



For Immediate Release

Kohn Pedersen Fox's Spectacular Design of Mandarin Oriental, Las Vegas is Unveiled

*International Architects Design Landmark Sustainable Project for
Groundbreaking CityCenter Development*

[New York – December 4, 2009] Mandarin Oriental Las Vegas, designed by international architecture firm Kohn Pedersen Fox (KPF) as part of CityCenter, a new 67-acre urban resort destination by MGM MIRAGE and Infinity World Development Corp. (a subsidiary of Dubai World) on the world-famous Las Vegas Boulevard, has been officially unveiled with its opening on December 4th. Atop a luminous, multi-use base containing ballroom and retail space, the iconic Mandarin Oriental hotel and residences, one of three non-gaming boutique hotels within the complex, comprises 392 luxurious rooms and 225 branded condominium residences.

At over one million square feet, the project was designed by KPF to exemplify the prestigious standards of the Mandarin Oriental brand. The building's exterior is immediately striking. Based atop a podium made of zinc, titanium, granite and limestone, it rises vertically into a façade that draws inspiration from traditional Chinese motifs. Vertical panels of aluminum and glass interlock with horizontal frit to create this unique appearance. Mandarin Oriental, Las Vegas is oriented such that the building meets the boulevard, becoming a visual gateway to CityCenter, while internalizing the entry experience, providing guests with a sense of seclusion.

"The interlocking motifs of the façade create various levels of transparency inside the building and are designed to bring daylight into the wider public spaces within the hotel. This effect creates a sense of openness between the structure's interior and exterior, so that they seem connected. This is in contrast to the private spaces within the building, which are shaded and screened, emphasizing the intimacy and seclusion of those areas," explained Kohn.

KPF's architectural plan takes advantage of the views that the building's superlative location and height offer, further contributing to the luxurious experience. The jewel-themed ballroom is defined by a spectacular glazed opening, clad in jet-misted granite and grey zinc, which looks out directly onto The Strip. Express shuttle elevators take guests straight past the state-of-the-art swimming pool and spa on the sixth and seventh floors to a sky lobby on the 23rd floor, offering exceptional panoramic views of the Las Vegas skyline.

The tower is to be among the highest-profile venues in one of the best known cities in the world. While the striking architecture and magnificent interior design contribute to the rich experiences of this five-star hotel, the design by KPF is also outstanding for its sustainable and practical features, enabling the project to achieve LEED Gold certification. With a super-efficient central plant, a key consideration in the design was the local climate, with the building created to withstand the heat of the desert in a sustainable way.

"This project has been a great opportunity for KPF to demonstrate our ingenuity and talent in creating buildings that are not only aesthetically unique but also sustainable. One of our key aims when designing Mandarin Oriental, Las Vegas was to achieve a project that was as enduring and energy efficient as possible within the taxing Las Vegas climate. As well as creating a thermal façade system, using sustainable building materials and incorporating day-lighting controls, water reduction strategies yield a 45% reduction in portable water use," said A. Eugene Kohn, Chairman, KPF.

KPF

Many of the sustainable and practical advantages of the building stem from the materials used in its construction. While the natural lighting reduces the energy used to light the interiors, highly-insulated spandrel panels were used in the building's construction in order to increase the percentage of opaque-clad areas, reducing solar heat gain while creating a more comfortable environment for its occupants.

High-performance glass with ceramic frit augments the cladding's thermal performance, yet produces low emissions, so that energy and costs that would otherwise be spent maintaining the building's performance are reduced. This system within the structure's façade accounts for as much as 9 percent of the building's total energy savings.

About KPF

Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates is an international practice headquartered in New York, with offices in London, Shanghai, Hong Kong, Seoul, and Abu Dhabi. The firm provides architectural design, programming, urban design, master planning and graphic design services for clients in both the public and private sectors. Our extensive portfolio, developed over more than 33 years, includes a wide range of projects, from civic and cultural spaces to hotel, residential and office towers to educational and laboratory facilities. KPF's strong body of work has garnered over 300 awards and earned the firm recognition as one of the most respected architectural design practices in the world.

KPF was founded on the principles of design excellence, principal commitment, and superior management with the goal of providing outstanding services to our clients, meeting budget and schedule objectives while achieving architectural distinction. Driven by design intent, not a predetermined style, we strive to create structures that are intimately connected to function and context while incorporating a degree of finesse and detail that elevates them to the highest level of beauty and practicality.

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