

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Outstanding architecture: The year's best new skyscraper stands in Macau

Hamburg, October 29, 2019 – This year the world's most renowned architecture prize for skyscrapers, the Emporis Skyscraper Award, has been awarded to the *MGM Cotai* in Macau. The impressive \$3.4 billion casino-hotel-resort was designed by Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates and is located on the Cotai Strip, the heart of Macau's gambling industry, which today generates three times more revenue than the Las Vegas' casinos.

The *MGM Cotai* was picked as the winner by an international jury of experts from almost 500 skyscrapers located all around the world that have a minimum height of 100 meters and were completed in the previous calendar year. The long-running award is presented by Emporis, the leading provider of building information, for the 19<sup>th</sup> time this year.

When selecting the *MGM Cotai*, the jury was especially fascinated by its innovative design. The unique structure is based on the idea of nine Chinese jeweler's boxes stacked upon each other, forming two interconnected towers. The asymmetrical design and golden coloring create a dynamic and glamorous appearance, which fits the atmosphere of Macau. „*The unusual shape and color scheme of the building immediately catches the eye. The skyscraper does not fall in line with the typical expectations for high-rise architecture in any way*“, says Daniel Schuldt, Emporis' managing director.

The *MGM Cotai* also offers a 200,000 square-foot casino as well as the "Spectacle", a multifunctional area with the world's largest free-span, grid-shaped glass roof. For architects Kohn Pedersen Fox it is the second win in a row, having also designed last year's winner: The *Lotte World Tower* in Seoul.

#### Emporis Skyscraper Award 2018

#	Building Name	City, Country	Height	Stories	Architect(s)
1.	MGM Cotai	Macau, China	495 ft	35	Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates; Wong Tung & Partners Limited
2.	La Marseillaise	Marseille, France	443 ft	31	Ateliers Jean Nouvel; Tangram Architects
3.	52 Lime Street	London, UK	624 ft	39	Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates
4.	Nan Shan Plaza	Taipei, Taiwan	892 ft	48	Mitsubishi Jisho Sekkei Inc.; Archasia Design Group
5.	1144 Fifteenth	Denver, USA	603 ft	40	Pickard Chilton Architects, Inc.; Kendall/Heaton Associates Inc.
6.	Monde	Toronto, Canada	492 ft	44	Moshe Safdie & Associates; Quadrangle Architects Ltd.
7.	Vincom Landmark 81	Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam	1,513 ft	81	Atkins China Limited
8.	ARO	New York, USA	738 ft	62	CetraRuddy, Inc.
9.	China Zun	Beijing, China	1,732 ft	108	Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates; TFP Farrells Limited; Beijing Institute of Architectural Design
10.	414 Light Street	Baltimore, USA	500 ft	44	Solomon Cordwell Buenz

Source: [www.emporis.com](http://www.emporis.com)

The second place goes to *La Marseillaise* in Marseille, designed by French architect Jean Nouvel. It impressed the jury with its ecological construction features and its extraordinary facade which is painted in 30 different colors reflecting the diversity of the city. Moreover, it is fitted with awnings for sun protection, giving the tower a unique appearance that sets it apart from the usual smooth facades that often dominate modern skyscraper architecture. An exceptional component of the building from an ecological point of view is the unconventional air conditioning system. It is connected to a seawater cycle, making it possible to cool the tower almost without additional electricity consumption by using cold water from the sea.

The third place goes to *52 Lime Street*, located in the heart of London. What makes the skyscraper special is its clear and narrow geometric shape and the reflective facade, that give the building the look of a sharp knife and earned it the nickname "The Scalpel". In addition to its shape, the skyscraper also impresses with its sustainability. For example, water consumption is 45% lower than in comparable buildings and energy consumption has also been significantly reduced, earning *52 Lime Street* an "excellent" rating under the BREEAM sustainability standard.

This year's results show once again that height is not everything when it comes to skyscrapers. Instead, the top three buildings mainly scored points for their innovative design ideas and sustainable construction. Europe also is strongly represented in this year's list, clearly continuing the general trend of Europe catching up with North America and Asia, the current leaders in skyscraper construction.

### **Download Images of the Top Ten**

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### **About Emporis**

Emporis is a leading database of information about building and construction projects, based in Germany. For over a decade Emporis has helped companies, organizations and individuals stay informed about the building industry. The Emporis Skyscraper Award is the world's most renowned prize for high-rise architecture.

### **About the Award**

The Emporis Skyscraper Award has been given since 2000. The jury is formed of architecture experts from all over the world, who judge nominated buildings according to aesthetic and functional design criteria. Previous winners include *Lotte World Tower (2017)* in Seoul, *VIA 57 West (2016)* in New York City, *Shanghai Tower (2015)* in Shanghai.

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