

Davide Padoa

After completing his architectural studies in Milan and Los Angeles, Davide started his career in Indonesia where, at just 25, he gained international recognition for the design of PSP bank headquarters - one of the tallest skyscrapers in Jakarta. In 1998 he moved to London and joined Design International. Embracing the company's ethos to tailor unique, commercially viable projects, Davide has pushed the design boundaries in every project undertaken. Rising rapidly within the company, he became a Partner in 2002, and Chief Executive Office in 2006.

Committed to constantly setting new benchmark designs that are both financially sustainable and aesthetically strong, Davide has been Project Principal on many ground-breaking developments, including Odysseum in Montpellier (2009), Morocco Mall in Casablanca (2011), Nave de Vero in Marghera (2014), Il Centro in Arese (2016). These, and many other Design International projects have been recipients of some of the most coveted industry Awards, including ICSC, Mopic, Mipim, RLI, a Guinness World Records™ and over 30 other International Property Awards across four continents.

Davide retains a hands-on approach, working closely with colleagues and guiding teams to deliver projects that are meticulously crafted and tell their own unique story. Under his leadership, Design International has grown into a globally-recognised practice.

Paul Mollé

Paul is the Founding Partner of Design international. Having spent his early years in India, Paul was educated in the UK and qualified at the Bartlett School of Architecture in London. After graduating, he moved to South Africa where he established his own practice and also Design International, SA and worked on some of the most high-profile projects in the region.

In 1982, Paul moved to London to set up the office of Design International, building the practice and overseeing major projects throughout the world, from Sandton to Singapore, Miami to Milan. His experience and knowledge of retail architecture and design is unparalleled, built up over many years' involvement in retail and mixed-use developments in North America, Europe and Asia.

Today, Paul remains closely involved in the design and development of all categories of projects including retail, hospitality and mixed-use whilst continuing to share the wisdom accumulated over so many years in the industry, acting as guide and mentor to successive generations of architects and designers who work at Design International.

Lucio Guerra

Lucio's extensive design experience began with PFP Architects in Hamburg, Germany, where he successfully won numerous architectural design competitions. Lucio joined Design International in 2003 and, among his many projects with the practice, successfully completed Centro Commerciale Campania, one of the largest and more successful shopping destinations in Italy. Lucio's outstanding creativity quickly took the practice to new heights.

He became the Design Director in 2007 and was appointed Partner and Chief Operating Officer in 2009.

As Chief Operating Officer, Lucio oversees all aspects of the practice's operations world-wide. He remains strongly involved in design, leading and inspiring teams to develop innovative, creative designs whilst also ensuring that the needs and expectations of both clients and end-users are fully met. In this capacity, he has also helped spearhead the development of Design International, enabling it to grow to a practice which, today, boasts over 120 employees working in four offices around the globe.

Design International

Design International was founded in 1965 in Toronto, Canada and quickly built a reputation for truly innovative design, particularly in retail architecture. Indeed, the practice pioneered many design features that have since become industry benchmarks. These include the use of glazed roofs to create covered "streets" that are flooded with daylight (Bugis Junction, Singapore) and creating the first mall that integrated retail and entertainment in one centre (CocoWalk, Florida).

Driven by a philosophy that seeks to shape local stories to provide unique experiences for every visitor, the practice continues to push the boundaries of retail architecture. In recent years, it has created many award-winning designs, including Morocco Mall in Casablanca, which challenged convention by placing the retail anchors at the centre of the mall; and Il Centro in Arese, Italy, with its reimaging of the market square to attract and engage visitors. Building from its strong base in retail, the practice has developed its expertise over many years and now has projects encompassing a range of sectors, including mixed use developments, residential, hotels and hospitality as well as transport hubs. Current commissions include key projects in Europe, India and the Middle East, as well as innovative new mixed-use developments in China.

Now headquartered in London, Design International boasts offices in Milan and Shanghai and, earlier this year, opened their Dubai office in Dubai's Design District (d3). The practice's development continues apace and recently, the Milan office relocated to new premises in the Bicocca district of the city. Here, on the site of former Breda and Pirelli works, the DI Campus will be developed, promoting the exchange of ideas and know-how with the next generation of designers.