

Excellence Houai “Bamboo Tower” Shenzhen, China

The client, Excellence Group, the largest property developer in the Chinese city of Shenzhen’s Central Business District, requested a tower of 90,000 m² and 220 m high with a commercial and office program.

The floor plan of the “Bamboo tower” is like a “soft square”. Each floor is slightly different in shape from the next, but has approximately the same surface area. The tower gives the impression of “rotating”.

Structural pillars are perimetral, touching the interior and exterior façade. In section they are slightly arched. This is obtained by a polygonal module system: (segments of straight pillars every floor).

External vertical glass supports are clad in steel and they look like “bamboo” from a distance.

In Benedetta Tagliabue’s words: “This project has a strong iconic component and responds to a peculiar geometry, which reflects an effect of torsion and is distantly inspired by the apparent movement of the wicker panels of the Spanish Pavilion in Shanghai.”

EMBT proposed materials like bamboo or ceramic, however the developer is more inclined towards a Steel and glass combination. Therefore, EMBT have experimented with designs which take inspiration from the bamboo and represent it through the clients preferred materials.

Client:	Shen Zhen Excellence Kang He Investment and Development Pty. Ltd
Location:	Shenzhen, China
Date:	2010
Typology:	Commercial Office
Architect:	Benedetta Tagliabue
Project directors:	Makoto Fukuda
Design team:	Daniel Rosselló, Arch.; Vaiva Simoliunaite, Arch.; Qiwei Hu, Arch.; Iker Alzola, Arch.; Jack O’Kelly, Arch.; Diego Javier Parra; Adria Clapés Nicolau; Artur Tudela Conde; Ana Redondo; David Mas Trigueros; Javier Rivero Carnota, David Ricardo Ramirez; Fabian Vargas; Maria Francesca Origa, Arch.; Mattia Cappelletti, Arch.; Octavio Puente Castro; Susana Osés, Arch.; Thea Rudnicki;
Gross floor area:	90.000 sqm

