

ARCHITECTURE • INTERIOR DESIGN • LANDSCAPING • M.E.P. SYSTEMS

March / April 2021

# SEAB

SOUTHEAST ASIA BUILDING



## Jakob Factory

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

**PROJECTS** Industrial Buildings  
**TRENDS** Drones in Architecture  
**PLUS** Mechanical, Electrical & Plumbing Systems Industry News

ISSN 2345-7066



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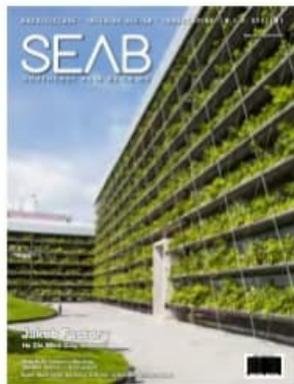
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Cover design by Fawzeeah Yamin

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Southeast Asia Building is available free-of-charge to applicants in the building industry who meet the publication's terms of control. For applicants who do not qualify for free subscription, copies will be made available, subject to acceptance by the publisher, for a subscription fee, which varies according to the country of residence in the following manner:

### Annual Subscription

Airmail: America/Europe – S\$185, Japan, Australia, New Zealand – S\$185, Middle East – \$185, Asia – S\$155, Malaysia / Brunei – S\$105  
Surface mail: Singapore – S\$60  
(incl 7% GST Reg No: M2-0108708-2)

Printed in Singapore by Fuisland Offset Printing (S) Pte Ltd  
MCI (P) 071/07/2020 KDN No: 1560 (1270) - (6)

ISSN 2345-7066 (Print) and ISSN 2345-7074 (E-periodical)

### Trade Link Media Pte Ltd also publishes:

- Bathroom + Kitchen Today
- Lighting Today
- Security Solutions Today
- Southeast Asia Construction

### SOUTHEAST ASIA BUILDING is published bi-monthly by:

Trade Link Media Pte Ltd, 101 Lorong 23, Geylang, #06-04, Prosper House, Singapore 388399  
Tel: +65 6842-2580 Fax: +65 6842 2581  
Editorial e-mail: [seab@tradelinkmedia.com.sg](mailto:seab@tradelinkmedia.com.sg)  
Website: [www.tradelinkmedia.com.sg](http://www.tradelinkmedia.com.sg)  
Co. Reg. no: 199204277X

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## Two Aedas projects recognised at the CTBUH Annual Awards

**Hong Kong** – Aedas received two Award of Excellence for the Best Tall Building categories at the CTBUH Annual Awards this year. They are:

**1. SHUIBEI International Center, Shenzhen, China** (by Global Design Principal Dr. Andy Wen)

### Best Tall Building (100–199 metres) category

Located in China's jewelry trade and processing hub in Luohu, Shenzhen, SHUIBEI International Center is a high-rise landmark that stands 210-metre tall.

The project integrates Grade-A offices, a jewelry and lifestyle shopping center, food and beverages, entertainment and various other functions.

Inspired by traditional Chinese bamboos to symbolise prosperity, the podium adopts contours of a wide bamboo leaf and wraps around the commercial portion of the building with a curved outline and LED screen. The design incorporates public space on multiple levels, installing sky gardens, landscaped outdoor staircases and greenscaped rooftop podiums to accommodate work and recreational

activities. Extensive greenery is employed as a way to blend into the surrounding neighbourhood and elevate the urban landscape.

**2. Hengqin International Financial Center (IFC), Zhuhai, China** (by Chairman and Global Design Principal Keith Griffiths and Global Design Principal Dr. Andy Wen)

### Best Tall Building (300–399 metres) category

Aedas-designed Hengqin International Financial Center (IFC) stands 339-metres high at the estuary of the Pearl River, overlooking Macau across the water. Located in the propitious Hengqin Island, a future financial district connecting cities in the Greater Bay Area, the development is part of the economic force highlighted in China's latest national development strategies.

The design of the property is inspired by the famous painting 'Nine Dragons', dating from the Southern Song Dynasty. From outside in, the tower ascends from the ground up in a spiraling fashion, invoking the Chinese flood dragon myth as a metaphor for the dignity and grandeur of the region. To symbolise the converging of talents at this new metropolis, the design also creates an ingenious illusion of four towers merging into one. Comprised of Grade-A office, conference and exhibition amenities, commercial apartments and retail space; the building inexorably expresses immense growth, and embodies the district's prosperity.



Shuibei International Centre.  
Photo by CreatAR.



Hengqin International Financial Center (IFC).  
Photo by CreatAR.

## Envisage crafts a comfortable and healthy office for cement company

**Gurugram, India** – Today, the definition and function of an office has evolved beyond the traditional standards and wants of a workplace. Amidst this milieu, Office 819 stands out as a space where dynamic and focused design intervention crafts an office for comfort and a healthy work environment.

Office 819 is designed for a company that is invested in

the production of cement, and is situated within a larger office complex in Gurugram. A concise design brief called for a workplace that is clean, minimal and most importantly, one that would encourage the teams' physical and emotional well-being. An additional challenge was to create a space to host people and conduct meetings, as the majority of their



Photo: © Suryan and Dang

operations were conducted outside of India and the office therefore, had to be a place to have meetings as well as carry out their daily work. This allowed for the creation of a targeted design intervention with all functionalities, while adding a touch of exuberance to the overall space.

Upon entry, the viewer is greeted with a contemporary reception that is created with a pinch of Art Deco elements, immediately endowing the space with a sense of elegance. The material palette is a balanced mix of textures with fabric, wood, metal and marble used with great adroitness. The pendant lights with metal embellishments bring forth a

feeling of warmth, while the metallic backdrop and the use of marble on the floor add to the luxurious aesthetic. Despite a relatively compact space, the clean layout creates a sense of spaciousness for the inhabitants with two cabins at the back of the reception lobby, and the master cabin and workstations flanking it on the right.

The executive cabins have been designed with simplicity with an executive table, file storage and minimal ornamentation. A glass partition provides for privacy of conversation while keeping the space open, wherein the large casement window provides ample natural light. The master cabin is designed in a similar fashion, albeit with more space and with the addition of recessed shelves, discussion tables and a sofa. This results in the space acting as a conference room of its own, enabling a professional, yet relaxing environment to conduct business. The colour palette for the cabins as well as for the rest of the space is muted and neutral, ensuring that the space remains unassuming and inviting, while being modern and elegant.

As the core operations of the company take place outside of India, the number of office-goers is limited. Hence only a limited number of workstations have been augmented within the space, with integrated storage units as well as an attached pantry, in order to creatively optimise every inch of space available.

Office 819 is a space that is purposefully crafted with luxury and usability, with its spatial volumes speaking a bespoke design language in order to craft a professional, yet welcoming environment.

## Conexus Studio designs BBC Studios and BBC Global News office in Singapore

**Singapore** – As Singapore settles into Phase 3 of reopening, staff working in the country's BBC outposts can look forward to returning to a new workplace transformed in ways that go much deeper than aesthetics.

Located at 18 Robinson, a mixed-development complex in the city's Central Business District, the new joint office for BBC Studios and BBC Global News was completed in late 2020, after the city's lockdown during the height of the Coronavirus pandemic.

Designed and built in partnership with Conexus Studio, the new 6,491 square feet office is slightly bigger – just 614 square feet – than its previous location a stone's throw away at Springleaf Tower. Yet the space represents a significant move for the two BBC operations in Singapore, shifting away from a fixed desk setup towards a more agile one, as part of the company's move to modernise its workplace. The new office also reflects the company's goal of putting employee experience first, by delighting its users while fostering community and productivity.

With these objectives in mind, Conexus Studio developed a series of settings that supported work-style flexibility and kept people and ideas flowing freely across a high-performing



Photo: © Conexus Studio

workplace. "A strategic mix of formal and informal, and individual and group working spaces in turn inspire, rejuvenate, as well as balance personal productivity with collaboration," explains Conexus Studios' Design Director Aviruth Trungetchart.