

## UAE, Qatar miss out on best skyscraper gong

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By Daniel Shane Wednesday, 18 September 2013 10:41 AM

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The UAE and Qatar missed out on top industry prize for the world's best skyscraper, with the coveted gong instead being handed to a pair of distinctive towers in Canada.

The latest Emporis Skyscraper Award, seen as the crème de la crème of tall building accolades, was given to the Absolute World Towers in Mississauga, Canada.

Absolute World Towers, which were designed by MAD and Burka Architects, were selected by from more than 300 skyscrapers by an international jury. The towers, which are 176m and 158m tall, twist organically by up to eight degrees per floor.

In second place for the prize was Al Bahr towers in the UAE capital Abu Dhabi, designed by Aedas Architects. Jurors were impressed the buildings' outer skin, which rotates by computer in response to the sun's position, leading to a reduction in thermal energy within the structures.

In third place was Doha's Burj Qatar, a 238m tall skyscraper designed by Ateliers Jean Nouvel. Featuring a metal mesh facade that draws on traditional Islamic architectural designs, the building reveals a complex pattern at close quarters. The building also features an impressive teat at its peak.

Other skyscrapers that featured in the top ten for the Emporis award were in cities including Moscow, Istanbul and Guangzhou.

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