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Ecolibrium

Grand Slam

Can luxury and
sustainability coexist?





Consultancy green stars named

The GBCA has released its annual list of high-performing consultants.

Arup Australasia and WSP | Parsons Brinckerhoff worked on more Green Star-certified projects than any other consultancy in 2017, with a total of eight each for the year, and a further 38 projects registered in 2017 between them.

“The highly experienced team at Arup has influenced the design and delivery of some of Australia’s most iconic green building projects,” says GBCA CEO Romilly Madew. “Arup’s legacy this year includes Green Square Library and Plaza, 200 George Street and several new railway stations in Victoria.

“The impressive results produced by the very capable team at WSP this year is inspiring, encompassing a wide breadth of projects, including everything from

showrooms, schools and shopping centres to workshops and warehouses.”

WSP’s director of sustainability, Richard Palmer, says: “WSP Sustainability is proud to lead the industry in broadening its approach to certification across a wide range of asset types – from industrial sheds to hospitality mega-projects and residential communities, all while maintaining our presence in the commercial office and retail sectors.”

Arup Australasia group sustainability director Peter Bailey says: “This is the third year in a row that Arup has delivered the highest number of Green Star projects – a clear demonstration of the commitment our clients and Arup have to embedding sustainable best practice in building design.

For instance, we’ve been able to achieve a great sustainability story for 200 George Street in Sydney by focusing on building performance, tenant amenity and innovation credits within the Green Star rating tools. We look forward to working alongside the GBCA to continue to push the boundaries of sustainable buildings design in Australia”. ■

New pact with ISHRAE now fact

The Institute has signed a mutual recognition agreement with our Indian counterpart.

In January AIRAH and ISHRAE (the Indian Society of Heating and Refrigeration Engineers) signed a mutual recognition agreement.

“ASHRAE and ISHRAE signed an agreement to advance a more effective and fruitful exchange of

knowledge and ideas in the HVAC&R industry,” AIRAH CEO Tony Gleeson says. “It’s an exciting initiative, with members based in Australia, India and globally to benefit.”

The pact was signed by AIRAH president Ian Harwood, F.AIRAH, and ISHRAE president Vishal Kapur during the ASHRAE Winter Conference in Chicago last month. More details on the agreement will appear in our March issue. ■



Shaun Toh, M.AIRAH, is sales and project engineer at Optimal Group in Melbourne.

Responsibilities

Optimal is the authorised distributor for Capstone microturbines in Australia, New Zealand and the Pacific – I manage the business development and sales within Australia. This involves increasing market share and expanding into various industries and market segments. My role encompasses early client engagement, assisting consulting engineers with design, and contractor support. Day-to-day responsibilities include product and technical presentations, sizing microturbine systems, financial modelling, estimating projects, and tender submissions.

Specialty

Having started and built my career around power generation, I have a good understanding of its various applications such as cogeneration, trigeneration, and prime/stand-by power. My core experience is in the building services/construction industry.

Passions

Being a people person, I relish the part of my job that gives me the opportunity to meet new people and work with them to find a solution to their problems. This includes everything from being in a power constraint area, to improving NABERS ratings.

Challenges

Capstone microturbines are relatively new compared to competing technologies, and the goal is educating people about the technology, its advantages, and challenging the status quo. It’s less about which is better, but more about what is more suitable for your business.

Professional development

As a member of AIRAH, the Green Building Council of Australia, and the Energy Efficiency Council, I keep up with the events of these organisations. ■