CITIC Tower

**Facts**
- **Official Name**: CITIC Tower
- **Other Names**: China Zun, Zhongguo Zun
- **Structure Type**: Building
- **Status**: COM
- **Country**: China
- **City**: Beijing
- **Street Address & Map**: Lot Z15 Guanghua Road, CBD Core, Chaoyang District
- **Postal Code**: 100026
- **Building Function**: office
- **Structural Material**: composite
  - Core: Concrete Encased Steel
  - Columns: Concrete Filled Steel
  - Floor Spanning: Steel
- **Energy Label**: LEED-CS Gold Precertification, China Certificate of Green Building Label - Three Star
- **Proposed**: 2012
- **Construction Start**: 2013
- **Completion**: 2018

**Companies Involved**
- **Owner/Developer**: CITIC HEYE Investment CO., LTD.
- **Architect**
  - Concept: TFP Farrells
  - Design: Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates
  - Architect of Record: Beijing Institute of Architectural Design
  - Peer Review: CITIC General Institute of Architectural Design & Research Co., Ltd.
- **Structural Engineer**
  - Design: Arup
  - Engineer of Record: Beijing Institute of Architectural Design
- **MEP Engineer**
  - Design: WSP
  - Engineer of Record: Beijing Institute of Architectural Design
- **Main Contractor**: China Construction Industrial & Energy Engineering Group Co., Ltd.; China Construction Third Engineering Bureau Co., Ltd.
- **Other Consultant**
  - Cost: China Construction Jingcheng Project Consultants; WT Partnership
  - Energy Concept: Azbil Control Solutions
  - Façade: ALT Limited
  - Façade Maintenance: Altitude Façade Access Consulting Pty Ltd
  - Fire: Arup
  - Landscape: Beijing Forestry University; LAUR Studio
  - LEED: EMSI
  - Lighting: Brandston Partnership, Inc.
  - Property Management: Beijing Zhongjibeishi; JLL
  - Sustainability: Qinghua University
  - Traffic: MVA Transportation, Planning & Management Consultants
  - Vertical Transportation: WSP
  - Way Finding: Rei Design & Planning
About CITIC Tower

CITIC Tower will be the flagship building of Beijing’s comprehensively planned 30-hectare central business district core.

The tower’s gently rising and curving form resembles an ancient Chinese ceremonial vessel, called the “zun.” The design concept is that of a transforming shell that gradually bends to create a dramatic form. This concept is also applied to other key elements of the tower, including the entrances, ground-floor lobby, and observation deck. At the base, the tower thrusts into the ground with massive corner supports, while the exterior shell is gently lifted up and stretched forward at the four sides. The design physically extends the lobby outward, forming dynamic drop-off spaces. At the top, the exterior envelope becomes more transparent at the observation deck and allows more visibility to the inner trumpet-shaped business center, which lights up at night, forming a beacon that will be visible throughout the city.

Compared to a typically straight or tapering supertall tower form, the concave tower profile offers more valuable prime-floor spaces and ample space for window washing, as well as other support systems, at the top of the tower. While the large top poses significant structural challenges, the larger base provides an opportunity for structural balance, formal contrast, and preferred core-to-perimeter distances.

In a city with the highest seismic fortification requirement of the major cities in China, the structural system was particularly sensitive to adjustments in the complex form of the building. Architects and engineers utilized parametric modeling to greatly expedite the design and coordination process to ensure that the design achieved both an iconic form and a solid structural system.

CITIC Tower

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Videos

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10 Apr 2019 – Wuren Wang, CITIC HEYE Investment CO., LTD.; Robert Whitlock, Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates

China Zun: Shaping the Future Skyline of Beijing
18 Sep 2014 – Weiping Shao, Beijing Institute of Architectural Design

Interview: Nengjun Luo
18 Sep 2014 – Vice General Manager, CITIC HEYE Investment CO., LTD.

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Best Tall Buildings 2019: Dominant Trends
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