



LERCH BATES

Building Insight



NEWS RELEASE

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**LERCH BATES SELECTED TO DESIGN FAÇADE ACCESS SYSTEM FOR
ONE OF THE FUTURE TALLEST BUILDINGS IN THE WORLD**
Suzhou Zhongnan Center to Be the Tallest Building Outside of the Middle East

DENVER, Nov. 13, 2013 – Suzhou, a city in the Jiangsu province in eastern China adjacent to the Shanghai municipality, will soon be home to the tallest building in the world constructed outside of Saudi Arabia or United Arab Emirates. [Lerch Bates](#), an international consulting firm for vertical transportation, façade access and materials management, has been awarded a contract to design the exterior building maintenance equipment system for China’s future tallest building.

Suzhou Zhongnan Center will soar to over 2,296 feet (700 meters) and will be built just west of Jinji Lake in Suzhou Industrial Park. When completed, the 138-floor supertall high-rise will eclipse the under-construction Shanghai Tower as the tallest building outside of the Middle East. Shanghai Tower is expected to be completed next year and will feature 121 floors with a maximum height of 2,073 feet (631 meters). The 2,717-foot (828-meter) Burj Khalifa in Dubai, United Arab Emirates is the world’s current tallest building. The 3,280-foot (999-meter) Kingdom Tower, under construction in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, will claim the world’s tallest crown when it is planned to be complete in 2019.

Lerch Bates has built a reputation as a worldwide leader in the design of complex façade access systems. The firm’s façade access consultants continually make benchmarks in innovation when designing exterior building maintenance equipment systems. The systems enable clients to safely access all exterior facades of their buildings for window cleaning and other exterior maintenance. Lerch Bates has designed façade access systems for exceptional buildings around the world including the 2,717-foot (828-meter) Burj Khalifa in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 1,667-foot (508-meter) Taipei 101 in Taipei, Taiwan, the 1,483-foot (452-meter) Petronas Towers in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia and the 1,476-foot (450-meter) Nanjing Greenland Financial Center in Nanjing, China.

“Suzhou Zhongnan Center will instantly become one of the most recognized buildings in the world for its beautiful design and extraordinary height when it’s completed,” said [Jeff Marsh, Lerch Bates’ vice president of business development and marketing](#). “No other country in the world is experiencing such an enormous high-rise construction boom as China and Lerch Bates is thankful to be a part of many of the country’s most high profile construction projects.”

Suzhou Zhongnan Center is being constructed by Zhejiang Zhongnan Construction Group Co., Ltd. and will feature Class A office space, a five-star hotel and residential units.





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Lerch Bates recently announced its involvement with other landmark high-rise projects in China. The firm made an announcement last week that it was selected to design the vertical and horizontal transportation systems for a colossal redevelopment project in Qingdao. The Haitian Center, to be built on the grounds of the former famed Haitian Hotel, is a massive mixed-used development designed by Archilier Architecture that will include three high-rise towers with the tallest rising 1,210 feet (368 meters) high with spectacular views of the Yellow Sea. The project will feature a 450-room five-star hotel, 235-room 6-star hotel, Class A office space, business club, high-end residential units, luxury brand retail stores and a vast convention center.

Lerch Bates announced on Oct. 30 that it was chosen to design the façade access system for the \$3 billion (USD) China Resources Headquarters tower in Shenzhen. The high-rise tower will be more than 1,300 feet (400 meters) tall and is expected to be the city's second tallest skyscraper when it is completed in 2016. Designed by international architectural firm KPF, the structure will house a new mainland headquarters for China Resources and will resemble a bamboo chute with a diagrid skin. The China Resources Headquarters tower is the focal point of the Shenzhen Bay Comprehensive Development Project in the city's Nanshan District. The development project covers more than 281,000 square feet (26.105 m²) and also will include a cluster of modern office, hotel and residential buildings, a new headquarters for China Resources subsidiary Vanguard and a massive shopping mall. Construction of the project began in October 2012.

ABOUT LERCH BATES

For more than 65 years, with elevator consulting as its cornerstone, Lerch Bates has advised architects, developers, building investors, owners and managers on the design, sustainability and continuous use of a wide spectrum of building systems for any size or type of building. Lerch Bates Inc., headquartered in metropolitan Denver, Colo., is an international consulting services firm with offices throughout North America, Europe, Asia, the Middle East and India. Lerch Bates operates Lerch Bates Asia Pacific Limited, a holding company in Hong Kong and Lerch Bates (China) Limited, a Wholly Foreign-Owned Enterprise (WFOE) in Shanghai, China. For more information, visit lerchbates.com.

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