Skybridges Symposium: Linked Hybrid, Beijing, 18 July 2019

The research visit to Linked Hybrid, Beijing on 18 July coincided with a half-day Skybridges Symposium, supported by Modern Land, thyssenkrupp and co-produced by CTBUH and AIA Shanghai / Beijing, featuring the architects, engineers and owner/developers of many significant horizontally-linked tower projects in China and elsewhere. The conference agenda and contemporaneous Web report follow.

Presentations included:

- Welcoming address: Dr. Peng Du, CTBUH Vice President of Academic Affairs & China Office Coordinator; Yin Chen, Executive Director & Chief Technical Officer, Modern Land; AIA Shanghai | Beijing Representative Carlos Gomez, Founder & Principal, CRG Architects
- Skybridges: State of the Art – Daniel Safarik, Coordinator & Editor, Communications, CTBUH
- Urban Arms – Explorations on Inhabitable Bridges – Roberto Bannura, Partner, Steven Holl Architects
- Positive Thoughts on Urban Upgrading – Yufei Han, Vice President & Research and Development Department General Manager, Modern Land
- MULTI: Innovative Elevator Technology for Horizontal & Vertical Urban Connectivity – Ian Smith, Vice President, Special Projects, thyssenkrupp Elevator AG Asia Pacific Office
- SkyBridges: Connectivity – Satoshi Ohashi, Director, Zaha Hadid Architects
- Sky Connection: A Changing Concept of Placemaking – Yong Ding, Director (Shanghai), Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates
- Horizon of verticality – Yen Liu, Vice President, CallisonRTKL
- The multi-dimensional tall buildings – Dr. Peng Liu, Director, Arup

The half-day Skybridges Symposium at Linked Hybrid, Beijing, featuring speakers from a wide range of firms involved in the design of 3-D mega-projects with skybridges, drew more than 100 people to the Linked Hybrid auditorium, itself located in a skybridge.
Skybridges: Bringing the Horizontal into the Vertical Realm

¥ 300.00 - ¥ 500.00 (US$43 – $72)

📅 Thursday, 18 July 2019
⏰ 1:30 pm – 6:30 pm
📍 Beijing, China

Details

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As many architects and visionaries have shown over a period spanning more than a century, the re-creation of the urban realm in the sky through connections between buildings at height has a vast potential for the enrichment of our cities. As the world rapidly urbanizes, greater thought needs to be expended on how horizontal space can be developed at height. Today, new transportation technology, and structural engineering practices seem to put horizontal habitat in the sky within reach. But cultural, organizational, and jurisdictional obstacles remain. To overcome these, a solid case needs to be made for the extensive benefits of skybridges in a much wider application than has been seen historically.

Join CTBUH for a special half-day Symposium at one of the world's most significant skybridge-linked projects, Beijing's Linked Hybrid, the recipient of the CTBUH 10 Year Award in 2019, kindly hosted by Modern Land. Presentations will be given by some of the leading practitioners of skybridge projects around the world, and some of the enabling technologies that will take 3-D cities to the next level in the near future. Hear from the CTBUH research team engaged in an 18-month research project, kindly sponsored by thyssenkrupp, to determine the state of the art in skybridges and sketch a future vision of how these remarkable structures can add a new dimension to vertical urbanism.

Please note, four AIA Continuing Education Credits will be provided. If you have any questions, please contact china@ctbuh.org

Speakers:
Skybridges: Bringing the Horizontal into the Vertical Realm | Council on... https://www.ctbuh.org/events/calendar/skybridges_symposium_beijing...
3:30 – 3:55 pm: **SkyBridges: Connectivity** – Satoshi Ohashi, Director, Zaha Hadid Architects

3:55 – 4:20 pm: **Sky Connection: A Changing Concept of Placemaking** – Yong Ding, Director (Shanghai), Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates

4:20 – 4:55 pm: **Horizon of verticality** – Yen Liu, Vice President, CallisonRTKL

4:55 – 5:20 pm: **The multi-dimensional tall buildings** – Dr. Peng Liu, Director, Arup

5:20 – 5:30 pm: Closing Remarks

5:30 – 6:30 pm: Tour of Linked Hybrid

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**Event Host:**

![MOMA 當代置業](image)

**Research Sponsor:**

![thyssenkrupp](image)

**Supporting Partner:**
BEIJING – There could hardly have been a more appropriate venue for the half-day CTBUH Skybridges Symposium than the auditorium of Linked Hybrid, situated in one of the eight skybridges linking the 10-tower complex together. And, by all indications, the topic and speakers drew great interest, as a capacity crowd of more than 100 were in attendance to hear a half-day program of speakers with significant involvement in developing 3-D cities of the future.

Kindly hosted by Modern Land, the developer of Linked Hybrid, and staged by CTBUH and AIA Shanghai, the symposium was driven by the 18-month research project, “Bringing the Horizontal Into the Vertical Realm,” funded by thyssenkrupp. The outstanding mixed-use complex is one of approximately two dozen case studies from around world that demonstrate the state of the art in connecting buildings and cities on planes above the ground, which will ultimately be analyzed and published in an upcoming CTBUH Technical Guide.

Welcoming speeches were given by Yin Chen, Executive Director & Chief Technical Officer, Modern Land, and AIA Shanghai | Beijing Representative Carlos Gomez, Founder & Principal, CRG Architects Carlos Gomez.
CTBUH Vice President of Academic Affairs and China Office Director Peng Du, introduced the 3-D city concept with a stage-setting presentation, followed by Daniel Safarik, CTBUH Communications Coordinator and Editor, who provided attendees with an update on the research project.

Roberto Bannura, Partner, Steven Holl Architects, placed the synthesis of the Linked Hybrid project in context by showing 40 years of work by his firm and its founder, Steven Holl, who had always been interested in the urban implications of habitable bridge structures.

Yufei Han, Vice President & Research and Development Department General Manager, Modern Land, shared his thoughts on the reasoning behind developing Linked Hybrid as a kind of intentional community that would be comprehensive and yet inviting to the greater city, referring to its inspiration by the 1910 Henri Matisse painting, *Dance*.

A practical discussion of the urban and logistical problems that could be aided by skybridges was presented by Ian Smith, Vice President, Special Projects, thyssenkrupp Elevator, Asia-Pacific Office. The industrial concern has developed a linear-induction ropeless elevator called MULTI, which presents a potential for linking buildings across greater distances than would be possible with walking-only skybridges, and integrating tall building transportation systems more seamlessly with land- and air-based transportation, as well as being a practical space- and energy-saving strategy for tall buildings.

Satoshi Ohashi, Director, Zaha Hadid Architects, presented the firm's work as part of a broader story about connectivity, focusing on skybridge-linked complexes such as Galaxy SOHO, Beijing; Sky SOHO, Shanghai; and the soon-to-be-completed Li Ze SOHO, which will have a soaring atrium bridged by internal skybridges.

Yong Ding, Director, Shanghai, Kohn Pedersen Fox Associates, spoke of the firm's work using horizontal connections at height as a way of placemaking, both in the sense of creating gateways for cities and for new kinds of occupiable habitat, evidenced by projects such as Royal Atlantis, Dubai; Concord Cityplace Parade, Toronto; and Hangzhou Xizi International Center.

Discussing the concept, Horizons of Verticality, Yen Liu, Vice President, CallisonRTKL, made the case that projects such as the Xi’An Grand Hyatt, Taihe Chang’an Center and Dashang Yantai Harbor City mixed-use projects fused and inverted properties of visibility and accessibility in novel ways that support better urban spaces.

The practical reality of constructing such incredible projects as Raffles City Chongqing and Gate to Hangzhou was presented by Peng Liu, Director, Arup, who detailed some of the structural engineering innovations that have, and will continue to facilitate highly connected vertical cities.

The afternoon, punctuated by a tea break with CTBUH-branded pastries, concluded with a tour of the Linked Hybrid project.
CTBUH would like to thank its host, Modern Land; co-producer AIA Shanghai, and research sponsor thyssenkrupp for making this event possible and successful.

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