Munich Olympic Park for the 1972 Summer Olympics, 1968–1972, Munich, Germany. Photo: © Christine Kanstinger



Frei Otto. Photo: © 2015 The Pritzker Architecture Prize / The Hyatt Foundation

Behnisch + Partner and others), for the German pavilion at the 1967 International and Universal Exposition (Expo 67), the Japan Pavilion at Expo 2000 in Hannover, Germany (in 2000, with Shigeru Ban (2014 laureate of the Pritzker Architecture Prize)), a series of tent structures for German Federal Exhibitions in the 1950’s, and for his work in the Middle East.

The Chair of the jury of the Pritzker Architecture Prize, Lord Peter Palumbo, said today: “Time waits for no man. If anyone doubts this aphorism, the death yesterday of Frei Otto, a titan of modern architecture, a few weeks short of his 90th birthday, and a few short weeks before his receipt of the Pritzker Architecture Prize in Miami in May, represents a sad and striking example of this truism. His loss will be felt wherever the art of architecture is practiced the world over, for he was a universal citizen; whilst his influence will continue to gather momentum by those who are aware of it, and equally, by those who are not. “Frei stands for Freedom, as free and as liberating as a bird in flight, swooping and soaring in elegant and joyful arcs, unrestrained by the dogma of the past, and as compelling in its economy of line and in the improbability of its engineering as it is possible to imagine, giving the marriage of form and function the invisibility of the air we breathe, and the beauty we see in Nature.”

The distinguished jury that selected the 2015 Pritzker Laureate consists of its chairman, Lord Palumbo, architectural patron, Chairman Emeritus of the Trustees, Serpentine Galleries, former Chairman of the Arts Council of Great Britain, and former Chairman of the Tate Gallery Foundation; Alejandro Aravena, architect and Executive Director of Elemental in Santiago, Chile; Stephen Breyer, U.S. Supreme Court Justice, Washington, D.C.; Yung Ho Chang, architect and educator, Beijing, The People’s Republic of China; Kristin Feireiss, architecture curator, writer, and editor, Berlin, Germany; Glenn Murcutt, architect and 2002 Pritzker Laureate, Sydney, Australia; Richard Rogers, architect and 2007 Pritzker Laureate, London, United Kingdom; Benedetta Tagliabue, architect and director of EMBT Miralles Tagliabue, Barcelona, Spain; and Ratan N. Tata, Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons, the holding company of the Tata Group, Mumbai, India. Martha Thorne, Associate Dean for External Relations, IE School of Architecture & Design, Madrid, Spain, is the Executive Director of the Prize.

The 2015 award ceremony will be held in Miami Beach at the New World Center, designed by 1989 Pritzker Prize Laureate Frank Gehry, on 15 May 2015. This marks the first time the ceremony will be in Miami, joining the culturally and historically significant venues around the world. The ceremony will be streamed live on PritzkerPrize.com, the website of the Pritzker Architecture Prize.

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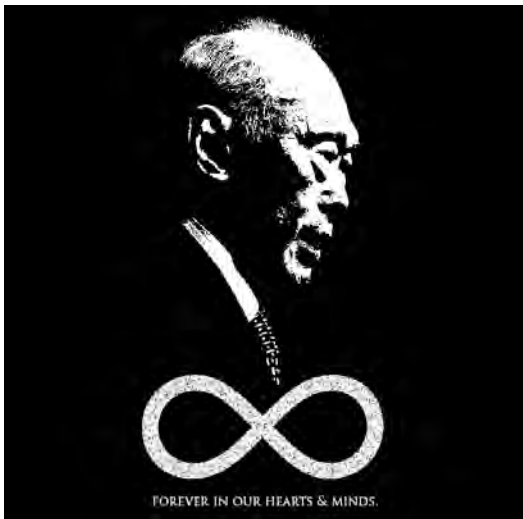
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Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay in Singapore. Photo by Mori Hidetaka, Courtesy of Esplanade - Theatres on the Bay

Lee Kuan Yew: The Chance Of A Lifetime



Mr Lee Kuan Yew. Photo: © MCI

Q: You are certainly the key architect for the way Singapore is today. A lot of developing cities want to know how we got started. How did we get ourselves on the right footing?

A: I learnt from negative examples. Hong Kong has crowded, tall buildings, you seldom get sunshine in the streets, no greenery. So that's something we must avoid. I also watched how the French cities did their underground roads... and we had teams going out along the Equator to collect various plants that will thrive in Singapore so we would have variety... We are not the only city. There are thousands of other cities and we can see the mistakes they have made. We can also see what they have done right.

Q: What do you think were the critical success factors for Singapore?

A: First, you must have an efficient administration... It cannot be one-off. It has to be regularly done and there must be an organisation or several organisations that sees to this. We started rebuilding Singapore, and the two big organisations were the Housing & Development Board (HDB), and later on the Urban Redevelopment Authority (URA)... [In contrast, China faces problems with resettlement] because there is no special agency that will build the new houses and coordinate it with the road builders and the

tree planters. I think URA and HDB, plus the Garden City Action Committee, played crucial roles.

Second, it must be a level playing field for all... You must have a society that people believe is fair. We have a heterogeneous population – Chinese, Indians, Malays and others – so policy is colour-blind... A crucial thing is not to allow clever developers to corner large pieces of land at critical areas, waiting for the development. We forestalled them to prevent exploitation of fellow men.¹

Third, it must be corruption-free... The basis for that was a non-corrupt bureaucracy, especially the police, heavy penalties for corruption, rigorous enforcement of the law. Today, people accept it as a fact – you've just got to obey the law... There are no haphazard buildings, like in Bangkok, Jakarta or even Kuala Lumpur, where you've got two tall towers and then squatters all around. There's a definite plan, and we stuck with the plan. There is no corruption and nobody can deviate from the plans. A building that is not in accordance with the plan cannot be allowed. Those were the basics, and that's how we started.



Policy makers from around the world are often intrigued by Singapore's transformation over the last half-century, much of this under the helm of the citystate's first Prime Minister, Mr Lee Kuan Yew. Chairman of the Centre for Liveable Cities, Dr Liu Thai Ker, spoke with Mr Lee on 31 Aug 2012. Looking back, Mr Lee called the opportunity to redevelop the entire city the "chance of a lifetime." A Cambridge-trained lawyer, Mr Lee became Prime Minister in 1959 at the age of 36. He stepped down in 1990, but remained in cabinet until 2011 as Senior Minister and Minister Mentor. Mr Lee continued to be a Member of Parliament, in his original electoral ward of Tanjong Pagar, until he passed away on 23 March 2015."

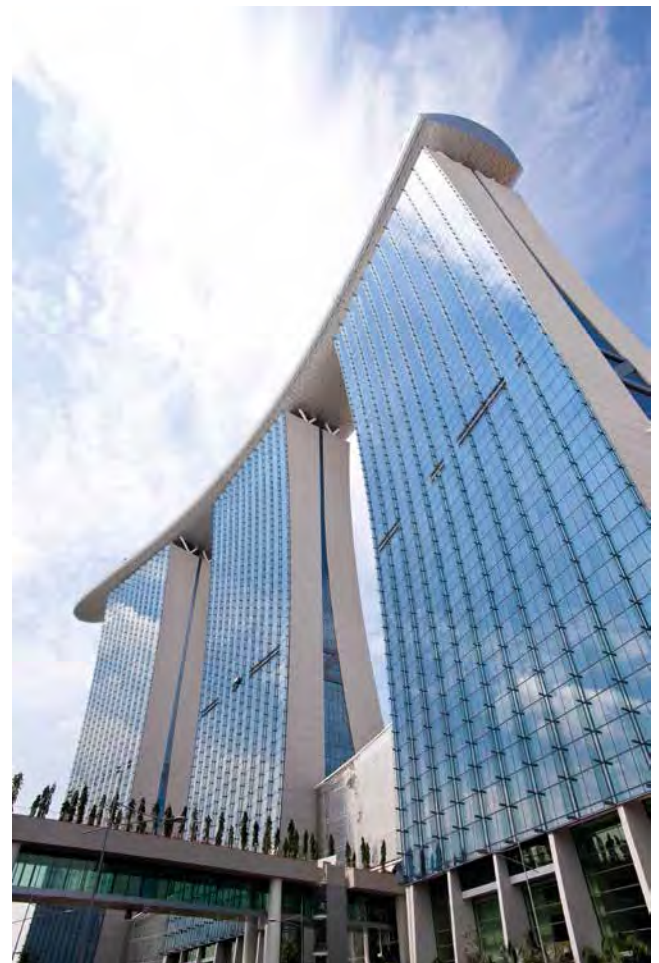
"We are not the only city. There are thousands of other cities and we can see the mistakes they have made. We can also see what they have done right."

Q: Were there special opportunities that helped Singapore to be developed?

A: We became a hub because of the convenience. For shipping, you have to pass Singapore, it's the southernmost point [of continental Asia]... We were poor and we were underdeveloped, so we had to work hard... The chance [to industrialise] came with the British military withdrawal in 1971. They surrendered to us the land they were holding. So we had the Bases Conversion Unit, with [former finance minister] Hon Sui Sen as the head. He knew all about land and we entrusted to him the work of planning, where to build what on these vacant spaces.

Q: What were the key obstacles that you faced at different stages?

A: The key obstacles were a lack of land, and the high cost of compensation for coastal land. So we passed a law that said that when government acquires coastal land, we compensate without taking into account that it's by the seaside.²



Marina Bay Sands Integrated Resort in Singapore.
Photo: © Marina Bay Sands

¹State land was sold with a condition that it be developed in a specified period, to discourage speculation.

²The Foreshores Act was amended in 1964 to end compensation to landowners for their loss of sea frontage.



Gardens by the Bay in Singapore. Photo: © Gardens by the Bay

"Singapore must retain the sense of space. We're going to build taller buildings, but we can't build them closely together."

The market was at an all-time low at that time and so we acquired large tracts of land. They were lying fallow – investors were waiting for the climate to change so they could manipulate and sell it at a big price. We just acquired as many large pieces of land as possible and claimed the right to reclaim coastal areas... Jurong was a swamp, which we reclaimed. I think there's a picture of me and Hon Sui Sen in Jurong and I was pointing towards it...

So the coastline changed and that accounts for Paya Lebar. We abandoned Paya Lebar as the main airport in favour of Changi, and with the East Coast Parkway you can get from the airport to the city in 20 minutes. These are basic infrastructures. Unless they are in place, it's very difficult to overcome the obstacles, so they must be in place early. You must have the infrastructure right and that was made possible because we reclaimed coastal land without paying high compensation and so we had a brand-new airport, and a brand-new East Coast Parkway.

Q: I feel that land acquisition is an example of our very creative, farsighted, unconventional legal system, which is one of the key factors to our success story.³ What would you say about that?

A: I anticipated these problems. At the low point [in the property market], people gave up on Singapore and said, "this place is going down the drain" and property prices went down. So I pushed this legislation through. It's probably because of my legal background that I wanted to get the legality of what we were doing properly entrenched, so that it cannot be varied and changed for fickle reasons.

You've got to look ahead and forestall or preempt the problems. I mean, if we did not introduce the Certificate of Entitlement [a vehicle quota system, begun in 1990] at a time when the public could not afford cars as much, you could not do it now without a big row – because you can't get people to give up their cars. But we did it when the cars were few.

Today, it's accepted as a fact. If you want the roads to be free, you've got to pay for the right to use the road.

Q: What are your current concerns about the urban development of Singapore?

A: I think the large influx of immigrants has disturbed the population. But if you don't bring in these people, at the rate we're reproducing ourselves, we will cease to exist in two generations. So you've got to balance this rate of inflow and the discomfort of seeing unfamiliar faces in crowded trains and buses. So we must have the immigrants to keep the place young, make the economy grow and look after the old. They are willing to sacrifice and work hard, they want to succeed. So they set the pace and the competition.

Q: In terms of urban development, what are you most pleased with?

A: I'm pleased that we redeveloped the city when there was a chance to do it. We knocked down Outram Prison in the west, we started from Changi in the east and worked towards the centre and rebuilt the whole city. And the big heritage sites in the city, like Fullerton Building, we left those alone. That was a chance of a lifetime.

Lee Kuan Yew on the ingredients of a good city:

Safety:

Create a sense of safety, a sense of feeling comfortable in this place. It is no use having good surroundings, if you are afraid all the time. I went to New York's Central Park, and you felt unsafe... The police force must be effective, not visible. We have Neighbourhood Police Posts – police who know the people in that neighbourhood, so they know when strangers come in. It is easier to prevent people from going to another place where they are not recognised and committing crimes, because if you are not from the neighbourhood and you come

³The 1966 Land Acquisition Act lets government pay compensation for land it acquires based on current value and zoning. Landowners may question the compensation value, but not the acquisition itself.



"There must be a sense of equity, that everybody owns a part of the city."

in, you are noticed... Today, a woman can go jogging at three o'clock in the morning, and she would not be raped. It is an essential part of a liveable city.

Cleanliness:

I used to see bushes covered with soot. So I said follow European emission standards. Lorries from Malaysia cannot come in unless they comply with our pollution standards... And consideration for neighbours – [avoid creating] noise, burning joss papers and having ash floating all over the place, upsetting people. Do not do to your neighbours what you don't want others to do to you... I went to Osaka and I could smell chemical factories. I said no, we mustn't allow that. We are a small island; unless we protect ourselves by placing the right industries in the right places – taking into consideration the prevailing winds – we will despoil the city. This could easily have become an unliveable city.

Mobility:

The city must move – transportation... I could see traffic jamming up and making travel impossible. Bangkok was an example where you had to have pot full of pee because you may be stuck in the traffic for one or more hours. The way to stop it is to limit the number of cars, so that they can flow at least at 25 miles per hour, and to improve public transport. We debated between buses and rail. I was in favour of buses because it is cheaper. But we were convinced in the end that although the cost would be high, [rail] will remove the traffic from the roads and keep buses flowing.

Spaciousness:

Hong Kong has crowded, tall buildings, you seldom get sunshine in the streets, no greenery... So I said alright, from west to east and east to west, we'll knock down the whole city and rebuild it. Unlike Hong Kong, we spread out throughout the island, so it's not crowded and we've got the space for greenery... For instance, while building the East Coast Parkway, they were giving enough space for planting trees

along the side...Singapore must retain the sense of space. We're going to build taller buildings, but we can't build them closely together. There must be a sense of playing fields, recreational areas for children and old people – a sense that this is a full country with all the facilities which you expect of a large country but in a confined space... That is a problem which the present government must tackle – [deciding] how much population we can bear.

Connectivity:

We became a hub because of the convenience... For aircrafts, it's the efficiency of the airport and the interconnectivity. If air passengers have to stopover, they prefer Singapore. We have coaches to take them to see the city free of charge and they can stay one or two days in convenient hotels near the city. We made it comfortable and easy for the traveller and you can have a shower at the airport...Most important is connectivity. Many airlines fly to Singapore direct from other cities – that gives us an enormous advantage. If they move to Kuala Lumpur or Jakarta, then the headquarters of these companies will move... We must make it attractive for corporations that want to base here.

Equity:

There must be a sense of equity, that everybody owns a part of the city... I could see that wage-earners in Taipei and South Korea did not own their homes, they had to pay heavy rents. I aimed for a home for every family, so a large portion of their salaries need not go into paying for rents. They own it, an asset which will increase in value as the city grows... A homeowner keeps the public space around his home clean. The person who rents doesn't care, he just looks after the inside. So I said, let everybody own a home, their value goes up if the place is clean and beautiful on the outside and inside. We were asking people to get their sons to do National Service, to learn to fight for the country. Unless you give them a home, why should they be fighting?

Article source: 'Urban Solutions' No. 2, Centre for Liveable Cities (www.clc.gov.sg/documents/UrbanSolutionsIssue2.pdf)



Photo: Courtesy of Tekfen Construction

Baku National Stadium

The new 68,000-seat Baku National Stadium has been designed to meet the highest international standards for stadiums set by the Union of European Football Associations & IAAF. Located just off of Lake Boyukshor in Baku, Azerbaijan, the 225,000-square-metre stadium, which was completed in February 2015, is scheduled to host the first ever European Games in June 2015. The Games will be held between 12 and 28 June 2015.

Korea-based worldwide architectural and construction management service provider, Heerim Architects and Planners (CEO Young kyoon Jeong) stated that Baku National Stadium is a multi-functional venue designed to host athletics, football and a wide range of non-sporting events and is facilitating a gross capacity of 68,000 spectators as well as 1,800 seat warm-up building.



Photo: Courtesy of Heerim Architects & Planners

Unique design features and inspiration

The façade design of the Baku National Stadium can be described in two words 'fire' and 'wind'. Heerim explained that the fire, symbol of Baku was adopted in contemporary design language. Heerim designed interpreting the Maiden Tower - cylindrical shape of Azerbaijan monument, the 12th century UNESCO World Heritage-listed, the historical treasure as metaphor into modern language. Heerim designed the exterior skin ETFE which is available for lighting performance. Two-layer ETFE pillow reinforced with steel cable also enables to withstand strong winds in Baku. The Stadium is usually close to the elliptical geometry due to containing 400 metres running track. The design in the form of a perfect circle (pure geometry) makes it unique and also boasts of an elegantly designed curvaceous concourse spaces.



Photo: Courtesy of Tekfen Construction

Major challenges in design process

To precede design with design build / fast-track project according to the scheduled construction period was very important with this new icon in Baku. Dividing the circle (perfect circle) external form (outer geometry) were repeated in 60 of the module configuration was selected as the possible construction of a large area in a short time this film (fabric) is also the choice of external materials.

PC bowl design is one of the critical long lead times. During construction-related phase, long lead item is one of the largest PC bowl design item. In DD (Design development), PC (Precast concrete) was designed in consultation with local manufacturers so that inefficiency of PC manufacturing and errors in installation were removed prior to production. This resulted that not only one RFI came up.

In addition, all possibilities to reduce the period were dissolved in design by considering constructability (build-ability) to take the advice of the CM (Construction management) team in Heerim in progress of every step of design.

International engineering firm Thornton Tomasetti provided structural design services for the stadium. To meet an aggressive 18-month design and build schedule, the project team performed design and construction simultaneously. To maximise design flexibility, the structural design used piled raft foundations, a system more typical of high-rise buildings than stadiums. An advanced modeling approach also supported the accelerated schedule. The engineering team developed an automated design routine to check beam and column reinforcement against seismic code provisions, greatly speeding the design process. Precast reinforced concrete, main and secondary steel structures were all modeled using Tekla Structures 19.0 and full fabrication drawings were delivered to fabrication facility in Turkey.

Sustainability and consideration for future use

Baku National Stadium has the geographical difficulties. The Stadium is set on land fill site of petroleum production. It was difficult to determine the height of the appropriate ground level because the groundwater is high due to the adjacent lake but the more earth work causes the longer construction period. Moreover, in Baku, desert area, it is hard to obtain the soil. It was the big reason we had to adjust necessary amount of soil.

Approximate 600,000 square metres brown field area is remediated for reuse, removed possible contamination from industrial activities and will be turning into park which includes green field. This effort has significantly meaningful in terms of sustainability. Moreover, post event venue utility - how to use the stadium after event - can determine sustainability of building after all. As mentioned above, the stadium will be utilised in a wide range of sports and non-sports event.



Photo: Courtesy of Heerim Architects & Planners

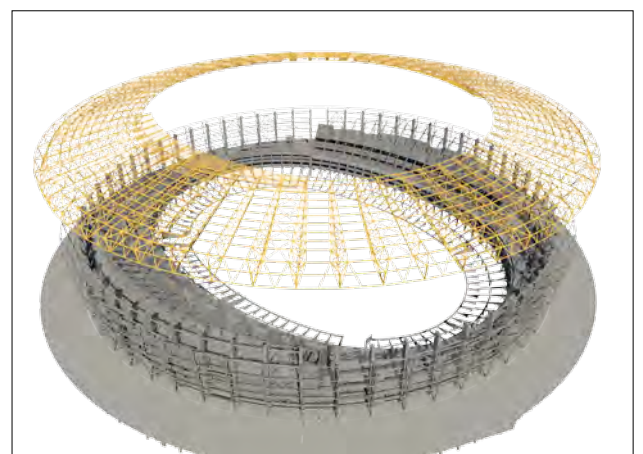


Image: Courtesy of Thornton Tomasetti



Photo: Courtesy of Tekfen Construction

After the 2015 European Game, the stadium will have potentials to host the Summer Olympic in the future, and the park will be open to the public to enjoy the eco-friendly lake and other natural features. The main stadium and the auxiliary stadium will not only be used for sports events, but also to host various cultural activities including music concerts and more.

The ground floor will be transformed into a multi-cultural complex with shopping malls and variety of cultural and sports facilities to improve the public convenience and the standard of living. Also, level 2 and level 4 suites shall be used as business centres. With on-going and post-event plans and contributing to the revitalisation of the local economy, Baku National stadium shall continue its role as the urban landmark, as well as, the multi-cultural complex for the people of Baku. In addition, special efforts were required to resolve the conflicts between the IAAF / FIFA / UEFA requirements simultaneously considering the changes as a football stadium.



Photo: Courtesy of Heerim Architects & Planners



Top: Satellite photo of site prior to development
Bottom: Site Plan
Photo Credit: Heerim architects and Planners

PROJECT DATA

- Project:** Baku National Stadium
- Location:** Baku, Azerbaijan
- Owner:** SOCAR (State Oil Company of Azerbaijan Republic)
- Architect:** Heerim Architects & Planners
 - CEO:** Young Kyoon Jeong
 - PIC:** Namseung Cho
 - Design Team members:** Eulkyeong Hong, Hyejung Ryoo, Seungkyu Seo, Byeongsoo Kim, Myoungsoo Park, Byungkee Kim, Sang-kyue Lee, Jayoung Lee, Byongchul Song, Juchul Lee, Jaejun Lee, Hyundoug Joe, Panguk Park, Hyojin Bae, Wongi Seo, Jihoon Yang, Minsung Kim and Jihun Kim
- Structure Engineer:** Thornton Tomasetti
- Main Contractor:** TEKFEN Construction
- Area:** 225,000 square metres
- Gross floor area:** 496,000 square metres
- Floor:** 6 storeys
- Completion:** February 2015
- Photos Courtesy:** Tekfen Construction, Heerim Architects & Planners and Thornton Tomasetti



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Margaret Court Arena Redevelopment Design

In the latest redevelopment phase at Melbourne and Olympic Parks, home to the Australian Open Tennis Tournament, Margaret Court Arena (MCA) has been given a complete transformation to create the precinct's third all-weather arena.

The design team, NH Architecture + Populous, was appointed by Major Projects Victoria on behalf of the Victorian Government to complete the \$183 million redevelopment. The project was completed late last year in time for the 2015 Australian Open. The new MCA includes an innovative retractable roof, seating for 7,500 spectators and concourse connectivity to the adjacent Rod Laver Arena.

A significant part of the challenge was to manage the construction to enable Margaret Court Arena to be used during the Australian Open each January during the three year construction period. Furthermore the construction had to minimise disruption to the adjacent Rod Laver Arena and the 50+ events it hosts each year.

The primary function of the redeveloped Margaret Court Arena will be to stage major matches of the Grand Slam tournament, but the multi-purpose venue will also host netball, basketball, major concerts and entertainment events. Its operable roof is the fastest closing roof in Australia, able to

shut completely in less than five minutes enabling Margaret Court to become a functional all-weather boutique venue for a busy all year round schedule.

The bold roof design ensures the venue will create its own identity signalling the beginning of a new chapter in the development of the Melbourne and Olympic Parks precinct. The "copper penny" colour of the metal roof has been deliberately designed to complement the existing architecture, particularly big brother next door, Rod Laver Arena, but also to express Margaret Court Arena's own individuality. The colour and shape of the roof reflects some of the traditional elements of Melbourne architecture, particularly the sandstone, zinc and copper of buildings along the Yarra River.

The roof's innovative pleated profile reduces its structural depth and importantly reduces the visual bulk of the building. The pleated nature of the roof also provides the flexibility to fold down to pedestrian level to provide weather protection, particularly at venue entrances. Large roof overhangs on all sides of the building provide shade to the surrounding concourse and public realm, offering a respite for patrons facing the hot summer sun which is often a part of the Australian Open.



Photo: © Peter Glenane



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GreenUrbanScape Asia will be held alongside with the International Skyrise Greenery Conference.

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Photo: © Peter Glenane

The roof is one of the four key individual design elements that have contributed to the overall architectural form; others are the bowl, concourse and the undercroft. The result is a cohesive architectural form conceived as a “container” where the seating bowl becomes the key architectural expression allowing concourse areas to be developed independently. Large areas of glazing maximise views and expose the internal architecture to passers-by.

The design and construction of Margaret Court Arena has been determined not only by the demands of its busy working precinct environment, but also by the physical constraints of having neighbours on all sides which has created additional challenges, particularly the phasing of construction.

But the design team, NH Architecture + Populous, believes this has ultimately provided a positive influence, ensuring the team is both focused and exacting in the way it has planned and executed the project. The court position and seating bowl were already fixed, so a great deal of work was undertaken in planning the building, particularly the re-planning of circulation networks for spectators and back of house staff.

The project sets a new benchmark with its sustainability initiatives. It is aiming to be the first LEED accredited sports venue in Australia, so that it can be compared with other similar global venues for ESD measures. Water consumption has been carefully considered and sustainable strategies adopted to reduce potable water consumption. Enabling works have provided the infrastructure for rainwater



Photo: © Peter Glenane

harvesting and treatment facilities, which include a 4.5 millilitre storm water retention tank to capture rainwater from the new roof. Preliminary calculations demonstrate an overall reduction of 45 percent in water use against conventional arena design water efficiency measures. The Arena's proximity to alternative public transportation minimizes the need for onsite parking and sets aside more space for natural areas thereby serving to reinforce the precinct's unique park setting.

Now complete and fully operational, Margaret Court Arena is a significant step in the realisation of the Melbourne and Olympic Parks Masterplan putting the precinct back at the forefront of arena design.



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CASTELÃO STADIUM



Over 16,000 square metres rubber floorings were laid in the renovated "Gigante da Boa Vista" stadium in Fortaleza.

The **T**he **E**stádio Governador Plácido Castelo stadium in Fortaleza was chosen as one of the 12 host stadiums for the FIFA 2014 World Cup and the 2013 Confederations Cup. The facility, also known as "Castelão" or "Gigante da Boa Vista", was officially inaugurated in 1973 and can host 67,037 people. In order to prepare for the World Cup events, the stadium underwent a relevant renovation intervention.

The works lasted from 31 March 2011 till December 2012, when the facility was again opened to the public. The reconstruction project involved the addition of a larger roof, the construction of an underground car park with 4,200 parking spaces, and a new lower tier. On over 16,000 square metres of floorings in several areas (changing rooms and service areas), Mapei products were used to repair and levelling the substrates, as well as for bonding new rubber floorings by Nora. ECO PRIM T solvent-free acrylic primer with a very low emission level of volatile organic compounds (VOC) was used to treat the substrates, which were then levelled with ULTRAPLAN ECO self levelling, ultra quick-hardening smoothing compound, with a very low emission level of VOC.

The Nora rubber covering was bonded with ULTRABOND ECO V4 SP FIBER multi-purpose, acrylic adhesive in water dispersion with extended open time, improved by adding fibres, particularly suitable for laying rubber and PVC floorings. MAPECONTACT reinforced adhesive strip was used for laying profiles, baseboards, covings and resilient and textile coatings on steps and on all the areas where bonding had to be immediate.



Thanks to Mapei's fast installation system, the flooring contractor was able to complete this large project ahead of schedule and, consequently, this was one of the first stadiums to be ready for the Confederations Cup in 2013.

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

Article source: *Realtà Mapei International* no. 50/2015

Mapei Products

Preparing the substrates:

Eco Prim T, Ultraplan Eco

Laying rubber floorings:

Ultrabond Eco V4 SP Fiber,

Mapecontact

In these pages: Mapei products (ECO PRIM T, ULTRAPLAN ECO, MAPECONTACT and ULTRABOND ECO V4 SP) were used to prepare the substrates and lay rubber floorings in the stadium.



PROJECT DATA

Project: Castelão Stadium,

Location: Fortaleza, Brazil

Year of Construction: 1973

Period of the Intervention:

March 2011 - December 2012

Intervention by Mapei: supplying products for treating the substrates and laying rubber floorings

Project Design: Héctor Viglicca

Contractor: Consórcio Arena Multiuso Castelão (Galvão Engenharia S.A.; Serveng Civilsan S.A.; BWA Tecnologia LTDA.)

Laid Materials: rubber floors by Nora

Laying Company: Baueco

Mapei Co-ordinator: Nathaniel Woodhead, Mapei Brasil



The new Perth Stadium and Sports Precinct.

New Perth Stadium has 'fans first' design

The multi-purpose 60,000 seat new Perth Stadium will be a world-class venue when it is completed in 2018. The commitment to a 'fans first' stadium has resulted in an innovative design ensuring an exceptional event atmosphere and home ground advantage that can only be experienced by being there. The design acknowledges Western Australia's unique sporting, cultural and Aboriginal heritage and the Sports Precinct landscape provides a spectacular vista across the Swan River to the City.

Key design features

- A multi-purpose Stadium accommodating AFL, cricket and entertainment events with drop-in seats adding flexibility to host rugby union and league, and soccer (football). Capability to host major events consistent with requirements for Commonwealth Games and international athletics.
- Designed to increase the seating capacity within the existing structure, adding up to 10,000 additional seats.
- The unique bronze façade uses anodized aluminium which reflects WA's unique geology by day and, using state-of-the-art LED lighting, home team colours by night.
- The seating bowl maximizes the atmosphere, gives fans exceptional views and brings them close to the action, providing a special home ground advantage for our teams.
- The lightweight fabric roof covers 85 percent of seats and responds to Perth's climatic conditions. At night, it will present a spectacular glowing halo effect.
- State-of-the-art team facilities include flexible and warm-up and recovery areas.



The new Perth Stadium and Sports Precinct from eastern entry plaza.



The new Perth Stadium and Sports Precinct from terrace.



The new Perth Stadium and Sports Precinct from Stadium Station.

Stadium – key “fans first” features

- Future-proofed stadium technology will be provided, including full 4G Wi-Fi coverage across the Stadium and Sports Precinct.
- Two 240 square metres giant video screens are some of the largest in Australia and will use the latest technology when the Stadium opens in 2018.
- Over 1,000 TV screens are strategically located throughout the interior of the Stadium so fans never miss the action.
- A Children’s Activity Zone within the Stadium.
- Fans will be able to utilize more than 70 food and beverage outlets and still be able to view the action on the field.
- A buffet and a la carte restaurant over-looking the Swan River provide a destination for patrons both pre and post-game plus on non-event days.
- The Stadium will include the widest range of seating and hospitality options of any stadia in Australia.
- Cup holders are included in every seat and seat

themselves will be a minimum of 50cm wide, maximising comfort for fans.

- Fans requiring higher levels of support and accessibility have access to designated seating platforms across all seating tiers, parking spaces within the Sports Precinct and adult changing rooms that provide larger cubicles and additional facilities.

Stadium Station – modern and vibrant

An integrated transport solution for the new Perth Stadium will ensure the safe and efficient movement of 50,000, or 83 percent, of a full capacity crowd within one hour of an event finishing. The rail, bus and pedestrian strategy includes:

- a new six-platform Stadium Station to replace Belmont Station
- the Swan River pedestrian bridge
- Victoria Park Drive modifications
- special event bus stands at the Stadium and Nelson Avenue, East Perth



The new Perth Stadium and Sports Precinct in concert format.



The new Perth Stadium and Sports Precinct in soccer format.

Reconstructed Orlando Citrus Bowl Reopens



Since opening its gates in 1936, the Orlando Citrus Bowl has welcomed millions of fans to countless sporting events and concerts while serving as an iconic venue to an ever-growing Central Florida community. Generations of families have brought their children to the stadium to soak in the energised atmosphere and share memories that will last a lifetime.

Through the years it has played host to diverse events including World Cup soccer, Olympic soccer, Orlando City soccer, WrestleMania, Monster Jam, numerous Rock Superbowls and loads of college football bowl games. Exciting, yes, but there is still more to come.

The Orlando Citrus Bowl will continue to host its signature annual events including the Florida Blue Florida Classic, Russell Athletic Bowl, Buffalo Wild Wings Citrus Bowl and Monster Jam while being poised to attract new high-profile events like the AutoNation Cure Bowl, neutral-site college football games, NFL preseason match-ups, big name concerts and more. Building on its rich history and creating a vibrant future, the newly reconstructed Orlando Citrus Bowl will continue to bolster economic growth and generate jobs for residents.

At a cost of \$207.7 million, the massive reconstruction project completely demolished the stadium's entire lower bowl, leaving only the upper level stands remaining. Approximately 90 percent of the Orlando Citrus Bowl is all-new and was designed to enhance the fan experience. All these enhancements and amenities will not only make the stadium competitive in today's market but will continue to ensure it remains the destination for memorable events and experiences in Central Florida. By modernising the stadium it now provides the features promoters expect to help ensure their event is a success. The numerous upgrades will better position the Orlando Citrus Bowl to attract high-profile events that previously wouldn't have considered the stadium a viable venue. Among the new features and enhanced amenities:

- Capacity of 65,000 for sporting events, 75,000 for non-sporting events
- 41,000 new lower bowl seats, each with chair backs and six additional inches of legroom
- Two wide concourses that connect throughout the whole stadium
- Vibrant open-air façade
- 20,000-square-foot plaza deck in the north end zone
- Multiple large-scale video displays
- Unique indoor and outdoor club spaces with seating to serve 6,000 patrons
- Improved mobile broadband throughout the stadium and wifi coverage in premium spaces
- Game day favorite concessions with healthy and gluten-free options
- New, larger team facilities and locker rooms with dedicated spaces for coaches, equipment, trainers, cheerleaders and officials with an attached media room

Since the demolition on 29 January 2014, construction crews worked around the clock to have the stadium game ready in less than 10 months. To accelerate construction, the lower bowl was comprised of pre-cast concrete which allowed for a majority of the structures to be fabricated off-site, trucked in and put into place.

Although numerous companies played an active role in the demolition of the old structure and the reconstruction of the new Orlando Citrus Bowl, four key organisations have been integral since the start of the planning stages through construction: SC Advisors (owner's representative), HNTB (design architect), Turner Construction (construction manager) and Hunt Construction (project manager). Through their collective experience and skilled workforce, they were instrumental in making Central Florida's vision for a bigger, better and bolder stadium a reality.

This enormous project would not have been possible without years of planning, public input and community and tourism industry partners. Now the Orlando Citrus Bowl is ready to usher in a new era, one that celebrates its historic past while embracing the limitless possibilities of the future.

LEED certified: Environmentally friendly

The newly reconstructed Orlando Citrus Bowl is on track to be a LEED-certified stadium. The building includes such sustainable design and construction elements as:

- More than 90 percent of construction waste was diverted from landfills as a result of a comprehensive waste recycling programme.
- Both the roof of the stadium and the hardscape areas around the building have been designed to minimise daytime heat gain through the use of light-colored concrete in the plaza areas and reflective white roofing material on top of the stadium.

- Water use outside the building has been reduced with the implementation of high-efficiency irrigation technology and native plantings including trees, shrubs and ground cover that are tolerant to restricted water use. In addition, the palms surrounding the site are semi-drought tolerant and are watered by individual bubblers that limit the area of water distribution.
- Inside the stadium, high-efficiency plumbing fixtures will reduce the water demand by more than 30 percent, resulting in a projected water savings of more than 500,000 gallons per year.
- High-efficiency systems like the white roof, plumbing fixtures, HVAC units and light fixtures within the Orlando Citrus Bowl stadium are designed to be more efficient than a comparable code compliant design, resulting in cost savings and reduced energy use.
- Heating and air-condition systems were designed to provide increased thermal comfort for occupants through the management of heat loss and gain.
- Recycled construction content and finish materials are being used where appropriate. For example, the existing pre-cast concrete seating risers were crushed and reused at the site as fill.
- Locally-sourced materials and material suppliers are being used where economically viable, to reduce environmental impacts associated with transporting building materials.
- Multiple bus lines within close proximity to the site provide alternate access to events over driving and promote alternative transportation usage.

Stadium Features:

- Wider seats with chair backs in the newly constructed lower bowl
- 360-degree concourses on two levels of the stadium
- Main Field Level concourse between 40-60 feet wide, more than double the previous concourse
- Three video displays and two sideline ribbon boards covering more than 8,654 square feet
- Wide variety and expanded food and beverage options
- ADA accessibility for up to 824 patrons on the Field Level and Plaza Level
- 20,000-square-foot Plaza Deck
- 66 restrooms located throughout the stadium
- Eight elevators and eight escalators
- Improved concessions with approximately one point of sale system for every 302 spectators
- All back-of-house facilities located together in the south end of the stadium
- Symmetrical team facilities featuring locker rooms for players, coaches and cheerleaders, training rooms and equipment rooms
- Media interview room with direct access from locker rooms
- New kitchen facilities throughout the building with four loading docks
- 8,000 square feet of office space for Orlando Venues Administration



PROJECT DATA

Project: Orlando Citrus Bowl

Location: Church Street (North), Rio Grande Avenue (East), Citrus Bowl Place (South) and South Tampa Avenue (West)

Owner and Operator: City of Orlando

Primary Tenant: Florida Citrus Sports

Design Architect: HNTB

Local Architects: Rhodes+Brito

Construction Manager: Turner Construction

Project Manager: Hunt Construction

Graphics Designer: RLR Associates, Mari Frith Associates, Inc.

Re-Opened: 19 November 2014

Cost: \$207.7 Million

Functions: NFL, Collegiate and High School Football; Major League Soccer; Monster Jam (Motor Sports) and Concerts

Site Acreage: 15 acres

Number of Levels: Four: Field Level, Plaza Level, Suite Level and Terrace Level

Square Footage: 814,272 square feet

Seating Capacity: 65,000 for sporting events, 70,000 for non-sporting events

Sustainable Design: Anticipated LEED Certification: Sustainable building design in various categories, including a sustainable site; water efficiency; energy optimisation; materials and resource conservation; indoor environmental quality and health; and environmentally preferred operations and maintenance

Technology: Equipped with a new state-of-the-art video display system featuring next-generation outdoor LED displays designed by ANC Sports Enterprises.

MWBE Participation: Achieved 36 percent MWBE participation, above the benchmark of 30 percent set by the project team and the 24 percent goal required by the City of Orlando through the BLUEPRINT initiative.

Melbourne Cricket Club to take stadium technology to new levels



Overview of MCC. Photo: © Melbourne Cricket Club

Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC) has unveiled plans to turn Melbourne Cricket Ground (MCG) into one of Australia's most technically advanced and connected stadiums for fans, members and stakeholders.

In conjunction with partners Cockram, IBM and Cisco, the MCC announced that it will progressively deliver a range of technology infrastructure during 2015.

The solution will connect fans and improve the spectator experience, bringing them closer to the action as it happens. It includes:

- A super-fast, secure, high-density WiFi network in and around the stadium, allowing fans to access real-time and interactive content and to engage with other fans.
- A state-of-the-art exterior LED lighting system that will enhance the visual appearance of the MCG and allow teams/clubs to personalise and theme the stadium for their fans.
- A best-of-breed Internet Protocol Television (IPTV) system to deliver digital content to high-definition displays throughout the MCG, displaying information as it happens.
- Best-in-class facilities for media and broadcasters that will enable faster supply of event content to fans around the world.

The works are the next phase in a \$45 million investment by the MCC, which has already delivered the two largest, high-definition scoreboards in Australia and the next generation of high-definition television production facilities.

The project will deliver a cutting-edge, high-density WiFi network inside the MCG, allowing fans, members and stakeholders fast access to the Internet on any device at the stadium.

The IPTV solution will see installation of 800 high-definition screens. Fans will be able to watch high-definition replays and keep track of the action as it unfolds. Coupled with existing screens, a total of 2,800 televisions around the stadium will mean that fans won't miss a moment.

"I am delighted that the MCG will soon be one of the most connected stadiums in the country," said MCC CEO Stephen Gough. "This is a significant investment to improve and personalise the MCG customer experience and also operate a more efficient stadium," he added.

One of the central pillars of the MCG technology improvements surrounds the ability to theme the stadium in the colours of the home team. Approximately 240 LED lamps will light the entire underside of the upper area of Level 4 seating, enabling the exterior of the stadium to be lit up in team/club colours, allowing AFL and cricket tenants to differentiate their home matches.

LED strip lighting will also be installed on the exterior façade to highlight the stadium, including gate entrances. Improved external digital way finding signage will be provided in Yarra Park.

The MCC has assessed a number of the world's best stadiums to find a solution with the fans' best interests in mind. Some of these venues include Dallas Stadium, MetLife Stadium, Yankee Stadium, Citifield, AT&T Park, Levi's Stadium, Emirates Stadium, Staples Centre and Barcelona's Camp Nou and Wembley Stadium.

"We have witnessed new technologies in action elsewhere and we want to ensure the MCG remains one of the greatest stadiums in the world," said Mr Gough. "We look forward to delivering a critical piece of technology infrastructure for the most iconic sporting stadium in the country," said Cockram Managing Director, Malcolm Batten.



IPTV screens. Photo: © Melbourne Cricket Club



IPTV screens at the MCC. Photo: © Melbourne Cricket Club

MCC appointed IBM as head technical contractor to design, evaluate technology options and implement the selected solution to further enable the delivery of fan engagement innovations.

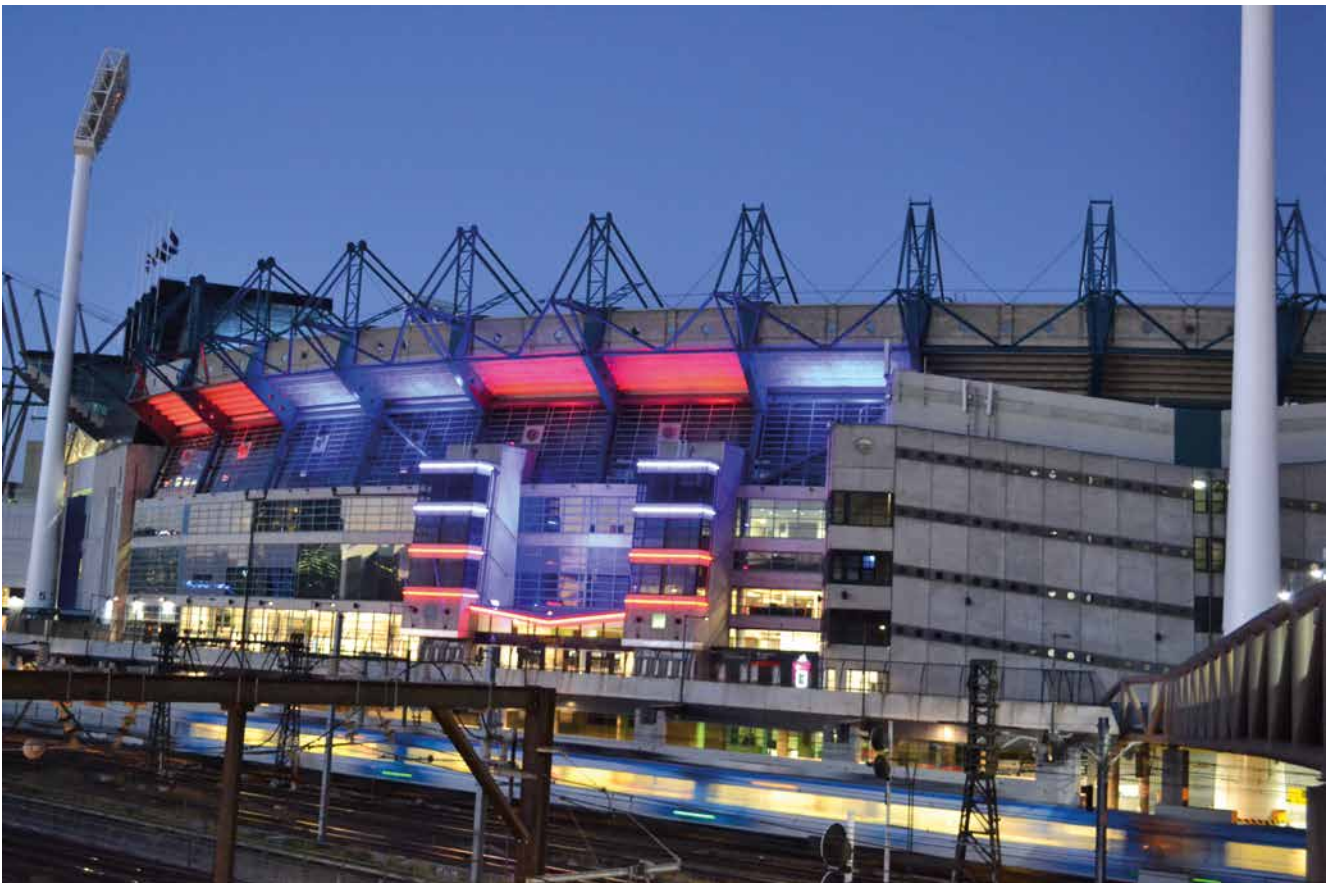
“The technology solution IBM has designed and is implementing will deliver the foundational backbone for MCC to future proof Australia’s premier, world-renowned stadium. This work will enable MCC to take advantage of the latest mobile, social and analytics technologies. It will create unrivalled and personalised in-stadium fan engagement and ensure premier game day experiences, giving fans more reasons to visit more often,” said Catherine Caruana-McManus, Director IBM Smarter Cities Australia.

“IBM’s expertise in delivering world leading innovation

and digital solutions for sport and entertainment industries will deliver new commercial possibilities and attract more world-class events to the MCG. IBM is excited to partner with MCC on this transformation journey.”

Cisco Systems director, Jonathon Dixon, said: “The MCG is an iconic global sporting venue, and the MCC is transforming the stadium into one of the most technologically advanced in the world with the help of Cisco Sports & Entertainment solutions.

“We believe that as the Internet of Everything connects more people, processes, data and things, the fan experience will become more immersive, customised and engaging,” said Mr Dixon. “We are thrilled to be working with leaders like the MCC and IBM on this project.”



Exterior lighting at the Melbourne Cricket Club (MCC). Photo: © Melbourne Cricket Club

Avatar Seating ready for another international sports event: Qatar 2015 IHF Handball World Championship

Daplast has supplied Avatar Seating for the brand new Qatar Handball Association Complex Arena, at Doha, Qatar, that hosted the Qatar 2015 Men's Handball World Championship.

More than 5,500 arena seats have been installed at the grandstands of this spectacular sports arena, designed and constructed in less than 15 months.

The Qatar Handball Association Complex was inaugurated in September 2014 to celebrate the International Championship Handball Super Globe 2014, at which FC Barcelona Handball team revalidated its title of Champion.

The Avatar seats, installed at this arena in partnership with Elan Inventa, provide flexibility to adapt the seating capacity. This is due to the metallic rail, the seats can be displaced along it, changing the distance between seats at convenience.

For more information, visit www.daplast.com.

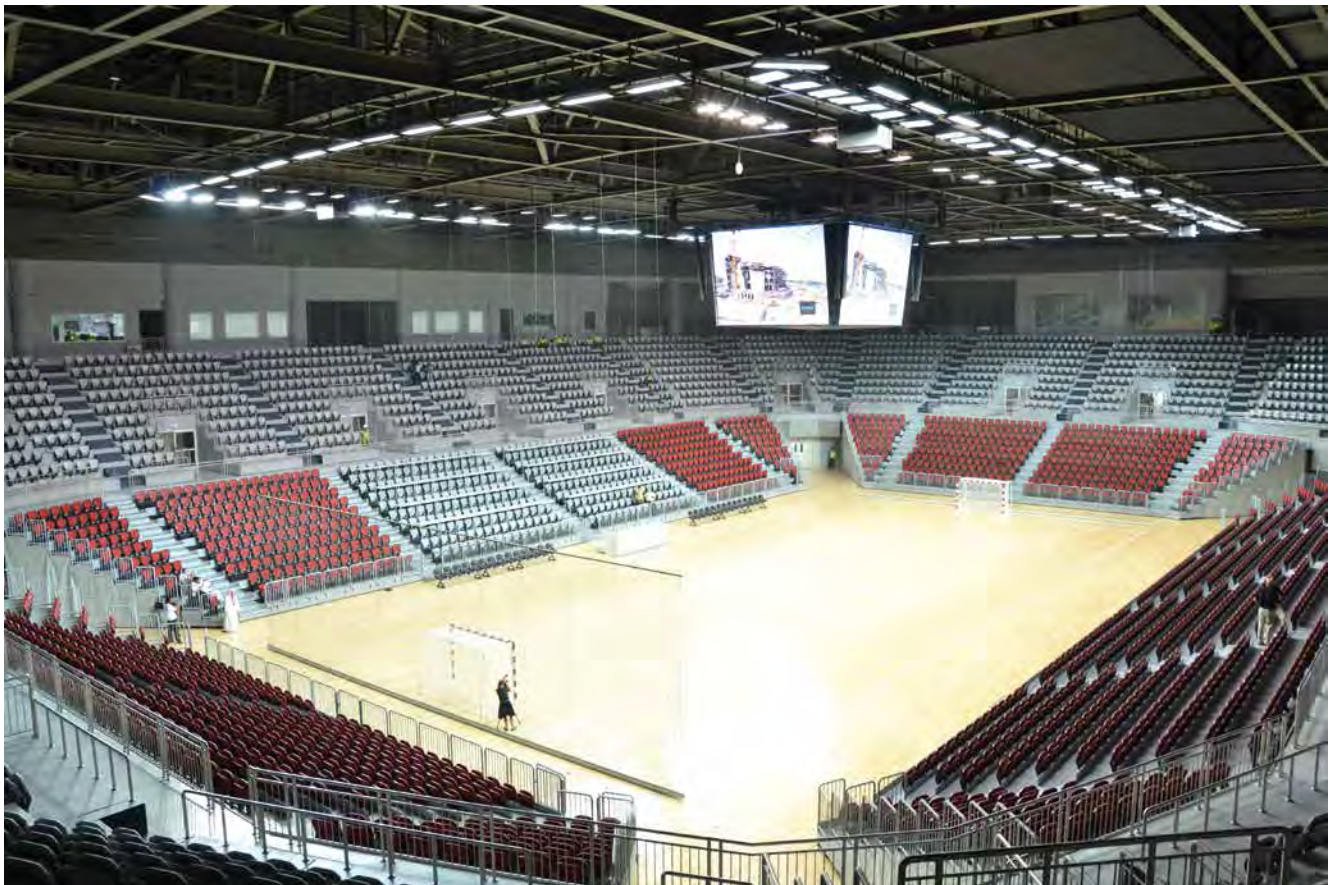


Photo: © Stadionwelt

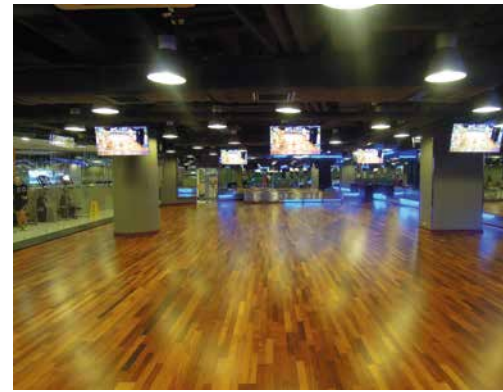
Boflex Stadium has winning advantages



BOEN Maple Can. Boflex Stadium Sportfloor. Shimano Cycling World, 6 Stadium Walk, Singapore



BOEN Maple Can. Boflex Stadium Sportfloor. Clubhouse at Dawning Views, Fanling, Hong Kong



BOEN Merbau Boflex Stadium Sportfloor. Physical Fitness Centre, Concord Square, Tsuen Wan, Hong Kong

The floor is the most important part of any sports facility – every activity is linked to the floor. This is why the choice of the floor is so important. The question is whether there is a sports floor that suits all the various activities?

BOEN Sport offers many different solutions for area-elastic sports floors. Some are perfect for aerobic and volleyball, others for basketball, handball, squash or tennis. Additional activities that may need to be considered include e.g. exhibitions, concerts and dancing. Boflex construction welcomes them all.

The raw materials processed at BOEN come from sustainable forests. Above that, the BOEN factories have implemented a chain of custody system in accordance with the FSC™ standards. The Forest Stewardship Council™ is a well known forest certification scheme. BOEN FSC license numbers are: BOEN Norway FSC™ C051117, BOEN Germany FSC™ C101713, BOEN Lithuania FSC™ C021510, BOEN UK FSC™ C047288, BOEN US FSC™ C095158. FSC – The mark of responsible forestry, www.fsc.org. The majority of BOEN Sport floors can be delivered with FSC Mix certified. The German Blue Angel label has been awarded to BOEN confirming that our manufacturing methods produce minimal amounts of waste gas and consequently contribute to a good interior climate.

BOEN Sport has specialised in area elastic sport floors because they are suitable for all kinds of indoor sports and multipurpose usage. The company's target is to develop solutions that lead to the best performance in a variety of sports. The European Standard EN14904 specifies the requirements for surfaces of sports floors for multisports use. All BOEN sports floors meet the demands of the five test elements within EN14904.

Boflex Stadium

Boflex Stadium is an area-elastic floor for sports and multipurpose usage. Boflex Stadium is the company's most popular hardwood floor because of its comfort, flexibility and performance. Boflex Champion is a sub-construction in plywood where a variety of synthetic surfaces can be laid on the surface, such as PVC, Linoleum, Polyurethane and

others. Boflex Sport Flooring is tested by SINTEF (formerly The Norwegian Building Research Institute) and is patented in several countries. The tests show that Boflex surpasses all its rivals when it comes to shock-absorption. The built-in shock-absorption is equally suitable for childrens' games and activities as it is for tackling the weight of heavy grandstands.

Progressive shock absorption

The patented Boflex system has a built-in shock absorption material and the construction can withstand an almost unlimited load. Evazote 50 (etylen-vinyl-acetat) is a cross-linked, closed cell system (layers not laid parallel). Evazote 50 is manufactured without the use of environmentally hazardous gases. Due to the special construction the material can never be compressed more than 50 percent, which means a Boflex floor can never be overloaded.

Easy, fast and secure installation

Boflex can be installed directly on top of the existing floor or sub-floor. The sub-floor must be stable, self-supporting and level. The maximum permitted deviation is 2mm per 2 metre radius. BOEN Sport has developed special installation equipment that ensures the correct application of adhesive and effective installation of the floor. Experience shows that a sports complex of approximately 1,000 square metres can be installed in 4-5 days by 3 persons.

Renovation

Due to its extremely low building height it is well suited for renovation purposes. The Boflex system works very well when installed on old sports flooring, whether it be point or surface elastic.

Boflex Stadium is available from Equal Limited (Hong Kong), BOEN Sport's distributor in Hong Kong. Equal Limited will be setting up a company called Equal Plus Pte Ltd in Singapore to be an exclusive flooring agent for BOEN. For further information, visit www.boen.com or www.equalhk.com.

A new LED Arena Pro-Court light from Ephesus Lighting for professional and college basketball

Ephesus Lighting, a leader in high-output LED lighting in sports and entertainment venues, announced that its newest product innovation, the Ephesus Arena Pro-Court, offers multi-purpose basketball venues a single lighting system capable of meeting the stringent and diverse lighting requirements of professional and major college basketball.

“There is a major distinction in the quality of lighting requirements for pro and college basketball venues. We now have a product that focuses on improving the player performance, increasing fan experience, and exceeding HDTV broadcasting requirements for both professional and collegiate basketball,” said Joe Casper, CTO of Ephesus Lighting.

“We engineered the Ephesus Arena Pro-Court specifically to provide a quality solution where adjusting the spectrum of light will significantly improve HDTV broadcasting quality and provide a solution for multi-purpose sporting venues,” said Joe.

The Ephesus Arena Pro-Court light is the only LED sports lighting solution with full light spectrum and colour temperature tuning capability. This patent-pending technology enables the system to adjust a specific spectrum of light for HDTV broadcasts and also adjust the colour temperature of the light to meet a range of “warmer” lighting required by professional and college basketball.

The innovation also allows venues to tune the light quality and at the same time maintain constant light levels on the playing surface. Previously, facilities needed to install multiple sets of lights to achieve similar results.

The improved colour rendering and tunable colour spectrum were designed into this new product specifically to match the needs of HDTV broadcast cameras and provide an enhanced brilliance of colours matched only by the sun.

The new Ephesus Arena Pro-Court also provides more precise optical control allowing for the dramatic light cutoff between the court and the stands as per pro basketball lighting guidelines. Additionally the Arena Pro-Court light includes the same patented glare-free technology as the Ephesus Arena Sports Series.

The new system is fully HDTV compliant with zero flicker technology allowing up to 2,500 frames per second super slow-motion recording. Ephesus’ military-driven design technology results in ultra-low EMI, which eliminates interference with arena communications systems with increased bandwidth.

“This year LED sports lighting has proved to be ready for primetime as we illuminated venues that broadcast events by every major sports network. From championship professional football games to college events our LED sports solutions exceeded expectations,” said Mike Lorenz, President of Ephesus Lighting. “As more facilities look to make the switch to LED, it’s imperative upon us to continue to broaden our product line to provide solutions for the different needs of venues.”

Ephesus fixtures provide a significant increase in illumination compared to traditional metal halide lights. LED lighting is brighter and more uniform modeling of light on the playing surface, creating a better stage for players as well as for both fans in the stadium and those watching on high-definition television.

Additionally, LED lights can be turned on and off with the flick of a switch, whereas metal halide fixtures require a 20-minute warm-up period. This on/off feature also allows facility operators to create projection light shows for fan entertainment, and if a power outage were ever to cause a blackout, Ephesus LED lights can be turned back on immediately with the flick of a switch.

Since lighting the first sports venue with LED technology in North America in 2012, Ephesus Lighting luminaires have been operational for over 300,000 hours in more than 100 indoor and outdoor sports and entertainment venues across North America including: University of Phoenix Stadium, the home field of the NFL Arizona Cardinals; the Canadian Tire Centre, home ice of the NHL Ottawa Senators; and Duke University.

For more information, visit www.ephesuslighting.com.



The Ephesus Arena Pro-Court light.

ONE POWERHOUSE EVENT ONE COMPREHENSIVE SOLUTION

Mostra Convegno Expocomfort (MCE),
 the world's leading exhibition
 dedicated to HVAC-R, plumbing,
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 comes to Singapore to bring the most
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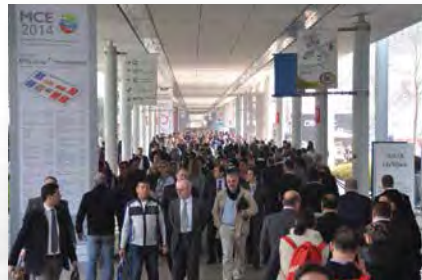


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KU DÉ TA Bangkok

Opened in 2013, KU DÉ TA Bangkok houses two world class dining rooms, an electrifying nightclub and two unique themed bar. Situated at the heart of Sathorn, in the iconic Sathorn Square building; the venue has been uniquely conceptualised, energetically designed, and meticulously crafted. Every venue and event at KU DÉ TA is a collaboration of cutting-edge visionaries in entertainment, architecture, cuisine, fashion, and art, synergised with an understanding of local culture.

A dining revolution

KU DÉ TA Bangkok boasts two exciting, world-class dining experiences, called Signature and Izakaya, both offering an extensive array of cuisines to satisfy the culturally diverse Bangkok audience.

Signature

Signature is exactly what the name implies; it is KU DE TA's showpiece restaurant and the multi-sensory, epicurean entrance into the world of KU DÉ TA. Occupying the prime and generous space at the front of the 39th floor, Signature introduces its guests to the unique aspects of the KU DÉ TA experience: elegant banquettes, and a panoramic view of the Bangkok skyline.

Executive Chef Jonathan Maza has crafted a Modern Asian dining experience that has roots in Japanese cooking but which boldly explores ingredients and techniques from different regions throughout Asia. His food is complemented by an extensive new-world inspired wine list, rare sakes and Japanese cocktails.

Executive Chef Jonathan Maza, KU DÉ TA Bangkok said: "Our concept for Signature was to trace our roots back to Japan, where much of our inspiration lies, but to plant our feet throughout the Asian-Pacific region. By carefully blending the distinct, regional flavour profiles of various Asian cuisines, we create something entirely new yet assuringly familiar. Every product, every ingredient, every method, and every dish has an essence, a soul, which must come through in the end. At Signature, we pay homage to our inspirations, and preserve cultures even as we blend them."



Izakaya

Located on the 39th floor, the word Izakaya comes from the long-standing Japanese tradition of lively, rustic eateries with a vibrant and friendly atmosphere. KU DÉ TA's take on the concept begins with the same values of comfort, relaxation, and time-honoured methods of Robotayaki charcoal grill-fire cooking, and elevates it with an open kitchen, the freshest imported fish, and premium Japanese beer on tap, along with a comprehensive sake menu.

Executive Chef Jonathan Maza, KU DÉ TA Bangkok said: "Our concept was always to preserve not just the flavours

and distinct ingredients of traditional Japanese comfort food, but to find a way to capture the comfort of eating in an old Japanese social setting. Some of that is achieved with atmosphere, like our artisanal plate ware from Aichi prefecture. But the essence comes from the way we select and assemble ingredients; a certain authentic Japanese way of cooking that comes through in presentation and taste, evoking nostalgia for old-style dining."

Two distinct themed bars and an electrifying club supported by Nordic Bar Syndicate ready to house Bangkok's movers and shakers.

Ku Bar

Make a toast to the new Asian Century at KU DÉ TA's Japanese-themed Ku Bar. Located between Izakaya and Signature restaurants, Ku Bar is the perfect place to arrange to meet friends before dinner or clubbing, as it combines a crossroads location with some of Bangkok's most innovative cocktails. With a focus on Japanese spirits and Asian ingredients, the Ku cocktail menu takes you to new worlds of layered taste sensations, while providing access to Izakaya's food menu as well.



Aviary

Overlooking the 39th floor Club Lounge below, Aviary is the social extension of the Club Lounge. Flight-themed and architecturally crafted to appear as if it's floating above the main dance floor, the Aviary is perhaps the most exciting of all of KU DÉ TA's spaces. Exclusive to members and special invited guests, the Aviary will serve experimental cocktails that are available nowhere else on earth. Seeing and being seen will be forever redefined by the Aviary's combination of design, décor, and amenities.

Electrifying Club

More than the centrepiece, the Club and Lounge, located on level 39, is KU DÉ TA's centre of gravity. A truly awesome dance club experience doesn't happen by accident, and every aspect of the Club and Lounge layout is carefully designed to maximise the social atmosphere and amplify the sensory experience of hi-fidelity DJ music immersion.

It's more than just Bangkok's first state of the art Madrix lighting system. It's more than the JBL Marquis' ultra-high performance club sound system. The Club and Lounge is a temple of dance by design. Multi-level dance platforms integrate seamlessly with seating banquettes and stairways, shattering the invisible boundaries between club patrons and letting everyone choose a personal balance of seeing and being seen.

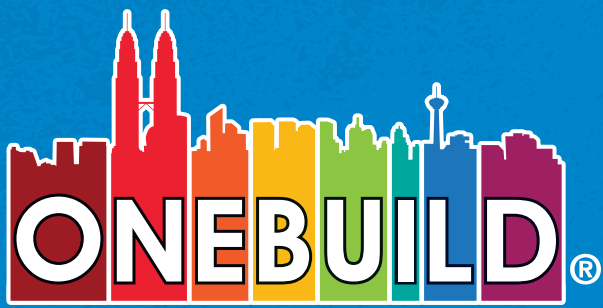


DISCO 360° - Small waterproof IP65 brushed stainless steel/brass semi-recessed round LED wall lamp



For discotheques, BEL Lighting has manufactured a small waterproof IP65 brushed stainless steel/brass semi-recessed round LED wall lamp called DISCO 360°. The product fits discreetly into your walls and creates a good atmosphere in any room in your home. A Plexiglas mat is proposed for a diffuse light and a clear Plexiglas for a sun effect. This product impresses with its technical quality and finish. Manufactured by machining process, it uses the latest LED technology. Installed by itself or in groups, this luminary is an attractive solution for many indoor lighting applications. For more information, visit www.bel-lighting.com.





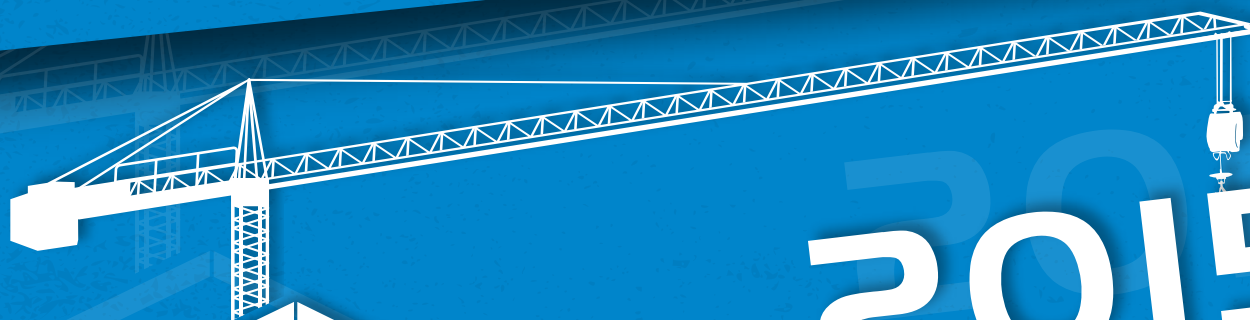
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Dulwich College students in top shape

Dulwich College (Singapore) became the first British independent school to open in Singapore in August 2014. Dulwich College will eventually have the capacity for 2,500 students who will enjoy a wide range of facilities and resources. At Dulwich College (Singapore) children always come first. The College strives to offer a friendly, intimate and student-centred learning environment. An inviting collective space is essential to a healthy living and learning environment. The zone, where three playgrounds are located, is enclosed by the new classrooms and buildings. The zone is dotted with 'free forms'; little hills and blobs which are either grassy, planted with lush trees or playgrounds.

The free forms of the playground are surrounded by safety-surface (EPDM), artificial grass and sand creating a soft, playable layer, which seamlessly borders the pavement. The area contains three different play zones: an active play area for children aged 6-12 and a combined play zone for toddlers and preschool children. The third play area is located in a courtyard and cosy community zone and an exploring/educational zone for young children and toddlers. When passing through, one can experience all zones. All the playground equipment are of high quality, supplied by Playpoint (Singapore) Pte Ltd.

Zone 1

Very young children between the ages of 2-5 years old start developing their senses and motor skills. They play alone, in continuous repetition. Their sense of touch is developing every day making the child able to do more and more refined tasks. When toddlers start developing their language, they are able to play together and learn from each other. The zone is equipped with trampoline, embankment slides, stepping pods, spinners, hammocks, crawl tunnels, telephone tubes and sand which makes it a conducive environment for children to mingle and interact socially.





Zone 2 – Amoeba

This 'active play' zone aims at 6-12-years-old children that are becoming more active in their play. They move a lot, developing strength and motor skills. They communicate with each other and play fantasy-games and role-play, and their play is constructive. A three dimensional climbing hill ('amoeba') with sand play and netting creates an adventurous climbing experience for the children enabling them to use their motor skills and spatial awareness.

Zone 3 – Treehouse

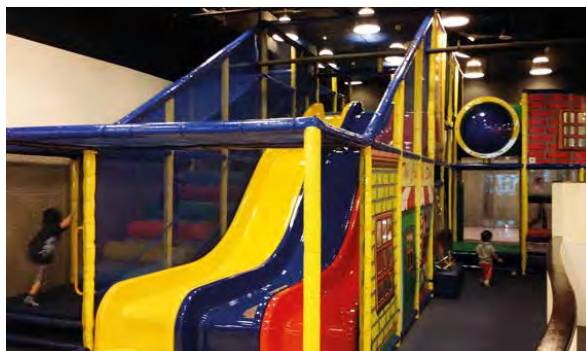
This Treehouse is designed for 6-12-years-old children. Its position in the courtyard gives it a shaded, enclosed atmosphere. Children can have fun running, hiding, climbing and sliding down the slides or crossing the jungle bridges. It helps in developing their upper and lower body strength and endurance. Fantasy games and role play are essential, but when they get older they also like to hang out in little groups.



For more information, contact Playpoint (Singapore) Pte Ltd at tel (+65) 6398 1558, fax (+65) 6398 1559, e-mail info@playpoint.com.sg or visit www.playpoint.asia.



International Play Company creates a Cool playground concept



International Play Company recently designed, manufactured and installed an indoor playground and toddler play area for Cool De Sac in Singapore.

Cool De Sac is a children's entertainment play centre and a bistro that is not only built for children, but also for parents. Parents can enjoy quality time with each other while their children are actively engaged in a wide variety of educational play stations.

The design of the playground by International Play Company has a 3 lane wave slide, themed murals, service gate, landing pads, raised ADA entrance with grab bars, soft moonwalk climb which goes to level 2, soft stumps with ring handles above, soft triangle step climbs to level 2, air filled bumper balls. The toddler area has Toddler Climb & Slide, play panels on the walls, soft blocks, octagon ball pool, tic-tac-toe puzzle, soft whale double rocker.

The large and secure zone play area is for kids aged 3 to 12 to stay active and fit while having fun with all the exciting slides and tunnels. The Toddler area is perfect for kids under the age of three. Crawling babies and toddlers can enjoy playing toys while improving their hand-eye coordination.

International Play Company is a North American company which makes indoor and outdoor playground equipment structures which are 'safe' and 'fun' for the whole family. To date, the company has completed over 2,600 installations worldwide. In December 2014, International Play Company won a prestigious BC Export Award in the category of Manufactured Products. The BC Export Awards annually seeks out BC's Top Exporters and honours them for their excellence and achievements in 12 categories, including ten directed at firms and two at individuals. The Awards are presented by the Government of British Columbia and the BC Division of Canadian Manufacturers & Exporters with support from annual sponsors. It is the oldest awards ceremony of its kind in Canada.

For more information, visit www.internationalplayco.com.



Renderings: © International Play Company

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Creating Imaginative, Customized Play Experiences: Interview with Matt Miller, CEO of Playworld Systems



Matt Miller, CEO of Playworld Systems, gives us a fascinating insight on how much playground equipment design has changed over the years, the company's success and contribution to the playground industry and the trends shaping future designs.

Q: Can you briefly describe to me the history of Playworld?

A: The company began in 1952 as QE Manufacturing Company, a family-owned producer of precision machine parts. Seven years later, the company entered the playground industry as a supplier of high-quality products for other companies. As the organisation's reputation as a superior supplier grew, so did the demand in both the playground and recreational markets. To meet these needs, the company introduced its own brand of commercial playground products in 1971 under the company name Playworld Systems. In January 1999, Playworld moved to its current corporate headquarters in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. The company is a leader in creating imaginative, customised commercial playground and fitness equipment. For decades, Playworld has positively impacted the health and wellbeing of communities around the globe.

Q: What is it like working at a playground company?

A: At Playworld, we're all about getting children outdoors and active. We want children in touch with nature, in an environment that's free of constraints, to discover their physical, social, and emotional well-being. We really believe that play is not a luxury. Play is powerful. Every day we're working to save play. As a family-owned business, our reputation is our personal signature. The overall customer experience is at the heart of what we do. Every Playworld playground is backed by a devoted customer support team to keep play alive and well in communities around the world. We're committed to premiere service and support before, during and after a customer purchases our equipment to help play thrive throughout the world.



Q: What is your role as the CEO of Playworld Systems and what are some of the greatest challenges that you have faced?

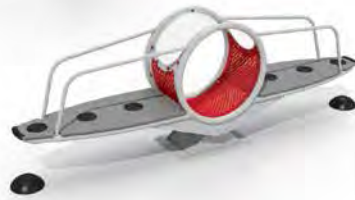
A: One of the greatest challenges that I face as CEO is working to save unstructured outdoor play in today's society. As CEO of Playworld, I'm responsible for ensuring that today's children grow up having the same fond memories of play that I did as a child. For me, it resonates with the memory of coming home from school, putting on old jeans, and taking off on my bike to discover new adventures. I've never outgrown the thrill and awe of the power of play. All of us at Playworld work to

Unity™ Collection

Unity Dome



Unity Rushmore



Unity Teeter Tunnel



Unity Slide Climber



Unity Canopy



Unity Steppers

create meaningful unstructured play opportunities for today's children. We're not just making playground equipment. We're in the kid-empowering, confidence-building, friendship-making, health-promoting, and community-strengthening business.

Q: How much have playground equipment changed over the past five years, in terms of colour, materials, shape and size?

A: At Playworld, we continuously develop new products that marry exceptional design with unprecedented play value. Equipment in our new Unity Collection inspires meaningful and relevant play experiences for children of all ages and abilities. The freestanding products form a decentralized playground layout, which allows children to move around, explore and discover new ways to play. For example, the Unity Dome takes the decades old geodesic dome and makes it meaningful and relevant to 21st century children. Unity is made up of various sized circles to move through and hang from, odd shaped openings add access to the centre of it all where there is a special rope climbing feature. Rhythmic play activities create a 'music circle' and bring variation to the perimeter, allowing everyone to be in, on, and around the Unity dome. The structure provides everything needed in a climber with a multitude of challenges to increase

strength, agility and movement planning for children of all abilities ages 5-12. Unity is also a great place to gather, gain perspective from a different vantage point, and play.

Q: What role has technology played in the design of playground equipment?

A: Bringing technology onto the playground is just one of the many ways the company has re-imagined play spaces for the 21st century. Innovative product lines such as NEOS incorporate technology into the playground like never before. The electronic play equipment blends the exhilarating and heart-pumping excitement of video games with the aerobic rush of outdoor fun. The multi-generational, family-owned company creates playground equipment that engages and interacts with today's tech-savvy child.

Q: What strategy does Playworld Systems use when designing its playground equipment?

A: At Playworld, we believe truly great outdoor play environments are for everyone. We design our inclusive playgrounds with guidance from child development experts who understand that kids with disabilities or who are on the autism spectrum need just as much playtime as those who develop typically – or those who develop typically but have a caregiver with a disability.

In fact, our Inclusive Play Design Guide was created by a group of playground and child development experts as an inspirational and educational resource to help implement great outdoor play environments for everyone. Everyone means typically-developing children, children on the autism spectrum, children who have a cognitive disability, and those who use a mobility device.

Everyone means all the people in the family, not just the children. The issue is much larger. The design of playgrounds and surrounding environments in almost every community prevents parents and grandparents with disabilities, including injured veterans, from taking typically developing children there.

Q: How does the company strike a balance between aesthetics, fun, and safety in its play equipment?

A: For more than 40 years, Playworld has been a leader in creating imaginative, customized play experiences that positively impact the health and well-being of communities around the globe. Playworld's products are built to last, with premium materials that are playground-tough and environmentally safe. Playworld equipment is known for its exceptional craftsmanship and commitment to quality. Together they allow us to deliver long-lasting and low-maintenance products.

Q: These days, sustainability is becoming a major element in playground design. How "green" is your playground equipment or how much recycled content do you use in your playground equipment?

A: Playworld has invested significant resources to take genuine steps to protect the environment for future generations. We understand that playgrounds and fitness equipment should not only be inclusive and well-constructed, but they should also be safe for future generations. That is why we eliminated 99.999 percent of dangerous polyvinyl chlorides (PVCs) from our play equipment. We are also the only playground manufacturer to pass a rigorous, comprehensive certification process that tests products for potentially harmful effects on our customers and our planet.

We are the first and only playground equipment manufacturer to have products Cradle to Cradle Certified (cm) Silver. This is a rigorous and comprehensive environmental



Playworld Systems' corporate headquarters in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.

certification system that evaluates products and materials for their impact on human and environmental health and assures recyclability of our products after their usable life.

Q: What are your company's goals for the next five years?

A: At Playworld, we're committed to designing and launching new products that will keep kids of all ages and abilities on the playground for years to come. Our goals for the next five years involve getting children of all ages and abilities playing at the last sacred space for kids: the playground. Through innovative design, research and customer support we believe we can meet this goal.

Q: What trends in playground design can we expect to see over the next five years?

A: Over the next five years we expect to see an increase in the amount of themed playground equipment available. To keep today's children engaged and interested in the playground, equipment must evolve to compete with the many devices vying for kids' attention.

We're also seeing an increase in the number of playgrounds that continue their themes into the surfacing through designs poured into the surfacing material. Doing so adds to the overall theme of a play space. For instance, you could build a playground sitting on an island by using brown poured in place, surrounded by blue poured in place to mimic water. This technique works especially well when themes are mixed, such as a nautical-themed ship "docked" to a nature-themed playground sitting on an island.

Lastly, sculpture play is a trend that we predict will be popular in the future. We are seeing more play structures that blur the lines between art / design and playground equipment, particularly in urban areas.

Playworld Systems is distributed in Singapore through CT-Art Creation Pte Ltd. For more information, tel (+65) 6762 9891, fax (+65) 6762 7980, or email enquiry@ctart.com.sg. You can also visit the websites www.ctart.com.sg or <http://playworldsystems.com>.




Inclusive Playground at Canberra Park, Singapore installed by CT-Art Creation.

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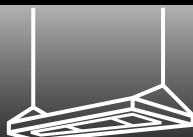
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The Orange Monster – An iconic custom playground in Arizona



Photo: © Luke Pierzina, Aerial Raiders and AerialRaiders.com

The city of Mesa Arizona is a community of nearly 500,000, sitting in the Salt River Valley and well known for their upscale developments and homes catering to retiree winter residents as well as families at every stage of growth. All of this means a large population of children. Taking this into account, Mesa has a well-deserved reputation for providing plenty of community recreational spaces for residents of all ages, with a plethora of large playgrounds and totalling more than 2,200 acres (900 hectares) of parkland. Edges of Mesa's territory nestle up against the greater Phoenix area urban sprawl, but the South-Eastern edge of Mesa is quite different. Beyond the 202 Loop ring road that surrounds most of the developed portion of Mesa is a vast area of mostly empty desert scrub land.

In this area, DMB Inc. – crafting communities since 1984 - saw great opportunity in a five square mile (approximately 1,300 hectares) block of vacant land that is known to locals as 'The Proving Grounds'. Previously the home of testing facilities and tracks of auto makers, and surrounded on all sides by more desert, DMB's vision goes beyond a simple housing development to the goal of creating an entire 'city within a city'. When fully developed, Eastmark will include schools, businesses, shops, and homes for all variety of families. Starting with only the road for access, then a community centre & sales office, future residents were invited to visit and purchase some of the first units.

In keeping with the greater vision, the developer also took a unique approach to the recreational space. Under the design direction of Dan Cleland and Westwood PS, a 106-acre Great Park is envisioned running through the centre of the entire development. The first phases of this Great Park were commissioned into construction immediately, and located beside the sales centre to create a truly inviting community which greatly inspires home buyers to purchase their new family residence. To meet DMB's unique vision, though, not just any playground would do.

After a preliminary concept was reached for a custom climbing structure, Westwood Design contacted Dynamo Playgrounds as the expert in unique custom net climbers. Dynamo had previously supplied the same City of Mesa with dynamic playground projects including the Big Green custom climber, and a new record tallest pyramid net climber, measuring 15 metres in height and holding 250 children at one time. Starting out with the goal of creating "The Orange Monster", everyone's efforts collectively brought this creation to life. Dynamo provided information about the components, and expert advice as to safety regulations as well as their extensive experience in successful play equipment design. Covering nearly 750 square metres, comprised of 161



Photo: © Rob Lockhart, Dynamo Industries



Photo: © Rob Lockhart, Dynamo Industries

metres of giant 215 mm diameter pipes and over 1150 metres of rope, this climber is an undulating, curving, swooping adventure that can accommodate 140 users .

The multi-event Ropes Course provides a free form variety of play experiences in a continuous circuit that is a stunning centerpiece for a destination playground that will entice the local community and visitors alike. Constant changing angles in the climbing surfaces make the experience always different for climbers, and the unusual design attracts all ages to explore its mysteries. Adults are seen on the Orange Monster nearly as often as children. Twin spiral slides offer a super-fast alternative for exiting the structure, and random play panels give places where children can hang out up high.

Designers did not stop with a giant custom climber. With a goal to create the incredible effect of a spaceship hovering in the trees at night, The Orange Monster also lights up when the sun sets. Light housings were fabricated and attached directly to the frame, and wiring conduits easily pass within the hollow frame. Safe low-voltage LED lights were chosen for what may be the Orange Monster's most incredible feature. These light fixtures are strategically placed around the structure, and as dusk settles on to the park, with a desert sunset in the background, the play area takes on a special glow. Because of the very high ambient temperatures during much of the year, this time at night with the lights is often families' favourite time to visit the park and play.

A structure this large would be very costly to place under a manufactured shade structure, but park planners have arranged for natural shade to grow in over time. *Ulmus Parvifolia Emer* were carefully selected as the surrounding trees. Their columnar trunks will raise branches above the height of the climber, then their canopies will spread wide to offer cool shade for daytime fun even during the height of the desert summer. With community events planned regularly in this Great Park, and an influx of future residents coming, this Orange Monster is sure to be the beloved heart of a community for generations.

For more information, visit www.dynamoindustries.com.



Photo: © Luke Pierzina, Aerial Raiders and AerialRaiders.com



Exterior of the GEM Convention Center.



American ash panelling.

American Ash brings warmth to the new GEM Convention Center in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Designed by local Vietnamese architects a21studio, the newly opened GEM Convention Center is one of the largest convention centres in the Central Business District of Ho Chi Minh City, located in District 1. The centre has two main ballrooms with a seating capacity of 2,000. The exhibition spaces offer a capacity of 7,200 square metres of flexible function space.



A glimpse of American ash in the lobby.

"The new GEM Convention Center", explained architect Mr Toan Nghiem from 'a21studio', "has been designed to be one of the most notable convention centres in Vietnam". Each ballroom has an American ash ceiling as the main interior element with the first ballroom having 30mm x 120mm ash louvres and the second ballroom with nine symmetrical ash patterns which form one big lantern. This intricate and complex lattice work pattern showcases the visual quality of the American wood. As guests enter the Convention Center they are also greeted with an unforgettable lobby and a group of restaurants and coffee shops on the rooftop, reached by an impressive open staircase. This is a particular innovation in Vietnam where only American walnut and oak have featured in local interiors, whereas walnut, oak, tulipwood and some ash have been used extensively for furniture.

Architects a21studio had never worked with American hardwood before; however they were very pleased with the final result "as it met all the requirements of the design with a very high quality finish," said Mr Toan. The main staircase is located in the entrance lobby, which is covered by white granite panels. 'a21studio' wanted to add warmth and colour to the space by using American ash on the staircase which has been achieved. It also adds a contrast between the materials of hard rock and wood and the material textures that are flashy and rough. The staircase is the first attraction of the whole Convention Center as guests come in, so it had to be eye catching which it certainly is. On the upper floor, ash is used as the main material in the wall and ceiling panelling which gives the building a luxurious and natural feeling.

GEM CENTRE from the web – "Inspiring and innovative, our venue is fitted with the latest technology and state of the art facilities to make your event a memorable one. Offering 7,200 square metres of flexible function space, GEM Center is considered as the largest premier venue for event in the Central Business District of Ho Chi Minh City. Designed to accommodate art performance, business and social occasions, indoors and out, GEM Center is yours to transform according to your needs. In an effort to provide guests a different and memorable experience, we treat every event with meticulous attention. Whether it's a colossal conference attracting thousands, corporate entertainment event or art performance, the team of planning, organising, decorative, culinary expertise gives it our distinctive touch and ensures that your event is uniquely different to one at any other venue in the city. No matter what your event, scale and scope, if you can imagine it, we will find a way to make it happen." <http://www.gemcenter.com.vn/home/about#>



One of the vast ballrooms with American ash panels.



VIP lobby showcasing the ash ceiling.



Dramatic American ash staircase.

American Ash (*Fraxinus spp*) is a species of great variety and character in grain and colour as well as contrast and so always provides designers with a degree of uniqueness. Ash trees grow throughout the eastern United States, from the north in New York State to the southern States along the Gulf of Mexico, and everywhere in between. This sustainably managed wood from natural forests of North America, with its excellent environmental credentials is a popular with designers, architects, specialist users and consumers around the world. The trees grow high in the mountains and low on the plains and coastal areas. With such a variation of growing sites and altitude, with different soils and climatic influences, the result is a hardwood of great variety in colour, grain and strength. There are also various sub-species that add to this variety. Its sawn timber has a very strong grain contrast between the softer summer growth and hard winter growth rings, so the colour difference between the outer light-coloured sapwood and inner darker heartwood is quite distinct. In the northern United States the sapwood tends to be less due to the shorter growing season, than the south where the wood is more open grained. Being very hard, it is stable when dry and easy to finish and stain, it is ideal for flooring. Ash is increasing popular in exports markets, especially in Asia. Globally exports of American Ash was the number four species in the first half of 2014 amounting to 193,006 cubic metres in volume worth US\$131 million – an increase of 35 percent in value and 23 percent in volume. Vietnam imports marked a 12 percent increase in value.

As a large tropical and forested country, wood has traditionally played an important role in Vietnam architecture for internal fittings such as joinery, doors and staircases – mainly from local wood. As the population of Vietnam grows, tastes change and the modern economy develops, it is no surprise that architects and designers look to other types of hardwood. It is not only a friendly material but also recyclable in different ways. It has been scientifically proven that the carbon stored in the U.S. hardwood at point of delivery to manufacturers in Vietnam will almost certainly exceed all carbon emissions during extraction, processing, and transport and as well as this American hardwoods is demonstrably renewable in the forest.



Pedestrian bridge, Moulins railway station, France

Designed by Architects: B + M Architectures Paris, the Moulins railway station in France uses high-performance stainless steel wire mesh from Jakob AG.

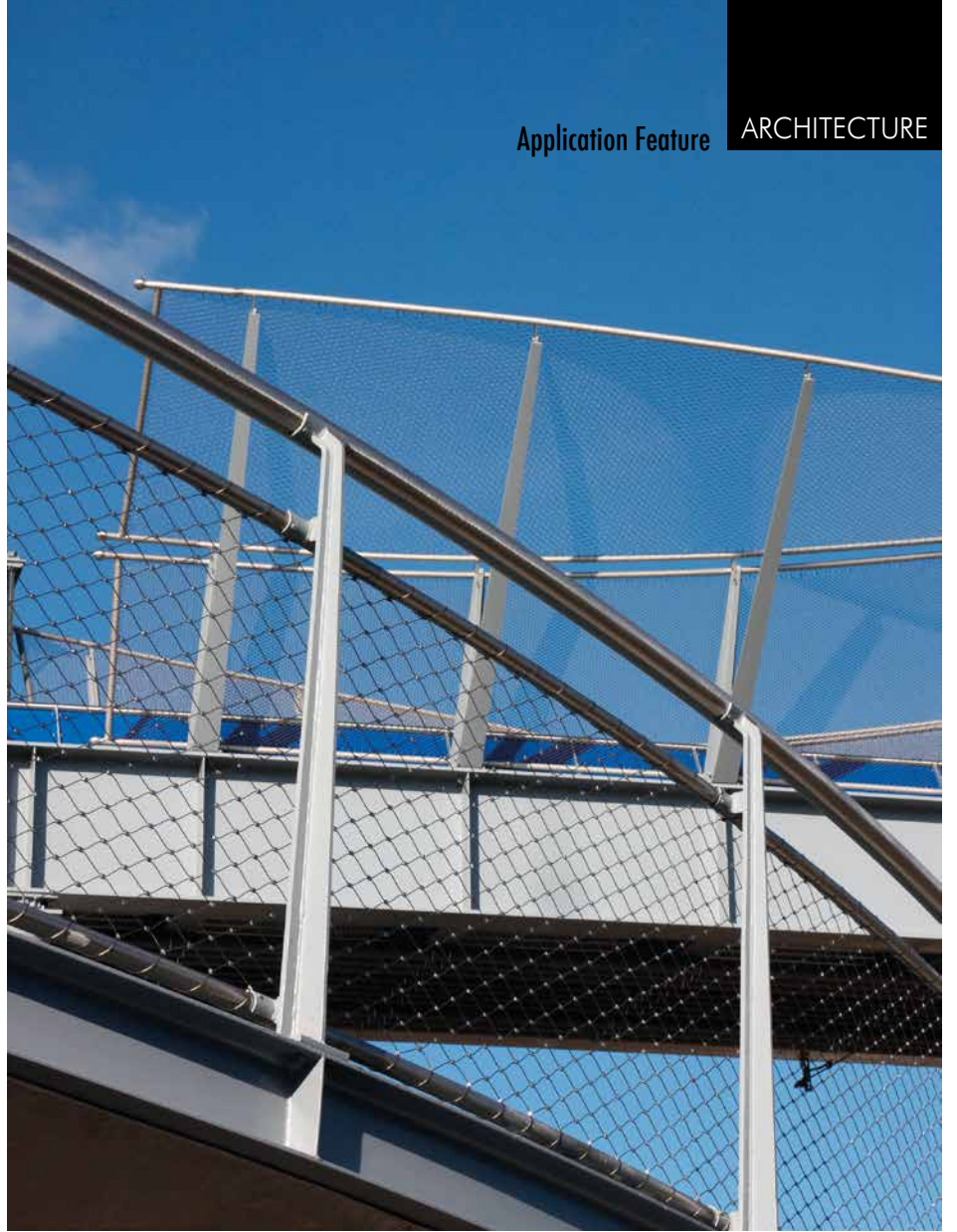
Jakob Webnet, a high marine grade AISI 316 stainless steel wire mesh, for safety and as a design element, is integrated in the pedestrian bridge which crosses the railway tracks that connect Moulins with Yzeure. It also gives passengers direct access to the railway station's platforms. The striking bridge structure exemplifies a new possibility for directly traversing an entire train station facility.

Jakob Products

- Webnet rope Ø 1.5 mm
- Inner Webnet with a mesh aperture of 25 mm (400 linear metres) and outer Webnet with a mesh aperture of 40 mm (320 linear metres).
- Both Webnet types were executed in free-form geometries.

For further information, visit www.jakob.com.





NS BlueScope Lysaght Singapore

Shaping Singapore's Cityscape for the past 50 years

All photos courtesy of NS BlueScope Lysaght Singapore

Singapore, once considered as a dull city, has reinvented itself over the years becoming one of Asia's most modern and dynamic cities. Mixed with a vast range of different cultures, food, and architecture styles, the city has become far from anything 'dull'. Unmistakeably, one of the most apparent attractions of Singapore is its breath-taking cityscape. Visually stunning, what remains unseen to many is the contribution of NS BlueScope Lysaght Singapore and its commitment towards the country's rapid growth and dynamic development.

NS BlueScope Lysaght Singapore, established since 1965 under the umbrella of BlueScope Steel Limited Australia, is one of the world's most dynamic and largest steel solution provider and roll former. For the past 50 years, the steel downstream company collaborated with various developers and architects, providing them the most suitable products and solutions in constructing iconic landmarks such as Marina Bay Sands, Singapore National Library, One Raffles Quay, ITE College Simei Campus, Pit Building at the Marina Bay Street Circuit and many others.

Paired with world class architects, their drawing board ideas were realised through NS BlueScope Lysaght Singapore's products and solutions. One such example was the company's contribution to the Marina Bay Sands with the Structural Steel Decking System, Lysaght® POWERDEK®.

Marina Bay Sands is one of the largest hotels in the world, housing two theatres, a casino, shops, restaurants and a SkyPark. The SkyPark is a key attraction for visitors as it offered a 360 degree of Singapore's skyline. The park is constructed over 200 metres above ground and features a 64 metre cantilever observation deck, protruding out from its 55th storey of Tower 3.

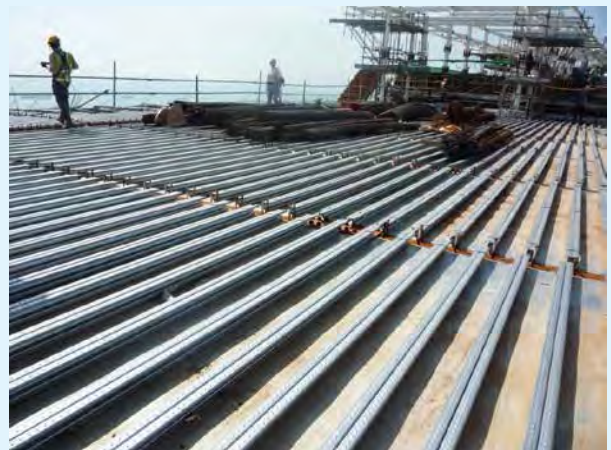
Mastermind behind the design is Moshe Safdie, a world class architect who conceptualised Singaporean structures such as the Jewel Changi Airport, Cairnhill Road Condominiums and the Bishan Residential Development. Originally requested by the developer to construct a single tower, Safdie resisted the idea as he believed it could create an impression as if the structure is a barrier, separating Singapore's downtown from the seafront. As a solution, he introduced the 3 tower concept which we all can appreciate today.

To translate the architecture from the drawing board to reality, Safdie also had to conceive a way to fit a swimming pool and a resort on top of the 3 structures. In achieving this, Safdie came up with the amazing SkyPark concept. Due to its height from ground and its complexity in its structural design, Lysaght® POWERDEK® steel structural deck became the natural choice for the slab designs.

As the structural steel decking system is lightweight, making it possible to be installed using minimum machinery and labour, lessening work congestions as well. Lysaght's POWERDEK® was also able to span further and take on heavier imposed loadings thus providing an ideal solution for the floor slab design in this project. By the completion of Singapore's iconic structure, NS BlueScope Lysaght Singapore was not just able to meet Safdie's challenging architectural requirements, but was also able to construct the 1.2 hectare SkyPark in a cost and time efficient manner.

The key features and benefits of Lysaght® POWERDEK® includes:

- Prop-free formwork, providing a cleaner and less congested work site; ideal for construction sites with space constraints.
- Time efficient construction period (as compared to the conventional RC slab which takes a longer time to form and harden before the next floor level can be constructed).





- Fully tested by BlueScope Lysaght Technology Facility at Chester Hill, Sydney, Australia. The structural steel decking solution underwent vigorous testing and development; providing the optimal performance when used as formwork and as longitudinal reinforcement in one-way composite slabs.
- Its thinner slab assist to reduce load on existing columns and foundations making it cost efficient as well. Lysaght® POWERDEK® composite slab are fire-rated based on fire resistance tests performed at Victoria University of Technology.

Apart from the iconic Marina Bay Sand, Lysaght® POWERDEK® is also utilised in structures such as Changi Storage Hub, Saint James Power Station, Raffles Junior College, One Raffles Quay and many others.

NS BlueScope Lysaght Singapore

As the first marketing office of BlueScope Steel's downstream operations in Asia, NS BlueScope Lysaght Singapore has played an integral part, contributing to Singapore's rapid growth towards its success and this is set to continue for the years to come. As the premier supplier of steel building components and systems, the company strives to meet the most stringent and architecturally demanding structures without compromising on strength, flexibility and aesthetic beauty. Lysaght Singapore specialises in two product categories which include:

- Roofing and Walling
- Structural Decking Systems

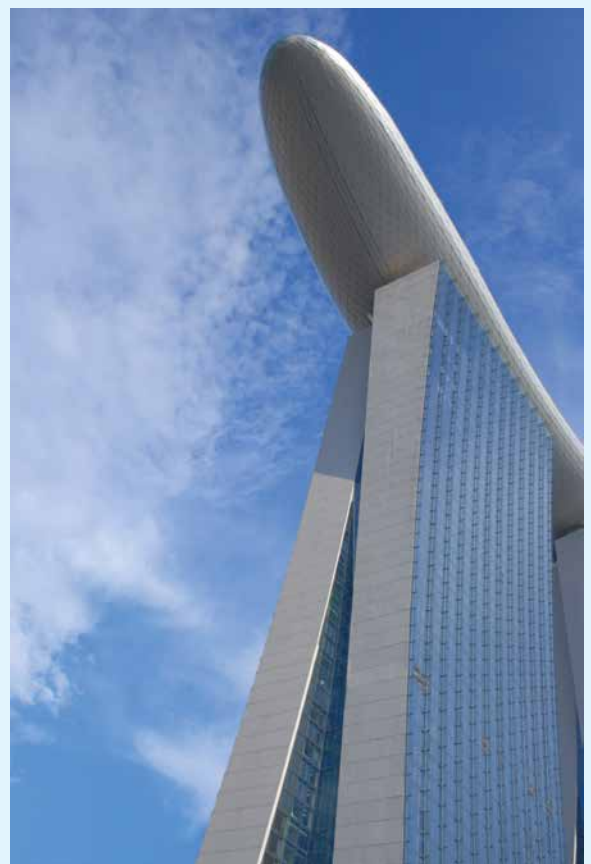
In addition to the manufacturing and supply of the aforementioned, NS BlueScope Lysaght Singapore is the only rollformer in the country which provides the following value added services with customised solutions:

- Engineering Design Services.
- Construction Services (for the supply and installation of Lysaght products and systems).
- Product Application and Specification Consultation.

All Lysaght Products are tested and developed at BlueScope Technology Centre in Chesterhill, Australia. This independent testing facility is accredited internationally by the National Association of Testing Authorities (NATA) and the Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization (CSIRO) in Australia.

50 years of establishment marks an important milestone to Lysaght in Asia. While justifiably proud of its history, NS BlueScope Lysaght keeps its focus on the future. With a commitment to research and development, initiatives in specialised fields and technology, NS BlueScope Lysaght Singapore continues to stay innovative and versatile, adapting well to the demands of the ever evolving style and design needs of Singapore's construction sector, offering more options which enables its customers to translate their architectural designs from the drawing board to a tangible structure in the most efficient manner possible.

For more information, please contact NS BlueScope Lysaght Singapore Pte Ltd at tel (+65) 6264 1577 or visit the website www.lysaght.com.sg.





Ezarri designs mosaic for Porto Montenegro

Ezarri, a renowned Spanish company specialising in high quality glass mosaic, recently created specially designed mosaic for the project Porto Montenegro in Europe.

Ezarri is a leading company in the manufacture of high quality glass mosaic. With more than 30 years of experience, all of the products are manufactured at our facilities in Spain.

Ezarri created the specially designed mosaic for the project Porto Montenegro, in Europe, by directly following the specifications of the London-based architect studio that was in charge of the project. The result has been praised by both Studio RHE and the owners of Porto Montenegro.

Decorated in black and white with specially designed Ezarri mosaics, it features an eight-metre high bronze square that literally frames the view. The resort is located in the Bay of Kotor, Montenegro, Europe, which is protected by UNESCO, and only Ezarri could supply a mosaic befitting of such a picture perfect pool.

The pool at Porto Montenegro is also the best place that the resort has to offer for guests. The perfect spot to relax after sailing, the Lido Pool is 80-metre long infinity pool that rests peacefully on the Adriatic Sea. Around the edge of the pool are all kinds of restaurants and bars, serving everything from dinner to the best international cocktails.

The team of architects responsible for designing this exclusive pool is the London-based company Studio RHE. According to the architects behind the design, "the pool is lined with an Ezarri mosaic in an ad hoc design and has as its centre an 8m high square bronze sculpture which literally frames the views".

Indeed, an elegant and cool effect is achieved through the pool design and by taking full advantage of Ezarri's technology. This makes the pool a unique feature within a luxurious and chic atmosphere, combining the strong presence of nature with innovation in tourism of the highest calibre. A place which not only inspires relaxation but also satisfies the senses, where Ezarri Mosaics has risen to the challenge of pleasing the most exacting guest.

Ezarri will be exhibiting at the Piscine Splash ASIA! 2015 show at Marina Bay Sands in Singapore from 20-21 May 2015. Visit Ezarri at booth number A 09. For more information, contact Ezarri at tel (+34) 943 16 41 40, fax (+34) 943 88 40 66, e-mail info@ezarri.com or visit www.ezarri.com.



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guangzhou international lighting exhibition

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Guangzhou International Lighting Exhibition celebrates 20 years

The theme for this year's show is "Explore Lighting for Life" and among its many highlights, the LED Asia zone will highlight LED technology integration into lighting applications.

From modest beginnings, the Guangzhou International Lighting Exhibition (GILE) has evolved into Asia's preeminent lighting exhibition. Just 20 years earlier, the fair premiered with a humble 96 Chinese exhibitors. The most recent edition in 2014 was evidence of respectable growth over the years as it hosted over 2,600 exhibitors from 25 countries and regions.

To celebrate its progressive development, GILE is gearing up for its 20th anniversary show to be held from 9-12 June 2015 at the China Import and Export Fair Complex in Guangzhou. The show will occupy 21 halls and span 225,000 square metres of exhibition space.

This edition is symbolically represented by the slogan "20th Onwards – Inspire & Be Inspired" which embodies the fair's ongoing commitment to stay at the forefront of the global lighting industry. The fair will feature a complete range of forums and product presentations to encourage exchange of lighting designs and cutting-edge lighting technologies. These informational sessions facilitate industry convergence and networking for lighting businesses, making the Guangzhou International Lighting Exhibition an ideal breeding ground to inspire and be inspired by others.

The 2015 show theme "Explore Lighting for Life" will showcase diversified intelligent lighting solutions aimed at maximising user comfort and minimising environmental impact. Moreover, complementary concurrent programmes will further emphasise light quality, sustainable options, human-centric lighting, wireless connectivity and much more.

The integration and application of LED technologies into luminaire will be another key show focus in 2015. Accordingly, the themed LED Asia zone concept will be realised.

Ms Wong emphasised: "As the exhibition organiser, we always have on our finger on the pulse of the industry. At the moment, the LED and lighting industries are undergoing transitional change and consolidation. To facilitate this development,



we have established the LED Asia zone that will showcase an array of LED technologies and solutions such as LED substrates, chips, engines, modules, drivers, controls, inspection and measurement equipment, encapsulation, sorting, thermal management and packaging, and much more. Our aim is to offer attendees a comprehensive view of LED technology, as well as create dialogue among the LED and lighting companies for future business collaboration."

In terms of exhibitor participation, nearly 2,000 domestic and international brands in lighting and LEDs confirmed to promote the latest innovations at the 2015 edition. Some participating world-renowned brands include: Alanold (Germany), Almeco (Italy), ALPHA (the US), BJB (Germany), Dow Corning (the US), Everlight (Taiwan), Opplé (China), Panasonic (Japan) and Shin-etsu (Japan).

Another event not to be missed is the concurrently held Guangzhou Electrical Building Technology fair. Both fairs are headed by the biennial Light + Building event, which is scheduled to take place from 13-18 March 2016 in Frankfurt, Germany.

For more information on the shows, e-mail light@china.messefrankfurt.com or visit www.light.messefrankfurt.com.cn.



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STOSILENT | STO SEA

StoSilent sets the new tone in acoustics.

Concert hall, office, restaurant, or museum – when it comes to acoustics, the requirements are as individual as the rooms themselves. When room acoustics are designed well, they increase people’s feeling of well-being, lower noise, reduce interference, and leave room for soothing tones. Only then is it possible to enjoy music with the perfect sound, to make a clear phone call without disturbing your colleagues, or simply allow sensory impressions to take effect without ambient noise.



“The earlier acoustics planners are brought in, the more cost-effective the installation can be, and even more importantly, the easier it is to integrate the requirements of the building owner and architect,” said Horst Drotleff, Fraunhofer Institute for Building Physics (IBP).

The StoSilent product assortment offers a comprehensive range of solutions for sound-absorbing products and systems. In addition to the technical advantages, a key focus is placed on design aspects. High-quality top coats allow for an architectural design with no visible functional limitations. “Only the right acoustics allow rooms to be used properly. Sto systems combine the right levels of sound absorption and design standards with constructional flexibility,” added Horst Drotleff.

StoSilent Direct

The newly developed, seamless StoSilent Direct system is suitable for direct installation onto walls and ceilings. The sandwich panels made of stone wool and expanded glass granulate rate highly thanks to their high level of sound absorption at a low installation height. In addition to StoSilent Top and StoSilent Decor top coats, it is also possible to apply a colour coating. In combination with the StoColor Climasan top coat, light activates a catalyst that neutralises organic odours and harmful substances.

StoSilent Modular

Even rooms that are already in use can have their acoustics quickly and easily improved with the StoSilent Modular ceiling element range. The ceiling element system is particularly suitable for buildings with concrete core cooling, where a loss of cooling would occur if an acoustic ceiling was installed across the full surface instead. The sound absorption varies depending on the surface, suspension





height, and damping. Thanks to the flexible steel cable suspension and variation options available in terms of form and colour, the ceiling elements also function as design elements.

StoSilent Distance

The StoSilent Distance panel system enables acoustically effective building elements to be combined with a flat, seamless surface. The suspended ceiling and wall covering allows seamless surfaces of up to 200 square metres to be produced. Mains utilities are concealed in the cavity. Thanks to the fine top coats, ambitious, high-quality surfaces can be realised, both in white and virtually any colour shades, depending on the coating system.

StoSilent Compact

StoSilent Compact acoustic plaster systems provide an ideal solution for rooms where it is not possible to install suspended cladding. StoSilent Compact Sil has a fine plaster structure; the system is particularly suitable for flat surfaces. For curved surfaces such as domes or vaults, the multi-layer StoSilent Compact Miral spray plaster is an excellent option, as its rough, porous structure dampens noise and reduces reverberation.

The four acoustic systems at a glance

StoSilent Distance – the seamless panel system.

- Value-enhancing solution
- The finest surfaces from the StoSilent programme
- Sustainable and eco-friendly coatings

StoSilent Direct – the simple direct system.

- High level of sound absorption
- The finest surfaces from the StoSilent programme
- Fresh air effect thanks to StoColor Climasan

StoSilent Compact – the flexible plaster system.

- Ideal for restricted installation heights
- Rough and fine plaster surfaces
- Broad colour spectrum

StoSilent Modular – the variable ceiling element.

- Excellent sound absorption
- The finest surface and colour design. Product assortment from four different lines
- Standard formats and individual solutions

For more information, contact Sto SEA at tel (+65) 6453 3080, fax (+65) 6453 3543, e-mail info.sg@sto.com or visit www.sto-sea.com.

LOUNGE SUITE | FERMOB

Croisette is one of the last collaborations between the designer Pascal Mourgue and the Fermob brand. The designer Pascal Mourgue, who died on December 6, 2014, embodied the Fermob spirit. Of the 45 years he worked for major companies, he worked for 20 years with the brand on a daily basis, taking an active part in its creativity and innovation.

This lounge suite consists of a 2-seater sofa and an armchair. It will appeal to those who enjoy the elegance and simplicity of shape and materials. Its weave calls to mind traditional woven furniture of years gone by, with an aluminium tube and a flat PVC wire that makes it resolutely contemporary.

Lightweight and unusually high for a lounge suite, it is very comfortable with its extra wide seat. You'll melt into this ultra-comfortable cocoon with its elegant colours. Inside? Outside? It works well in all weathers! And goes with all styles, vintage, classical, industrial or even very classical.

For more information, visit www.fermob.com.



Pascal Mourgue. Photo: © Fermob



Croisette. Photo: © Fermob

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ALUMINUM CEILINGING & WALL PANELS | WIVAST DECORATION
MATERIAL CO., LTD

Wivast Decoration Material Co., Ltd is a leading manufacturer of aluminum ceiling systems and aluminum wall panels (indoor and outdoor). Founded in 2001, the company has a large number of high precision constant pressure rolling equipment, large spraying automatic production lines and advanced powder imported production lines at its production plant in Dongbian Automobile Parts Industrial Park, Xiaotang, Shishan Town, Nanhai District, Foshan City, Guangdong Province, China.

Since its founding, Wivast has been committed to the quality of strict control, strict implementation of 1809001: 2000 international quality management system, and through certification, to provide customers with high quality, excellent cost-effective and competitive products. The company has won a number of awards such as the "the China Brand Name", "quality trustworthy product", "excellent Chinese green products", "China building materials construction recommend products" and so on.

After years of efforts to expand the market, the company's products are sold throughout the country to large- and medium-sized cities. Exports of product sales to Southeast Asian countries, from the initial production of 2010, have also increased to one million. Over the years, Wivast has been involved in several key projects in China such as Beijing Xidan Saite Shopping Center, Beijing Haidian Theater, Shanghai Gymnasium and Kunming Airport, etc.

For more information, visit <http://en.fsyucheng.com>.



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MOSAIC TILES | BISAZZA

This year Bisazza interprets spring by proposing - for its interiors - fresh mosaic patterns with innovative floral designs by Tricia Guild, esteemed designer, creative director and founder of Designers Guild, a leading British company, internationally renowned for their distinctive designs for fabrics, wall coverings and a whole collection of home accessories.

This working partnership launched a singular, highly expressive range of decorative products, featuring an explosion of shimmering, sophisticated patterns, bringing a poetic, refined aesthetic to the collection.

Strewn with a wealth of opulently-sized flowers in delicate hues, the 'Alexandria' pattern transforms a wall into an English garden in full bloom. In this gorgeous mural made of six modules, the original, hand-painted floral fabric motifs are reinterpreted in a contemporary spirit. A cascade of flowers emerges from a background of shaded greys; the whole rendered with such precision and delicacy as to transform the pattern into a fresco.

Larger than life acanthus leaves are the sole motif in 'Ardassa', creating an atmosphere of great effect, reminiscent of an exotic oasis of sophisticated beauty. The pattern is available in two versions: one in shades of ivory-white for a contemporary look and the other in emerald green, for a more classic style.

'Charlottenberg' is also botanically-inspired. Here, a series of eloquent peonies, interpreted in unique shades of blue and grey, unfold against a white background. A production that reveals its contemporary spirit in the bold dimensions and colour choices of the designs, while maintaining its romantic appeal.



Charlottenberg One, Bisazza glass mosaic pattern, 10x10 mm tiles. Design Tricia Guild. Photo: © Bisazza



Above: Charlottenberg, Bisazza glass mosaic pattern, 10x10 mm tiles. Design Tricia Guild. Photo: © Bisazza



Left: Alexandria, Bisazza glass mosaic pattern, 10x10 mm tiles. Design Tricia Guild. Photo: © Bisazza

In the 'Charlottenberg One' pattern, the same floral motif is re-proposed as the single decorative element against a solid colour background, heralding a new means of personalising one's interior spaces.

In addition to expressing the unique and unparalleled creativity that consistently distinguishes the British designer, the iconic patterns by Tricia Guild - interpreted in mosaic - also reveal the exquisite artistic and qualitative values inherent to the Bisazza collections.

"I am delighted that Bisazza have chosen to translate some of our iconic designs into their stunning mosaic works of art. Their inimitable expertise is evident in their interpretation of our patterns and they have captured the hand painted subtleties of the originals in a truly extraordinary way. I am excited and thrilled in equal measure by the results," said Tricia Guild.

For more information, visit www.bisazza.com.



Ardassa, Bisazza glass mosaic pattern, 20x20 mm tiles. Design Tricia Guild. Available in Emerald and Ivory versions. Photo: © Bisazza

NATURAL STONE TILES AND PAVERS | AMBER TILES

Amber Tiles, one of Australia's leading tile suppliers, has launched a stylish new range of natural stone tiles and pavers, called Travertine, to bring a new element of elegance and luxury to both residential and commercial projects. With natural stone, each tile is fashioned by nature, with a slightly distressed and unique look to give it a timeless appeal. The range is extremely durable and includes both Trojan Edge and Honed Travertine. The tiles come in three different finishes - including Trojan edge, Honed and filled and Honed and unfilled. The Travertine tile is relatively low maintenance once sealed and can be easily suited to both interior and exterior architectural settings, opening up a range of interior and exterior design possibilities.

Travertine's design echoes the latest trends towards organic and textured modern interiors. Seven warm, earthy tones in a neutral palette, including Trojan Edge Platinum, Mediterranean Blend, Ancient Mix, Classic, Crema Grigio and Honed Finish in Sabbia and Classic, recreate an atmosphere of ancient stone floors. Trojan Edge Travertine also offers a stylish French pattern range, presenting the latest trend in stone design. The layout involves interlocking various sizes of tiles in a random pattern, and is available in a massive 900x600mm in addition to the standard sizes.

For those looking for an economical way to add value to their property by beginning or upgrading their alfresco lifestyle, the Travertine range is also perfect for achieving a seamless flow of indoor to outdoor living.

Amber Tiles have been supplying tiles for 41 years with a great wealth of industry knowledge behind the company. Amber's range of indoor and outdoor wall and flooring tiles include bathroom tiles, natural stone floor tiles, porcelain floor and wall tiles, clay and concrete pavers, stone and pool pavers, feature mosaics, cladding and more.

For more information, visit www.ambertiles.com.au.



CONCEALED SLIDING DOOR SYSTEM | SLIDE & HIDE SYSTEM (S) PTE LTD

SLIDEHIDE is a factory prefabricated 3-D steel casing that integrates with a self-supporting tracking system to hide or conceal a sliding door inside the wall, thereby giving you an illusion that there isn't any door. SLIDEHIDE is the perfect solution in overcoming a tight space room layout design.

The patented 3-D casing is designed to replace a 100mm thick brickwall or a dry wall construction. Plastering, waterproofing material and wall tiles (if any) covering the adjacent wall will also cover the casing. Electrical switches/cables and water pipes can be fixed directly onto the casing surface and these fixtures can be embedded inside the finishes.

Designed and manufactured by a Singapore-based company since 1995, SLIDE & HIDE System (S) Pte Ltd is a leading manufacturer of SLIDEHIDE, a concealed sliding door system.

Over the years, the brand SLIDEHIDE had become well accepted by the real estate industry as a top-quality concealed sliding door system. SLIDEHIDE had been installed in Singapore, Malaysia, China, Japan, Dubai, Sri Lanka and other Asian countries.

SLIDE & HIDE System (S) Pte Ltd offers developers, architects and interior designers a wide range of SLIDEHIDE models to choose from for both wet and dry wall construction method, thus, allowing SLIDEHIDE to be widely used in applications ranging from bathroom, kitchen, walk-in wardrobe, lift lobby, etc.

With so many benefits and advantages, SLIDEHIDE offers a practical and affordable tight space solution for all residential, hotel and commercial projects.



For more information, please contact the company at tel (+65) 6369 998, fax (+65) 6369 9977 or email enquiry@slidehide.com.sg. You can also visit the website www.slidehide.com.sg.

INSULATION PRODUCTS | SUPERLON WORLDWIDE SDN BHD

Superlon Worldwide Sdn Bhd has been manufacturing NBR insulation for more than 25 years and has distributed its product to over 70 countries around the world from its plant in Malaysia. Superlon insulation has two main types, sheet and tubes. Both products cater from simple residential air conditioning systems to ducting lines in major projects. Superlon insulation can also be used in industrial cooling systems where machines need to be cooled and maintained at certain temperature levels. Superlon insulation is not just focused on thermal performance, it also emphasises on fire resistance and smoke. Superlon has achieved and acquired many standards and approvals around the world, to ensure that wherever Superlon insulation is used both optimum thermal and fire performance is provided simultaneously.

Conserving energy is becoming a trend where more and more people are conscious about not just saving electricity bills but also preserving mother earth. Countries in Southeast Asia, which have a tropical climate all year long have a tendency to use air-conditioning for the majority of the year. Not just day time but also night time, thus the energy that is consumed and needed is quite significant compared to other parts of the world. Most users do not understand the importance of insulation in an air conditioning system. People simply switch it on when it is needed and then switch it off without giving much thought on what function the insulation is actually providing. "Insulation helps sustain to keep the desired temperature settings cool, it also preserves and prolongs the lifespan of the other components in an air conditioning system. If insulation is used and installed incorrectly, it can have the reverse effect," said Han Liu, an executive director of Superlon Worldwide.

For more information, visit www.superlon.com.my.



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LIGHTS | PENTAIR

Pentair Swimming Pools Equipment & Accessories has launched dramatic, energy saving spa lights called IntelliBrite® in Singapore.

PENTAIR IntelliBrite® 5g white, colour changing and IntelliBrite® spa lights are the most energy efficient ways to create incredibly beautiful and brilliant light shows that will mesmerize you and your guests and assure the purest illumination of your pool.

5g White: Pure white lightning

The IntelliBrite® LED lights set new standards for lighting quality, distribution and saturation. With an equivalent light output equal to a 300, 400 and 500 watt incandescent light, the IntelliBrite® 5g white LED enhances the beauty of water features, residential and commercial pools.



The IntelliBrite® lights at night.

Colour: A virtually endless range of dramatic underwater lighting effects

A combination of individual coloured LEDs are mixed and matched to achieve a full spectrum of vibrant colours. These LED combinations have a variety of speeds and different sequences of colour to create an incredible range of stunning visual effects.



The IntelliBrite® spa light



The IntelliBrite® LED landscape light



The IntelliBrite® Controller

Landscape: showcase your landscape with captivating colour-changing lighting

The IntelliBrite® LED landscape lights are the energy-efficient way to add a variety of coloured lighting effects to your backyard retreat. With a selection of 10 fixed colours and 14 automated lights shows, from mellow to bright and energetic to match the occasion or season of the year, the IntelliBrite® LED landscape adds beauty, safety and security to your property.

Easier to use with a controller

With the IntelliBrite® Controller you can now select your favourite light show with the flip of a switch. You can also coordinate IntelliBrite® pool, spa and landscape lights and create a dazzling, synchronized light show. To coordinate or complement the lighting effects, you can also synchronize the IntelliBrite® 5g LED pool and Spa lights with the landscape light, MagicStream® Laminars and Colorcascade® LED light Bubblers.

Eco-Select Brand: longer lasting and more energy efficient

LED (Light Emitting Diode) pool and spa lights are the most energy efficient pool and spa lighting option available. That's why IntelliBrite® 5g white LED lights are an Eco Select brand product. The Eco Select brand identifies Pentair's "greenest" and most efficient equipment choices. These products

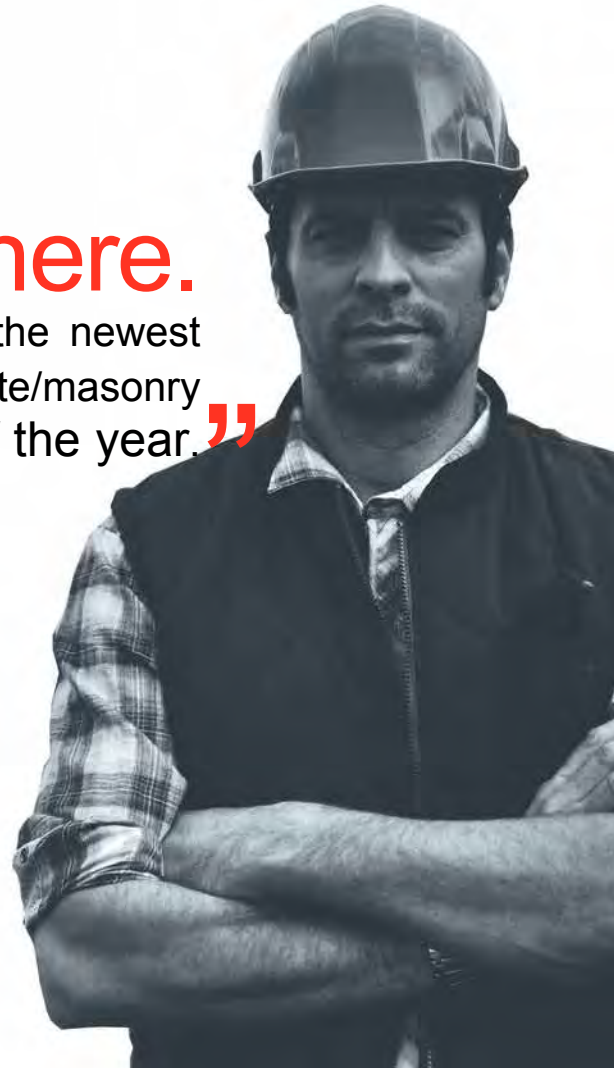
save energy, conserve water, eliminate noise, or otherwise contribute to a more environmentally responsible equipment system.

The IntelliBrite® 5g is the brightest and most efficient underwater LED light available using 89 percent less energy than traditional incandescent and halogen pool lights and only 23 watts for the same light output compared to 47 watts for traditional lights. Durable, with a solid technology, the IntelliBrite® 5g, unlike many LED pool lights continues to work even if a single LED goes out.

As a global leader in pool and spa equipment manufacturing, Pentair strives to provide greener choices for its customers. The company hopes you will join them in embracing more eco-friendly pools by choosing Eco Select branded products for your swimming pool.

For more information, contact Pentair Water Quality Systems at tel (+65) 6768 5922, e-mail Sophie.Bedu@Pentair.com or visit www.pentairpool.com.

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FFT FLEX GREEN AUTOMATIC FOLDING DOOR | DORMA

DORMA has claimed to become the first in the world to offer an automatic folding door with a maximum opening width of up to 2.4 metres.



DORMA's new generation of folding doors in the form of the FFT FLEX Green offers a truly great solution, especially in applications where the architecture is restrictive, yet a wide door opening is still desired. A passage clearance of up to 2.4 metres can be achieved where the solution is a synchronized bi-parting doorset with two folding panel pairs left and right. Similarly, unilateral-opening doorsets create a clear opening width of between 800 mm and 1.2 metres. The system also comes with strong credentials in terms of energy-efficient building and user safety. The panels consist of aluminum frames with thermal-break profiles and sealed insulation glass units. The especially good thermal transmittance values thus achieved mean these doorsets are also suitable for use in facades. And here DORMA provides planning support in the form of certified, individually computed U-values.



There is also a FFT FLEX Green model approved according to EN 16005 / DIN 18650 for emergency escape routes. Whatever the model, the system is intrinsically safe in performing its normal daily operations: A round profile at the secondary closing edge of the panels maintains contact across the gap to the lateral brush seals whatever the panel position, eliminating any crush hazard. A certificate confirming the performance characteristics in accordance with EN 16361 for powered doors is also available. The motor incorporated in this folding door system is designed for quiet yet especially dynamic operation and offers effective response to increasing wind loads. There is a backup battery pack to keep the system working in the event of a power failure, with combination sensors (motion detectors + infrared curtain) from the DORMA Pro Secure Opti Combi series rounding off the holistically integrated system.

The FFT FLEX Green can be face-fixed to the wall or side-fixed within passage ways and corridors. To ensure stumble-free access whatever the fixing method employed, the slender stainless steel floor rail, included to add stability to particularly wide panels, is recessed for concealment. With various anodized finishes and powder coatings in RAL colours, these doorsets will blend beautifully with any interior design or facade.

For more information, contact Frank Ho of DORMA Far East Pte Ltd at tel (+65) 64151741, e-mail frank.ho@dorma.com or visit www.dorma.com.sg.



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The September/October 2015 issue of Southeast Asia Building

is dedicated to sustainable architecture, green building technology and eco-friendly building products. And we are looking for article contributions from you! If you wish to submit your project or product story for our consideration in this issue, you can write to the editor at seab@tradelinkmedia.com.sg

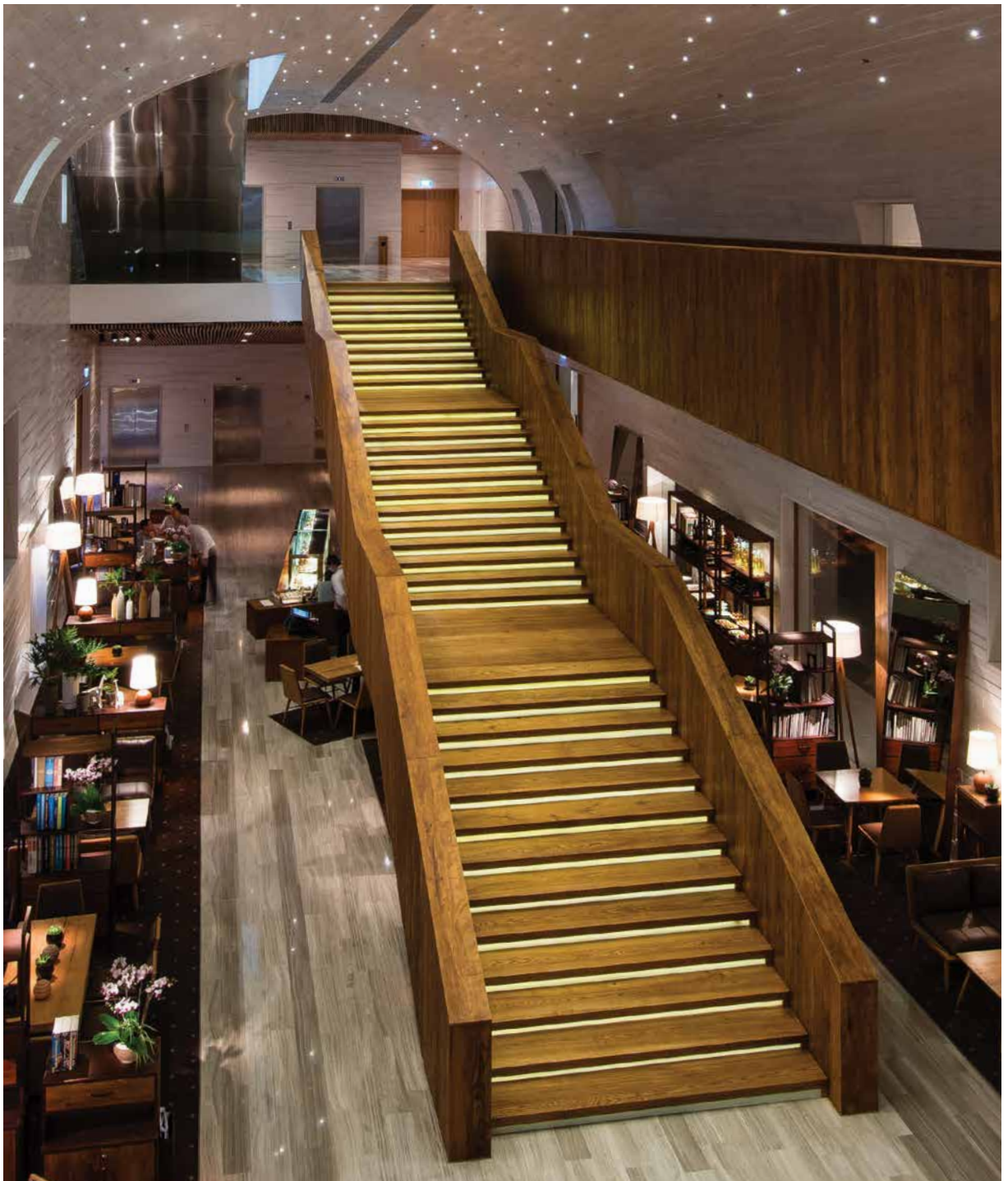
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DORMA revolving doors – the thermal barrier



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