



# Skyscrapers on Four Continents Named the World's "Best Tall Buildings" for 2008 by the Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat

'Best Tall Building Overall' to be announced at November Awards Ceremony; 'Lifetime Achievement' winners Cesar Pelli and William F. Baker also to be lauded

## 2008 Best Tall Building Awards

### Americas

The New York Times Building  
New York, USA

### Europe

51 Lime Street  
London, UK

### Middle East/Africa

Bahrain World Trade Center  
Manama, Bahrain

### Asia/Australasia

Shanghai World Financial Center

Shanghai, China

### Best Overall

Chosen from the above regional winners, and to be announced on the night of the awards dinner on November 20, 2008

## Lifetime Achievement Awards

### Lynn S. Beedle Award

Cesar Pelli, Pelli Clarke Pelli

### Fazlur Rahman Khan Medal

William F. Baker, SOM

**CHICAGO - August 29, 2008** - The Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH) today announces the winners of its annual 'Best Tall Building' awards for 2008, recognizing one outstanding tall building from each of four geographical regions: the Americas, Europe, Middle East/Africa, and Asia/Australia. This year's winners are:

- The New York Times Building, New York
- 51 Lime Street, London
- Bahrain World Trade Center, Manama
- Shanghai World Financial Center, Shanghai

One of these four will be named 'Best Tall Building Overall' at CTBUH's November awards dinner. Recipients must possess seamless integration of architectural form, structure, building systems, sustainable design strategies, and life safety for its occupants. Additionally, winning buildings must exhibit sustainable qualities at a broad level in order to preserve urban quality of life into the future.

"Each of these breathtaking structures achieves an exceptionally high standard of excellence and quality in its realization of built form," said Tim Johnson, CTBUH Awards Committee Chairman. "They are models of innovation and creativity, and, given the environmentally responsible elements incorporated into their construction and maintenance, they are significant assets to their respective urban landscapes."

The CTBUH also announces the winners of its two 'Lifetime Achievement' Awards. This year's recipient of the Lynn S. Beedle Award will be Cesar Pelli of Pelli Clarke Pelli Architects. The Lynn S. Beedle Award recognizes an individual who has made extraordinary contributions to the advancement of tall buildings and the urban environment during his or her professional career.

This year's recipient of the The Fazlur Rahman Khan Medal will be William F. Baker of SOM. The Fazlur Rahman Khan Medal recognizes an individual for his or her demonstrated excellence in design and/or research that has made a significant contribution to a discipline(s) for the design of tall buildings and the built urban environment.

The awards will be presented at the 2008 CTBUH Awards Dinner to be held Thursday 20th November at the architecturally significant Crown Hall, Illinois Institute of Technology, Chicago, from 6 – 10pm.

## About the CTBUH

The Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat, based at the Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago, is an international organization sponsored by architecture, engineering, planning, and construction professionals, designed to facilitate exchanges among those involved in all aspects of the planning, design, construction and operation of tall buildings.

The CTBUH is the world's leading body in the field of tall buildings, and the recognized source of information on tall buildings internationally. It is the arbiter of tall building height, determiner of the title of 'The World's Tallest Building' and maintains a significant database of built, under construction and proposed tall building. For more information contact: [info@ctbuh.org](mailto:info@ctbuh.org)

[www.ctbuh.org](http://www.ctbuh.org)



# The Winners:

## Best Tall Building Award Americas



**The New York Times Building**  
New York City, USA  
*Renzo Piano Building Workshop / FXFOWLE Architects*

*"This building takes the box to a new level. The articulation of the facade is beautiful. This is the 21st century Seagram Building."* - Awards Jury Statement

## Best Tall Building Award Asia/Australasia



**Shanghai World Financial Center**  
Shanghai, China  
*Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates PC*

*"One of the tallest buildings in the world, it speaks to where tall building design is now....the building's structure is nothing short of genius."* - Awards Jury Statement

## Best Tall Building Award Europe



**51 Lime Street**  
London, UK  
*Foster + Partners*

*"A project that integrates well with the urban context both historic and modern. I appreciate its sensitivity to the environment through the buildings 'serrated' exterior that simultaneously shades from the sun and let's views out."* - Awards Jury Statement

## Best Tall Building Award Middle East/Africa



**Bahrain World Trade Center**  
Manama, Bahrain  
*Atkins*

*"The Bahrain World Trade Center project is iconic, environmental, and a bit quirky...it gives a very strong visual nod toward sustainability."* - Awards Jury Statement

## Lynn S. Beedle Lifetime Achievement Award



**Cesar Pelli**, has a long and distinguished history designing tall buildings. Since establishing his firm, Cesar Pelli and Associates, in New Haven, CT in 1977, he has, and continues to create, landmark towers across the globe. His work includes the International Finance Center in Hong Kong, the Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur (the tallest building in the world from 1998-2004) and the Transbay Transit Center and Tower in San Francisco, currently in design.

## Fazlur Rahman Khan Medal



**Bill Baker**, is the partner in charge of Structural and Civil Engineering for the Chicago and London offices of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP (SOM). Since he joined the firm in 1981, his work has encompassed a wide range of engineering projects, from the structural systems of some of the world's tallest buildings- including the next world's tallest, the Burj Dubai, currently under construction- to long span roofs, such as the 180 meter column-free KAL Hanger in Seoul.