October, 2022



This design for Japan's first hybrid timber high-rise hotel aims to maximize the use of local materials. With a concept of "experience Hokkaido," the hotel features materials made and grown in the prefecture in everything from the building itself to the hotel's management, construction materials to food.

The following four principles guided the project:

- 1. Use timber harvested in Hokkaido so that mature plantation forests can continue a sustainable cycle of use and regeneration.
- 2. Reduce construction waste and CO2 emissions to an absolute minimum and take other measures to protect the environment.
- 3. Stimulate local industry by using locally grown timber and working with local businesses.
- 4. Beyond simply providing hotel accommodations, contribute to the community by creating a place that is open to the public and promotes culture.



An eleventh-floor suite using Hokkaido wood from floor to ceiling.



The reception area is defined by lighting that extends from the walls to the ceiling and a counter made from Hokkaido stone.

Japan has extremely strict building standards related to earthquake and fire safety, particularly for high-rise buildings. In recent years, however, new standards have been added allowing the construction of timber high-rises, provided certain conditions are met. Timber and hybrid timber high-rise architecture requires advanced technology. The present building is hybrid, utilizing a reinforced concrete frame from the basement through eighth story (with cross-laminated timber [CLT] used for part of the eighth-story flooring) and a wood frame on the ninth through eleventh stories and rooftop structure. Aiming to also incorporate wood as an interior/exterior finish and reduce waste from concrete formwork, we developed stay-in-place board formwork with attached steel reinforcing rods for use in guestrooms on the concrete stories. In the façade, heat-treated wooden louvers and carbonized cork wall covering create an exterior intended to change color over time. Altogether, more than 1,200 m3 of lumber was used in the building, over eighty percent of which is Sakhalin fir, Japanese larch, Japanese flowering ash, and other types of wood produced in Hokkaido.







Bird's-eye view of construction.



The stairs in the entryway atrium are made from Hokkaido wood.



The combined reception area and bar/lounge, which is open to the public, overlooks Odori Park on the right.



The second-floor terrace reuses remnants from the exterior wooden louvers.

The use of wood reduced CO2 emissions during construction by approximately 1,383 tons compared to the amount that would have been emitted if the entire building were made of reinforced concrete. We took other measures to make the building more sustainable as well, such as using lumber remnants from the production of exterior louvers and CLT in the interior finishing. To achieve our goal of incorporating as many local materials as possible, we not only used Hokkaido lumber but also manufactured many other items in the prefecture. This stimulated local industry and was an excellent opportunity to introduce cutting-edge technology to local companies and foster their ability to

develop new products. In addition, because people visit the hotel from all over Japan and the world, actively involving local artists and manufacturers is an effective way of promoting local culture and revitalizing the community. Currently, the second-floor lounge and the rooftop are open to the public and events are held regularly. As university students visit to view the architecture, neighbors stop by to ask advice on new projects using wood, and more people become connected to the hotel, it is gradually becoming a community hub.



Guest room furniture made using remnants from the building's CLT structure.



Wooden speakers made using remnants from the building's frame



The rooftop overlooks the landmark Sapporo TV Tower.



The lower levels on the north and east sides have large windows facing Odori Park.

Project Outline

Name: The Royal Park Canvas Sapporo Odori Park

Location: 1-12, Odorinishi, Chuo-ku, Sapporo, Hokkaido, Japan

Principal Use: Hotel, Restaurant Structure: Under ground: Concrete

> Above ground (1 \sim 7F) : Concrete Above ground (8F) : Concrete + Timber Above ground (9F \sim 11F) : Timber

Site Area: 695.51 m² Building Area: 580.62 m² Total Floor Area: 6,157.06 m²

Height: 46.14 m

Completion: August 2021

Credit Information

Architect: Mitsubishi Jisho Design

Photographer: Kawasumi - Kobayashi Kenji Photograph Office Project Team: Owner / Developer: Mitsubishi Estate Co., Ltd.

Interior Architects / Designers: Mitsubishi Jisho Design Inc., NOMURA Co., Ltd.

Structural Engineers: Mitsubishi Jisho Design Inc. MEP Engineers: Mitsubishi Jisho Design Inc. Project Managers: Mitsubishi Jisho Design Inc.

Main Contractors: Shimizu Corporation

Lighting design: Mitsubishi Jisho Design Inc., NOMURA Co., Ltd.

Mitsubishi Jisho Design Inc.

Mitsubishi Jisho Design got its start as Marunouchi Architectural Office in 1890, and soon after designed one of Japan's first modern office building, the Mitsubishi Ichigokan (Building No.1). Over the subsequent decades, as the country modernized, the firm went on to design a series of iconic brick buildings in the central Marunouchi district of Tokyo. In the 1960s, responding to rapid economic growth and the burgeoning demand for office space, the area was transformed into an attractive central business district, with new buildings designed to conform to a uniform height of 31 meters. In the 21st century, these buildings have been replaced with high-rise towers and the area has been reimagined once more as a vibrant commercial and cultural district. Building on its core strengths of comprehensive design, urban insights, and the pursuit of essence and quality, Mitsubishi Jisho Design has led the development and renewal of the Marunouchi district for over 130 years, allowing it to bring unparalleled experience to bear in architectural and urban development projects throughout Japan and the world.

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*On April 1, 2022, Mitsubishi Jisho Sekkei Inc. changed its English name to Mitsubishi Jisho Design Inc.