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
Architecturally Topped Out
Country
China
City
Suzhou
Street Address & Map
Cuiyan Road
Building Function
hotel / office / serviced apartments
Structural Material
composite
- Core: Reinforced Concrete
- Columns: Concrete Encased Steel
- Floor Spanning: Steel
Construction Start
2012
Completion
2019

Companies Involved

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
MEP Engineer
- Design
Parsons Brinckerhoff Consultants Private Limited
- Engineer of Record
East China Architectural Design & Research Institute
Main Contractor
China State Construction Engineering Corporation
Other Consultant
- Damping
RWDI
- Façade
ALT Limited; PermaSteelisa Group
- Façade 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

Height: Occupied
406.4 m / 1,333 ft
Height: Architectural
450 m / 1,476 ft
Height: To Tip
450 m / 1,476 ft
Floors Above Ground
98
Floors Below Ground
5
Tower GFA
278,000 m² / 2,992,367 ft²
Suzhou IFS aims to be a landmark on the city’s skyline in both form and function, drawing upon modern design practices to belay 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.

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**Suzhou IFS**

**CTBUH Initiatives**

- **CTBUH Study Examines Tallest Buildings with Dampers**  
  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

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