Best Tall Buildings

A Global Overview of 2016 Skyscrapers

CTBUH Awards

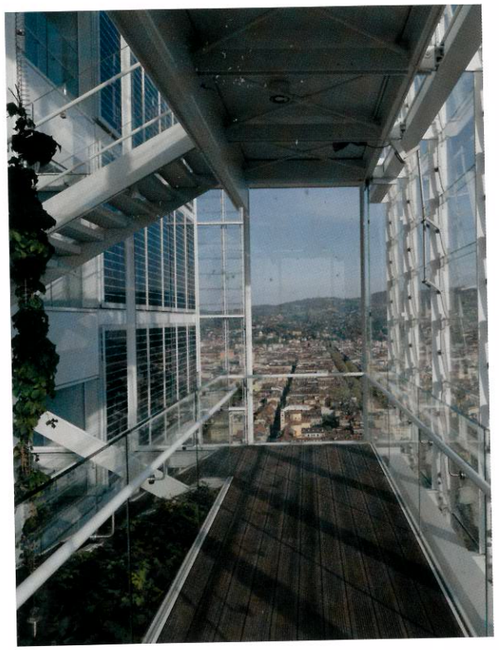
Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat
images Publishing

Antony Wood & Steven Henry

Finalist
Best Tall Building Europe

Grattacielo Intesa Sanpaolo

Turin, Italy



Completion Date: April 2015
Height: 166 m (545 ft)
Stories: 38
Area: 110,000 sq m (1,184,030 sq ft)
Primary Function: Office
Owner/Developer: Intesa Sanpaolo
Architects: Inarco (design); Renzo Piano Building Workshop (design)
Structural Engineers: Expedition Engineering (design); Studio Ossola (design); Studio Tecnico Majowiecki (design)
MEP Engineer: Manens-Tifs (design)
Main Contractors: Implenia; Rizzani de Eccher
Other CTBUH Member Consultants: MovvéO Ltd. (vertical transportation); RWDI (wind)
Other CTBUH Member Suppliers: Permasteelisa Group (cladding); Sematic S.r.l. (elevator); thyssenkrupp (elevator)

"Grattacielo Intesa Sanpaolo's high-tech, double-skin façade is a plus for the environment. The well-crafted details make this building unique amongst the older buildings nearby."

SawTeen See, Technical Jury Chair, LERA

The Grattacielo Intesa Sanpaolo building incorporates large environmentally friendly and socially conscious spaces as part of a design objective to experiment with communal urban forms. Placed within Turin's traditional, dense mid-rise urban fabric, the tower takes advantage of its prime location at the intersection of two major thoroughfares – adjacent to a public park and a museum, with two transit stops and a university within a few blocks – to incorporate significant common areas into the tower programming.

At ground level, an expansive plaza surrounds the primary massing of the tower. Level with the existing sidewalk and separated only by a series of bollards, the plaza organically connects the tower to the surrounding urban fabric, offering a permeable space for pedestrians to enter and exit the development. The plaza also creates a seamless transition with the public park to the northwest. Directly southwest of the tower, the plaza

"This tower has an elegant restraint – with a clear division of base, middle, and top. It frames publicly accessible space in a unique way that celebrates tall building urbanism."

James Parakh, Juror, Toronto Planning Department

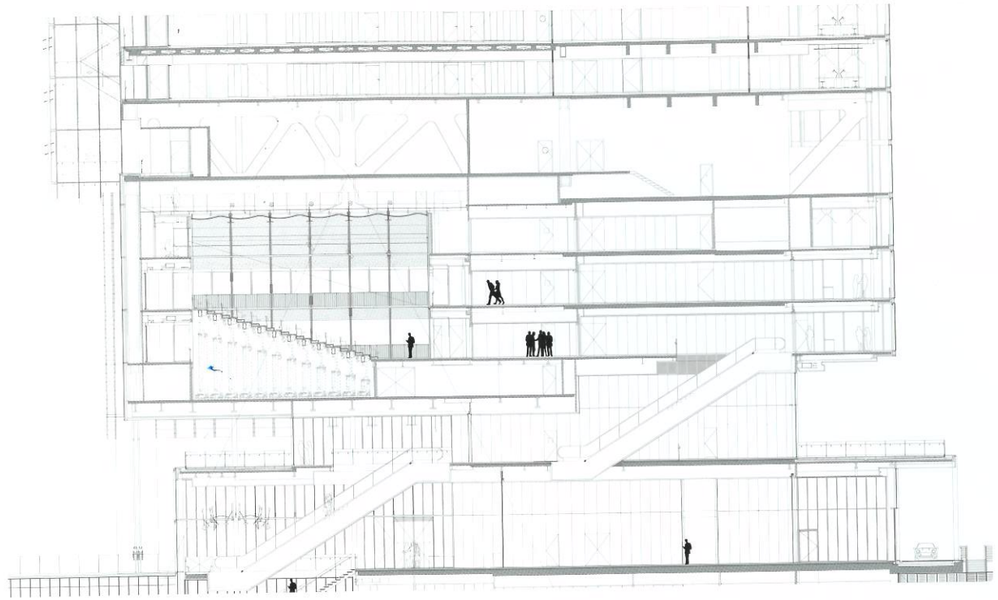
Jury Statement

To simply say that Grattacielo Intesa Sanpaolo capitalizes on its prime location in Turin would understate its singular ability to draw visitors into and up its structure with the inclusion of an eclectic variety of public and semi-private amenities. The spacious and bold greenhouse that caps the structure ensures that communal interaction is not confined to the ground-level condition, while a number of ambitious spaces within the project – from the greenhouse to a kindergarten to a flexible auditorium space – indicate the importance placed on inclusivity.

sinks one level below grade to facilitate a semi-private area. This sunken plaza provides an outdoor play area for an on-site kindergarten and allows light to enter the cafeteria, also located below grade.

Two additional spaces contribute to the public functions of the tower. Above the main lobby, a multi-functional auditorium is designed to accommodate a variety of events, such as conferences, concerts, and exhibitions, thereby catering to the general needs of the public as well as the corporate needs of office tenants. Additionally, a three-story communal greenhouse at the top of the tower caps the structure. Similar in volume to the auditorium space, the greenhouse incorporates a restaurant, exhibition space, and cafeteria, each set back on top of one another and surrounded by extensive plantings. The exterior of the space is wrapped with catwalks on each level to give visitors the ability to experience the space from all sides. Terraces at this level also offer observation areas to capture views of greater Turin.

Along with the greenery provided at the top of the tower, the 27-story south staircase incorporates a vertical winter garden where climbing vegetation filters the light behind a motorized façade covered with photovoltaic panels. Additional solar panels are placed on the roof to help produce hot water within the building. Energy costs are further mitigated by a natural ventilation system that reduces the load on HVAC systems. Ventilated floors and radiant panels hanging from the ceiling allow the building to be cooled by the



flow of external air, thus contributing to lower energy needs. What energy is not mitigated or produced on-site is provided by a renewable resource supplier, meaning that the net production of pollutants by the building is close to zero under normal operating conditions.

The tower cladding further reflects the sustainable nature of the tower while also referencing the surrounding environment. Clad in bright lacquered aluminum and transparent glass, the tower appears white like the snowcapped mountains surrounding the city. Additionally, the bright colors reflect light and reduce heat gain within the building, and the double-skin façade contributes to the tower's natural ventilation strategy.

Previous spread

Left: Overall view from the west

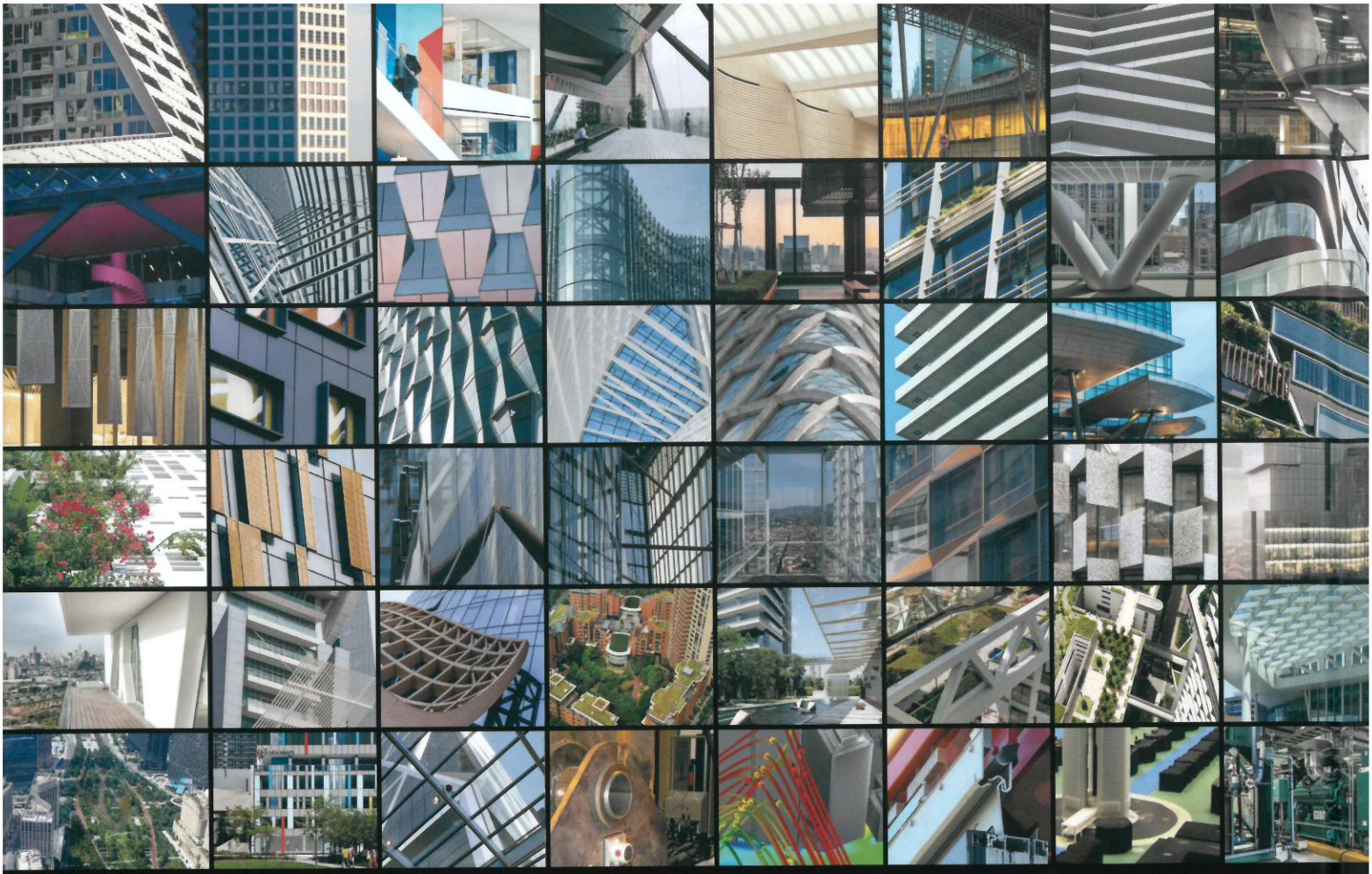
Right: Winter garden

Current spread

Opposite left: Greenhouse garden at the top of the building

Top: Detail section through lobby and conference hall

Bottom: Office space



The Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH) is the world's foremost authority on tall buildings. *Best Tall Buildings* chronicles the annual awards process, in which the CTBUH recognizes outstanding tall buildings and design innovations that advance the potential of integrated sustainability, economic productivity, and social prosperity in cities across the world.

More than an awards book, this volume serves as a global overview of tall building construction and activity in a given year, providing in-depth descriptions of the buildings' designs and significance, accompanied by stunning images, detailed drawings, and plans. This book provides fascinating and inspiring reading for all those interested in the planning, design, and construction of tall buildings.

CTBUH bestows 11 awards annually, four of which are given to buildings according to geographical regions: Americas, Asia & Australasia, Europe, and Middle East & Africa. The title of overall Best Tall Building Worldwide is then presented to one of the four regional winners at the annual CTBUH Awards Symposium and Ceremony. Additionally, the Urban Habitat Award recognizes significant contributions to the urban realm, in connection with tall buildings. The 10 Year Award recognizes proven value and performance – across one or more of a wide range of criteria – after a building has been completed and in operation for a decade. The Innovation Award recognizes a specific area of recent innovation in the tall building industry that has been incorporated into the design of, or significantly tested in, the construction, operation, or refurbishment of a tall building project. The Performance Award recognizes a building with proven value and performance over a minimum of three years. The CTBUH also gives two annual Lifetime Achievement awards to individuals who have made significant contributions to the design or technical advancement of tall buildings.

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