Suzhou IFS

**Facts**

- **Official Name**: Suzhou IFS
- **Other Names**: The Wharf IFS, The Wharf Suzhou, Suzhou International Finance Square, Suzhou Supertower
- **Structure Type**: Building
- **Status**: Completed
- **Country**: China
- **City**: Suzhou
- **Street Address & Map**: Cuiyan Road
- **Postal Code**: 215021
- **Building Function**: hotel / office / serviced apartments
- **Structural Material**: composite
  - Core: Reinforced Concrete
  - Columns: Concrete Encased Steel
  - Floor Spanning: Steel
- **Proposed**: 2010
- **Construction Start**: 2012
- **Completion**: 2019

**Rankings**

- **Global Ranking**: #18 Tallest in the World
- **Regional Ranking**: #14 Tallest in Asia
- **National Ranking**: #10 Tallest in China
- **City Ranking**: #1 Tallest in Suzhou

**Companies Involved**

- **Owner**: Wharf China Estates Limited
- **Developer**: Suzhou Gao Long Property Development Co., Ltd.
- **Architect**
  - **Design**: Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates
  - **Architect of Record**: East China Architectural Design & Research Institute; Wong Tung & Partners
- **Structural Engineer**
  - **Design**: East China Architectural Design & Research Institute
  - **Engineer of Record**: East China Architectural Design & Research Institute
- **MEP Engineer**
  - **Design**: Parsons Brinckerhoff Consultants Private Limited
  - **Engineer of Record**: East China Architectural Design & Research Institute
- **Project Manager**: Suzhou Gao Long Property Development Co., Ltd.
- **Main Contractor**: China State Construction Engineering Corporation
- **Other Consultant**
  - **Damping**: RWDI
  - **Facade**: ALT Limited; Pirmasteelisa Group
  - **Facade Maintenance**: Lerch Bates
  - **Lighting**: Brandston Partnership, Inc.
  - **Quantity Surveyor**: Langdon & Seah
  - **Wind**: RWDI
  - **Material Supplier**
    - Ceiling: Armstrong World Industries
    - Cladding: PEC Group
    - Paint/Coating: Jotun
    - Steel: China Construction Steel Structure Corporation

**About Suzhou IFS**

Suzhou IFS aims to be a landmark on the city’s skyline in both form and function, drawing upon modern design practices to relay the area’s historical repertoire. Conceived as a mixed-use high-rise, the tower will incorporate a number of disparate programs, embodying a modern 21st century presence that is symbolically tied to the city’s identity.

Suzhou has long been a center of trade in China, and the building’s design pays tribute to this achievement. The tower’s form is reminiscent of
a fish, a symbol of prosperity and a nod to the role that water has played in the city’s history and identity—the city is surrounded by lakes and canals, causing it to become known as “Venice of the East.” As such, the tower is designed to interact with the surrounding bodies of water. The tower gestures towards Jinji Lake and opens out towards the water.

Soaring upwards, the curved “tail” of the fish subtly transitions from the scale of the lake and surrounding buildings to the top of the tower. More than an architectural embellishment, the flared base maximizes views of the water for the serviced apartments within and considerably lengthens its street frontage. At night, the tower cladding is articulated with glowing LEDs. These lights activate in a staggered timing that causes the building to shimmer in the evening skyline, much like the nearby lake.

The tower form and orientation, together with the articulation of the west façade, diminishes much of the heat and glare, while bringing more natural daylight to the internal spaces. The tower cladding is a high-performance glazing that significantly mitigates solar loading.

Suzhou IFS

CTBUH Initiatives

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22 Aug 2018 – CTBUH Research
CTBUH Signboard Unveiled at Suzhou IFS
20 Jun 2018 – Event Report
Top Company Rankings: The World’s 100 Tallest Buildings
13 Oct 2016 – CTBUH Research

Videos

Design Challenges of the 3 Tallest Buildings in North/ East/ South China
17 Sep 2014 – Kam Chuen (Vincent) Tse & Lung Wai (Herbert) Lam, Parsons Brinckerhoff

Research Papers

The New Structural Design Process of Supertall Buildings in China
1 Sep 2015 – International Journal of High-Rise Buildings Volume 4 Number 3
Design Challenges of the 3 Tallest Buildings in North/ East/ South China
16 Sep 2014 – CTBUH 2014 Shanghai Conference Proceedings

CTBUH Awards

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