

Article Title

S'pore firm to design Inner Mongolia malls

CPG Consultants' win in a contest to design two shopping malls in Inner Mongolia's capital of Hohhot has been reported in *The Straits Times*. The firm was invited to participate in the competition after one of its designs in Beijing caught the attention of the Victory Group, the owners of the malls.

The malls will cost about 2.5 billion yuan to build and will feature retail and dining outlets, a family entertainment centre, an eight-theatre cinema multiplex and an ice skating rink. The buildings are expected to be ready by early next year.

According to Mr Tan Shao Yen, CPG Consultants' senior vice-president of architecture, the project's design reflects the unique characteristics of the city while echoing Hohhot's seasonal changes and beautiful forest scenery. To deal with Inner Mongolia's extreme climate, the malls were designed to be box-like to prevent heat loss and create an energy-efficient mall.

China comprises around 10 percent of CPG Consultants' business portfolio; Mr Tan mentioned that the country will continue to remain one of the firm's key overseas markets with plans to increase market share there. Already with a base in North China – branch offices in Shanghai, Beijing, Tianjin and Guangzhou; CPG is looking to explore other opportunities not only in the area, but in other parts of China as well.

The news article "S'pore firm to design Inner Mongolia malls" also highlights that the firm has more than 20 offices across Asia with a project portfolio that spans over 20 countries, including China, India, ASEAN and the Middle East.

Source: Cheryl Lim. "S'pore firm to design Inner Mongolia malls" *The Straits Times*. 10 February 2011: Money B18.