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PRESS RELEASE

Burckhardt+Partner receives the Korean Architecture Excellence Award

The architectural office Burckhardt+Partner has been presented with the Korean Architecture Excellence Award in the administrative buildings category for its construction of the new Swiss embassy in Seoul, South Korea. The new building was commissioned by the Swiss Federal Office for Buildings and Logistics.

With its design for the new Swiss embassy, Burckhardt+Partner has created a contemporary interpretation of the traditional Korean “Hanok” house, bringing this into harmony with the sophisticated architecture and stringent security requirements of an embassy building. It was thanks to this design that the Swiss architectural office won the Excellence Award for outstanding administrative buildings.

The Swiss embassy, which opened in May of this year, is located in the densely populated, up-and-coming New Town, which is dominated by its modern high-rises. The new building is the only one in this area to offer a fresh yet faithful architectural take on the traditional style. It houses the residence of the ambassador as well as the state rooms and the embassy office.

When implementing the project, Burckhardt+Partner drew on local craftsmanship. For example, the exposed concrete façade of the building was created using traditional Korean formwork, while the wood slats typically found in Korean houses, which offer sun protection and create interesting interplays of light and shadows, form a key part of the embassy’s design.

Each year, the Korean Architecture Award is presented for outstanding new buildings in Korea in the categories of administrative, residential, private and small constructions. The award ceremony will be held on 28 November 2019 in Seoul.

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About Burckhardt+Partner

Burckhardt+Partner is an internationally distinguished and technologically prominent architectural company. It was founded in 1951 in Basel and has continued to develop ever since. Over the past 65 years, Burckhardt+Partner has not only had a major influence on architecture in Switzerland, but has also been able to compete on the international stage. Burckhardt+Partner currently runs five branches in Switzerland and three in Germany.

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