



WAN Wood in Architecture Award 2015

Contents:

1 Winner Press Release

2 Shortlisted Press Release

3 Jury Panel

4 Background to WAN and the WAN AWARDS

1. Winner Press Release

Tectoniques are championed as the winner in the WAN Wood in Architecture 2015 Award.

We are thrilled to announce the winner of WAN Wood in Architecture 2015 Award is Hacine Chérifi Gymnasium by Tectoniques - Congratulations!

The winning entry was selected from a shortlist of six fantastic projects, with each project championing the elegant, natural and versatile qualities of wood that continues to challenge architects today.

On board to judge this year's entries were an experienced panel of judges, which included: Adrian Campbell, Associate Director at Arup Associates; James Greaves, Partner at Hopkins Architects; Dmitri Jajich, Associate Director at Skidmore Owings & Merrill and Mikko Viljakainen, Director at Puuinfo.

The Hacine Chérifi Gymnasium takes its name from a former World Middleweight Champion boxer from nearby Lyon. Situated in the heart of Rillieux-la-Pape, the building includes a multi-purpose sports hall and a gymnasium. Part of the gymnasium is underground and it is accessed from the top of the spectator seating stands. This means the height of the building, as viewed from the street, is half of its actual height, minimising the impact of its very large volume. James was quick to say "It's exactly the sort of project that should win an award."

The building is composed of a concrete base and mounted with a timber lattice beam structure. The façades and roofing are made up of straw-bale panels. The whole building is covered with vertical Larchwood cladding and is kept deliberately neutral, without pretence or artifice. Adrian commented on this saying "they've set a wonderful precedent, in terms of the delivery of it, it looks really clean." The architects choose to keep the most of building structures exposed on the inside. A light colour palette has been used to create a calm, peaceful atmosphere and ensure the facilities remain discreet. The only colour is the red gymnastic equipment, which creates a stark contrast with the overall monochromatic tone.

The whole structure uses 583 m³ of wood in a variety of different forms and the facility is equipped with a wood-fuelled heating system. "It's a really good use of wood" commented James, with Mikko saying "This has potential as a model for the future."

Dmitri Jajich announced the winner of this award at Timber Expo this year, as part of UK Construction Week.

We'd like to take the opportunity to thank not only the jury, but all who entered their projects into this year's WAN Wood in Architecture Award.

Lydia O'Callaghan

Awards Coordinator



Hacine Chérifi Gymnasium by Tectoniques © 11H45

2 Shortlisted Press Release

WAN Wood in Architecture 2015 Award – Six diverse projects shortlisted

The WAN Wood in Architecture 2015 Award is a specialist category that celebrates advances in wood design, showcasing the elegant, natural and versatile material that continues to challenge architects today. This year the shortlisted projects will be displayed at Timber Expo on 8th October as part of UK Construction Week, a fantastic opportunity for architects to have their work seen by many in the industry at the biggest trade show for commercial, residential, planning and design professionals.

WAN AWARDS recently hosted a jury session to analyse the 23 longlisted projects, selecting just six to be shortlisted. From these six schemes a single winner will be picked for the 2015 WAN Wood in Architecture Award. The jury judged entries on a number of factors including how the design addressed the key elements of the client's brief and specific examples of how each building has evolved its specific building type, incorporated wood as a material and been integrated within its context and / or community.

Chosen for their unique insights and extensive experience with wood in architecture, the jury panel for WAN Wood in Architecture 2015 category was: Adrian Campbell, Associate Director at Arup Associates; James Greaves, Partner at Hopkins Architects; Dmitri Jajich, Associate Director at Skidmore Owings & Merrill and Mikko Viljakainen, Director at Puuinfo.

First to be shortlisted was the Suburban Studio in London, United Kingdom by Ashton Porter Architects. The garden is transformed into a courtyard which is addressed by both the timber bookends of the studio at one end and the remodelled house at the other. The judges all felt this scheme was refreshing and well-articulated, it demonstrated the variety in which wood can be used. In the courtyard a series of timber hatches lift to reveal a subterranean sandpit, fire pit and paddling pool. The studio is structured entirely from timber studwork and plywood. The wall construction is entirely from stressed ply composite panels with no hidden steel supporting frame. Adrian Campbell was intrigued by this project, commenting "It's technically done a lot with a small amount of wood, I like the finish internally." Dmitri Jajich agreed, saying "It's doing complicated things with very simple means."

Metsä Group Head Office by Helin & Co Architects based in Espoo, Finland was also selected as one of the shortlisted projects. James Greaves was soon to comment, saying "I think it's stunning". Visually and technically superb, the judges felt this project was finished to a very high standard. It was intended that the space should be operationally as flexible in use and column-free as possible. The scheme features wood as a prominent material, the main supports are trestles, in which the pillars are made from milled laminated veneer timber and the double beams from glulam. Skylights open between the trestles, while the secondary infills are insulated wooden panels. The facades are structured as abstract metaphors of birch forest with varying vertical angles.

Next to be selected was the Dune House in Terschelling, Netherlands by Marc Koehler Architects. "It fits well within the landscape, it's like a found object in the dunes" commented James Greaves. The use of wood in this project was inspired by the landscape, local vegetation and local naval industry. The facades are materialised with a western red cedar wooden cladding. The top construction of the house, assembled within two weeks, is made from cross-laminated timber panels (CLT) designed beforehand using BIM software, allowing full control of the design to detail from a distance and avoiding on-site setbacks. Mikko Viljakainen commented that "This project demonstrates a strong example of using CLT panels". Walnut wood was used throughout the interior design, which the judges all felt was well refined. "The staircase is really elegantly done, the architects have embraced the wood as a flexible material" Adrian Campbell.

Also picked for the shortlist was Sayama Forest Chapel in Saitama, Japan by NAP Architects. The building unfolds in every direction as if woven into the gaps between the trees, which allows the roof structure itself to bear vertical and horizontal load without the unwelcome presence of shear wall. The highest point of the ceiling is 7.25 m. "It's the highest pitched roof I've ever seen" said Dmitri Jajich. The face-width of pillars made of laminated Japanese larch and the transverse beams are fixed in place with plywood to suppress buckling. All the judges were taken with the beauty of this building, with James Greaves saying "It's everything you want in a piece of architecture, they've brought the natural quality of the wood out" with Adrian Campbell commenting shortly after "its pure elegance and joy, what an inspirational place to be."

Next to be selected for the shortlist was Hacine Chérifi Gymnasium in Rillieux-la-Pape, France by Tectoniques. The programme includes a multi-purpose sports hall and a gymnasium. Part of the facility is underground and it is accessed from the top of the spectator seating stands, so the height of the building, as viewed from the street, is half of its actual height, which minimises the impact of its very large volume by putting the building on the same scale as those in the neighbouring school. The whole building is covered with vertical larchwood cladding and is voluntarily neutral. Inside, the building structures have mostly been left

exposed, which the judges felt was neat and well finished, Adrian Campbell said “the detailing in the entrance way is absolutely fantastic”. The whole structure uses 583m³ of wood in a variety of different forms and the facility is equipped with a wood-fueled heating system. Dmitri Jajich commented that “It shows you can use wood in several ways.”

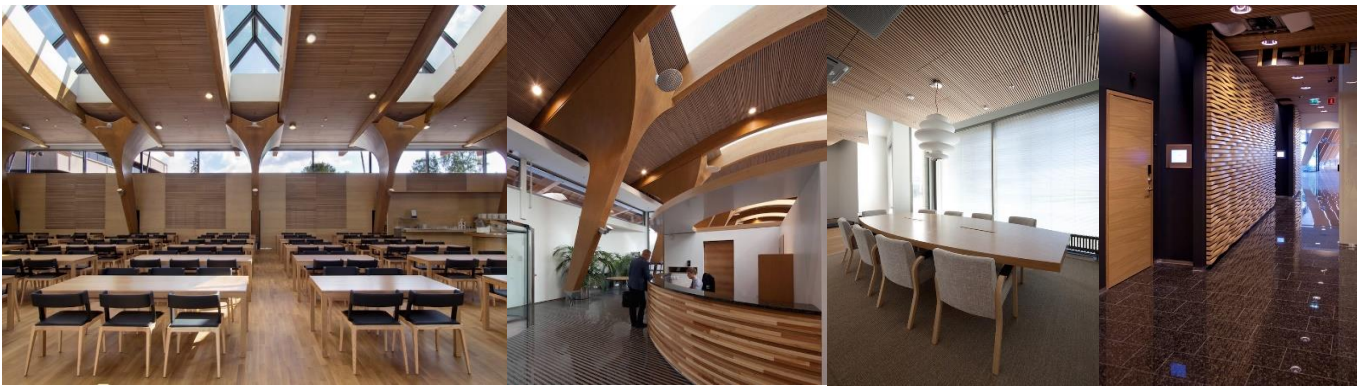
Last but not least, the Federal Center South Building 1202 in Seattle, United States by ZGF Architects LLP, was selected for the shortlist. This project was a response to a funding requirement to reuse portions of the existing warehouse that previously stood on the site of the design of the new 1202 building. The judges were impressed with the care that had gone in to the reuse for a project of this scale. Approximately 100,000 board feet of salvageable structural timber and 200,000 board feet of decking (92%) was reclaimed to form the foundation of the central atrium structural system, and interior cladding. Using a phased demolition process, wood components were individually harvested from the existing on-site warehouse. A mock-up was built to test structural integrity since each beam would be used as a ‘composite timber/concrete beam system’. Dmitri Jajich said “A lot of architects are scared of using reclaimed wood as you have to be creative and work with what you have. We don’t have enough examples in architecture of the afterlife of materials, this reuse is a fantastic example.” James Greaves agreed, saying “they’ve made it special by using this rich reclaimed wood.”

Lydia O’Callaghan

Awards Coordinator



Suburban Studio by Ashton Porter Architects © Andy Stagg



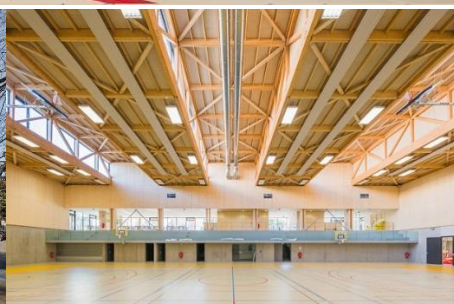
Metsä Group Head Office by Helin & Co Architects © Marc Goodwin © Mandi Halonen



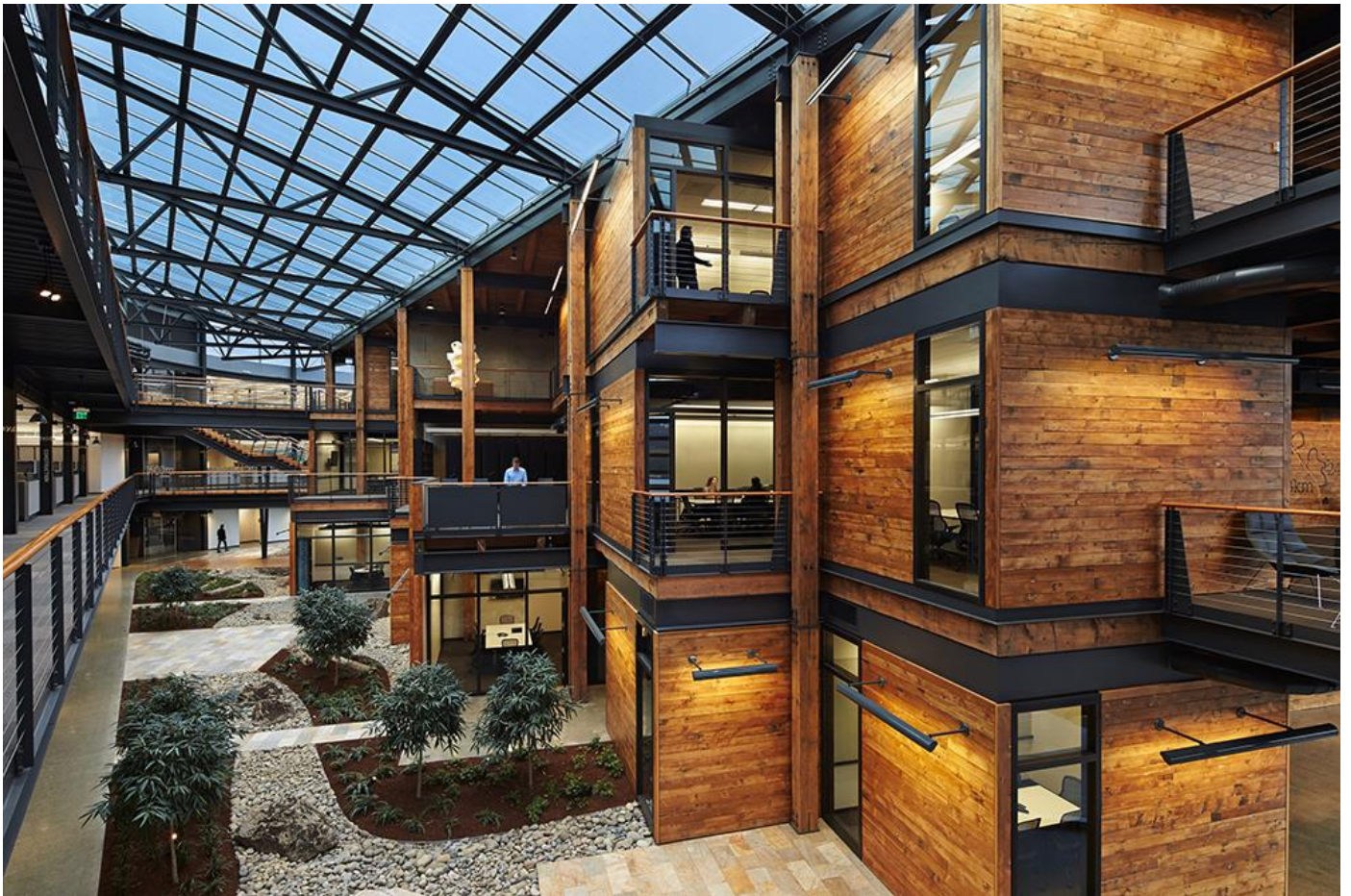
Dune House by Marc Koehler Architects © Filip Dujardin



Sayama Forest Chapel by NAP Architects © Koji Fujii - Nacasa & Partners Inc



Hacine Chérifi Gymnasium by Tectoniques © 11H45



Federal Center South Building 1202 by ZGF Architects LLP © Benjamin Benschneider

3 Jury Panel

Adrian Campbell - Arup Associates

Adrian is a chartered civil engineer recognised as one of the leading timber specialists at Arup, a renowned international engineering consultancy.

Adrian is passionate about sustainable design and delivering innovative, low carbon solutions that are embedded in Arup's approach of 'total' design.

He led the Low2No project in Finland, where he explored the viability for, at the time, unconventional multi-storey timber structures as an opportunity for major low carbon urban projects and this work has led directly to his focus on overall timber building solutions.

Recently he has worked on large scale timber project including the recently opened gymnasium, located within BskyB's campus development in Osterley, London and new multi-storey office design. In these projects Adrian has realised the potential of higher performance timber in commercial projects by focusing on issues critical to overall building performance such as dynamics, fire and ease of integration with building services as well as construction speed.

Adrian has been closely involved in delivering a series of research projects for both Arup and the London Design Festival developing approach for timber concrete composite design and new analysis and fabrication methods for timber, such as for Wikihouse 4.0 and the multi-award winning Endless Stair temporarily installed outside Tate Modern.

James Greaves - Hopkins Architects

James has been with the Practice since 1987 and has been responsible for a number of projects including the Queen's Building at Emmanuel College, Haberdasher's Hall in London, and Arc and the Apex in Bury St Edmunds.

He is currently working on a new masterplan for Waterloo Station and Roman Wall House, a major new office scheme within the City. He is the London Partner assisting the work of the Hopkins Dubai office and has a particular interest and expertise on the use of wood in buildings. He lectures widely on the subject and he has been a judge of the Wood Awards for the last seven years.

Dmitri Jajich - Skidmore Owings & Merrill

Dmitri Jajich joined SOM in 2000, initially working in our Chicago office and moving to London in 2012. He has worked on projects ranging in scale from the World's Tallest Building to a single-storey residence.

Working in partnership with SOM's architectural teams and other architects and artists, Dmitri has delivered a series of projects characterised by elegantly integrated structural design, with an emphasis on clear, hierarchical structural expression and carefully crafted details.

Mikko Viljakainen - Puuinfo

Mikko Viljakainen has an advanced degree in architecture (1992) and licentiate in technology (1997). Since 2010 Mikko has worked as managing director of the Finnish Wood Council called Puuinfo. Nowadays he is also the editor-in-chief of the PUUWOODHOLZBOIS-magazine. Previously, he has experienced as the architectural designer in architect offices, the special research scientist and teacher in the Tampere University of Technology.

In his research, he focused on the wood building systems and the system theories. Before his present position, he worked as the project manager, director and managing director in Wood Working Industry Associations. At the early stage of his career, he also accomplished success in several architectural design competitions.

Mikko is active in international cooperation processes and projects. He has several confidential posts in wood working industry and construction industry organizations. Mikko has written some 15 publications about use of wood in construction, some of them being translated into English and Russian. He is married and has two children. His present place of residence is Helsinki.

4. Background to WAN and the WAN AWARDS

World Architecture News (WAN) launched in 2005 and is now the world's leading supplier of news to the global architectural community. In 2007, WAN reached the prestigious Google no.1 position for architecture news and has remained in pole position since.

In addition to being an unparalleled source of news for developers, organisations, consultants, students and architects in over 120 countries, the WAN AWARDS are today highly recognised and regarded worldwide, in an industry where competitions and awards have always been an intrinsic element of winning new work for architects.

The value of an award is determined not only by the quality of the jury panel but also by the number and calibre of participants. Using their exclusive WAN database and contacts around the world, WAN are able to pull together an unprecedented fusion of high quality architecture and internationally acclaimed judges drawn from both top architectural practices and experts from each sector. 2013 saw the level of entries rise to over 1500 outstanding projects, making the WAN AWARDS the largest architectural awards programme worldwide.

Now in its seventh year, the WAN AWARDS aims to celebrate the best in architectural design. As the largest award of its kind, attracting entries from all over the world, the award offers an unparalleled opportunity to gain recognition and exposure for your work.

For any further information please contact: awards@builtenvironmentmedia.com