

FIERAMILANO RHO HOTELS IN DOMINIQUE PERRAULT'S TOWERS COMPLETED ON SCHEDULE AND SET TO OPEN IN JANUARY 2009

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Rho-Pero, 3 October 2008 – The "leaning" towers designed by Dominique **Perrault** which will host the hotels of Fieramilano Rho near Porta Sud have been completed right on schedule and at a pace of one floor every **15 days**, thanks to **400,000** hours of labour over **20** months. The hotels will be managed by NH Hoteles and are set to open in January 2009 during Spring MACEF, the International Home Show. The **400** rooms will accommodate about **800** people.

During a press tour held this morning, the hotels were presented by Luigi **Roth**, president of Fondazione Fiera Milano; Leonardo **Carioni**, president of Sviluppo Sistema Fiera since July; their architect, Dominique **Perrault**; Francesco **Chiabrando**, president of Alberghi Fiera; the consortium responsible for the construction, composed of CMB, Marcora Costruzioni spa and Pessina Costruzioni spa; and Maximiliano **Lombardi**, NH Hoteles sales director for Italy.

The shiny black facades of the hotels are covered with **20,000** stoneware glass sheets fitted with cavity wall ventilation used for the first time in Europe and designed to control the heat dispersion. The hotels also stand out for their over 1000 irregularly positioned windows, heights of **72** and **65** metres and **5-degree** tilt; the higher tower towards Fieramilano, the lower one towards Milan.

The 4-star hotel includes a 240 m² floor dedicated to a fitness area and bar, **six, 50 m² suites and 25 m² standard rooms**. The rooms in the 3-star hotel have an area of **20 m²**. The 3-star hotel has **250** rooms (**12 for disabled guests**), while the 4-star hotel has **148** rooms (**8 for disabled guests**). The hotels share the cross-shaped lobby as well as the services floors (hall, bar, restaurants) situated on the lower levels. The parking areas and reflecting water pools are at the foot of the towers.

The hotels designed by Perrault are part of what is now considered the “architecture park” of Fieramilano, Rho, which includes the exhibition centre by **Massimiliano Fuksas**, the multi-storey car park by **Mario Bellini**, and public green spaces by **Andreas Kipar**. By 2010, these works will be joined by a building that will host employees of the companies belonging to the Fiera Milano Group. This consists of a single complex located near Porta Est and is formed of **two 13-floor buildings** a little less than **50 metres** tall and covered in smoky grey windows. It will be built by **Italiana Costruzioni** based on a design by the **5+1 AA** studio and **Jean Baptiste Pietri**.

“Hospitality for this exhibition centre is essential, it is complimentary to its core business”, stated Luigi **Roth**. “For ages we have argued that the Fiera is also communication, that the large trade arena lives off the relationships that are generated within it. That is precisely why the functions that help and support the human, relational and hospitality aspect are important, crucial. The Fair is not just a place where spaces are “sold”. Besides, it is also very important for us to stress the aesthetic, architectural and experimentation side that these towers express. They are a new sign in the territory, as is this large trade fair infrastructure, and they bring added value to our “architecture park”, which was established and is growing thanks to the idea that has always guided us: to pursue beauty and quality in our creations.”

“I would like to congratulate the people,” added Leonardo **Carioni**, “who accomplished the construction of these two hotel structures within the set time schedule and budget, in full compliance with the criteria behind the design by Dominique Perrault. I would also like to stress that the hotels also represent the ability of Fieramilano to relate to the broader territorial context, helping to enhance the value of the entire area the exhibition centre is located in, within the so-called “compatible” facilities of Fieramilano”.

PROJECT SPECIFICATIONS

Client: Fondazione Fiera Milano, Sviluppo Sistema Fiera

Final design and art director: Dominique Perrault

Executive design and works management: Sinesis, Pool Milano

General Contractor: CMB, Martora Costruzioni, Pessina Costruzioni

Location: Porta Sud, New Rho-Pero centre

Area of lot: 37,500

area of building: 25,000 m²

volume: 120,000 m³

tower layout: square

costs: 35 million

SCHEDULE

works began: November 2006

delivery: November 2008

hotel management (NH) entry: September 2008

DIMENSIONS

side: 25 m

height of tower leaning towards the exhibition centre: 72 m

height of tower leaning towards Milan: 65 m

vertical tilt: 5 degrees

no. of floors: 20, with two basement levels (3-star hotel); 18, with 2 basement levels (4-star hotel)

FACADE

type: ventilated (wall fitted with air cavities)

cladding: shiny black stoneware glass sheets

cladded surface area: 11,000 m²

no. of sheets: 20,000 (cut to measure in workshop)

size of sheet: 50x100 cm

no. of windows: 1,100 (irregularly positioned)

CATEGORY OF HOTELS

3-star (higher tower leaning towards the exhibition centre) / 4-star (lower tower leaning towards Milan)

ROOMS

no. of rooms in three-star hotel: 250 (including 12 for disabled guests)

no. of rooms in four-star hotel: 148 (including 8 for disabled guests)

no. of suites in four-star hotel: 6 (on 18th floor)

area of 4-star suites: 49.72 m² (1 bedroom, 1 living, 1 bathroom)

area of 3-star standard rooms: 20.03 m²

area of 4-star standard rooms: 25.50 m²

area of 4-star fitness floor (18th floor; sauna, Turkish bath, gym): 240 m²

4-star standard floor: 6 rooms

3-star standard floor: 4 rooms

total number of beds: 800

HUMAN RESOURCES EMPLOYED DURING CONSTRUCTION

carpenters and steelworkers: 40

plasterers: 50

electricians and mechanical workers: 50

frame-fitters and ventilated façade workers: 60

peak number of workers: 200

hours of labour: 400,000

general contractor staff: 10 people including surveyors, engineers and architects for project management and work supervision.

pace of works: about 1 floor every 15 days

Per ulteriori informazioni:

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