

## **National Swimming Center Architecture Design Competition News Conference Brief Announcement**

The 2008 Olympic National Swimming Center Architecture Design Competition news conference hosted by Beijing State-Owned Assets Management Co., Ltd., is being held on the 14<sup>th</sup> March 2003 at 09:00 to 12:00 in Beijing Urban Planning Commission's new office building, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, meeting room 201. The main topic of this News Conference is to introduce the pre-qualification process and results of the National Swimming Center Architecture Design Competition to domestic and foreign journalists. The second topic of the News Conference is for the Organizer (Beijing State-owned Assets Management Co., Ltd) to introduce the detailed situation concerning the background, size of the plot area, and surrounding local environment of the National Swimming Center.

### **(1) National Swimming Center Architecture Design Competition Pre-qualification Evaluation Process**

Ms. Huang Yan, deputy director of Beijing Urban Planning Commission, will introduce the prequalification evaluation process for the National Swimming Center Architecture Design Competition to domestic and foreign journalists, and then announce the evaluation results. Ten Participants have been short-listed as candidates for the Design competition. These ten Participants, approved by the Beijing Municipal Government, are now formal candidates for the National Swimming Center.

The National Swimming Center Architecture Design Competition is a significant stage in the building of the National Swimming Center, which started on the 15<sup>th</sup> January 2003. By 16:00 on the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2003, a total of 33 Participants (including individuals or consortia) joined this Competition. They come from Japan, France, The United Kingdom, the USA, Greece, South Korea, Australia, the Netherlands, Austria, Germany, Denmark and China making 12 countries and areas. They fully represent a world-class level of international sports facility and venue design.

### **2). Progress of the National Swimming Center Project**

Mr. Wang Yuxi, the General Manager of Beijing State-owned Assets Management Co., Ltd (the Project Employer), will introduce the progress of the National Swimming Center Project. On 31<sup>st</sup> December 2002 Beijing State-owned Assets Management Co., Ltd received a letter ([2002] 111) of approval from the Beijing Municipal Government, formally making it the Employer of the National Swimming Center and the Chinese Employer of the National Stadium. The company is responsible for the finance, design, architecture, maintenance and commercial operations for the two venues. Starting from November last year, in order to organize the ownership tender of the two Olympic Projects, to plan the design tender and complete the pre-work for the project Architecture, and also to guarantee both of the two stadia can start work on time, Beijing State-owned Assets Management Co., Ltd has completed the following preparatory work:

Firstly, they have established Olympic Leadership and Business management implementation systems that clearly indicate work divisions and rational structures to enable a highly efficient operation. For the implementation system, they have specifically separately set up National Stadium and the National Swimming Center project teams responsible for project architecture and management. They are recruiting talent in relevant fields to complete their teams in areas such as financing management, stadium commercialization planning and operation, project architecture and management.

Secondly, they have established a well-managed and detailed information and filing management system.

The Company has strengthened cooperation with international banks and well-known international financial organizations, and founded a specialized, international-standard financial management system for the Olympic projects. Together with the above, SAM has also improved fund-management efficiency, and controlled investment risks.

SAM has already started to find the best partners worldwide. These include project management, architecture evaluation, tendering agency, measurement surveying, design and operation

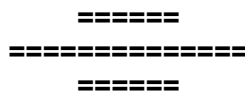
organizations, as well as banks, guarantee and insurance companies. A number of these have already started work.

The legal system has also been greatly improved. For each project, SAM has engaged a well-known and respected law firm as their legal consultant respectively.

SAMs working practices and decision-making are up to international standards. To help accomplish this, the company is organizing an "international joint steering team". Up to today, they have contacted over 100 well-known international organizations and individuals, covering all aspects of services for the construction of the Olympic stadium. These include the fields of financing management, international law, design management, architecture, structure, and negotiation strategy.

Lastly, following the requirements of the Beijing Municipal Government, the pace of construction work on the Olympic projects has been increased. A freshly drawn-up working schedule will guarantee the starting time for work on the two stadia. For the National Stadium, this will begin at 10:00 am on the 24<sup>th</sup> December 2003, while for the National Swimming Center it will be at 10:00 am on the 12<sup>th</sup> December 2003.

The main participating organizations for this news conference are: The Organizational Committee of the 29<sup>th</sup> Olympiad, The Architecture Administration Committee of Beijing Olympic Central Zone, Beijing Municipal Government of development Planning, Beijing Urban Planning Commission, Beijing Construction Committee, Beijing Municipal Management Committee, Beijing Municipal Administration of State Land, Resources and Housing Office, Beijing News Office, Beijing Foreign Affairs Office, the short listed candidates for the National Swimming Center Architecture Design Competition, as well as the domestic and foreign news media.



**Speech by Mr. Wang Yuxi,  
the General Manager of Beijing State-owned Assets Management Co., Ltd at the News  
Conference of the Competition for Architecture Design of the National Swimming Center  
14 March 2003**

Distinguished leaders, guests, friends, ladies and gentlemen,

Good morning,

Firstly, on behalf of all the staff of Beijing State-owned Assets Management Co., Ltd, I would like to welcome and thank you all for attending today's news conference on the National Swimming Center Architecture Design Competition. I would also like to thank the relevant government departments, design institutes and agents, namely the Three Gorges International Tendering Company and Beijing Science Park Auction and Tendering Company, for all of their hard work on this design competition.

On Dec. 31 2002, as approved by the Beijing Municipal Government ([2002]111), Beijing State-owned Assets Management Co., Ltd is honored to be the Employer of the National Swimming Center and the Chinese Employer of the National Stadium for the 2008 Olympic Games. We are responsible for design, construction, maintenance, and operational management during the Olympic Games, as well as its commercial operation beforehand and afterwards.

Our company is a professional asset management organization directly managed by Beijing Municipal Government. Entrusted and authorized by Beijing Municipal government, we are engaged in managing state-owned assets and capital operations to ensure and increase their value. We are one of the most important financial arms, industrial restructure and city operation entity for Beijing city. The company's authorized scope is to operate comprehensive state-owned asset operations for trans-industrial, trans-departmental, and trans-regional fields.

At present, our total assets exceed RMB 10 billion, and has net assets of more than RMB 9 billion, of which the quality is excellent.

Apart from being responsible for the National Swimming Center and National Stadium, on the basis of the policies of the municipal Government, we conduct extremely effective investment and operations placing great emphasis on financial services, infrastructure construction, modern manufacturing, and high-technology.

The Company has stock in over 70 enterprises, all of which are very important for the economic development of the city. These include securities, Beijing commercial banks, the Metro '5<sup>th</sup> Line, modern automobiles 'Zhongxin' International. The company owns specialized, market-specialized, internationalized capital operations and management teams. Olympic projects will become our most important vision and we will take advantages of our financial services, specialized investment management experience, and risk control capability to ensure they are completed successfully.

In order to meet the requirements of the Beijing Committee and Beijing Municipal government, to guarantee "the first class design, the top quality, the most excellent construction, the fair and transparent tendering, and the most successful commercial operation" for the Olympic projects, we have taken the motto of "a green Olympics, a high-tech, and a human's Olympics as our principle so that the Olympic stadium, should "leave a legacy to China's history, and build up a national milestone".

Ever since we received this task, we had worked under the leadership of the Beijing Municipal Government, with the guidance and support of the related Government departments, such as Beijing Organizing Committee for the Games of 29<sup>th</sup> Olympiad, the Construction Administration Committee of Beijing Olympic Central Zone. Beijing Development and Planning Commission, Beijing Urban Planning Commission. In doing this, we have completed detailed work following national law, regulations, policies, and international commercial conventions, and systematic working practices, to organize the best working structure and talent, and learn from experiences both in China and abroad.

Following the requirements of the Beijing Municipal Government, concerning the speed of construction of the Olympic Stadium, we have confirmed the starting time for work on the National Stadium shall start on the 24th December, and for the National Swimming Center on the 12th December this year.

The National Swimming Center Architecture Design Competition is an important part of the pre-work to guarantee that the construction of the Swimming Center project will be started on time. On the 15<sup>th</sup> January this year, in the same meeting room, we sent out invitations to the outstanding stadium design institutions and individuals all over the world, to formally start the competition. By 4 o'clock in the afternoon on the 20<sup>th</sup> February the deadline for submission of documents for pre-qualification of the competition, we received applications from China, Japan, France, The United Kingdom, the USA, Greece, South Korea, Australia, the Netherlands, Austria, Germany, Denmark, Hong Kong, making a total of 33 submissions from 12 countries and regions. These organizations have all tried extremely hard for this competition, and represent the best level of the world in stadium design.

On the basis of the principle of "openness, justice and fairness", strictly following the related laws and regulations under the notarization of the Beijing Notary Public Office through the process, we organized special staff to receive, summarize, and analyze these documents. We requested experts from every field to establish a committee to examine, appraise and complete the pre-qualification work. With a just, responsible, scientific and objective attitude the Prequalification Committee selected the ten top candidates for this competition.

I'd like to announce the 10 participants as follows:

1. Kawaguchi & Engineers Co. Ltd. (Joint Venture)  
Kawaguchi & Engineers Co. Ltd. (Japan)  
Takamatsu Architect & Associates Co. Ltd. (Japan)
2. Cox Group Pty Ltd (Joint Venture)  
Cox Group Pty Ltd. (Australia)  
Beijing Institute of Architectural Design and Research (China)
3. China State Construction Engineering Corporation (Joint Venture)  
China State Construction Engineering Corporation (China)  
PTW Architects (Australia)  
Ove Arup Pty Ltd. (Australia)
4. Shanghai Xian Dai Architectural Design (Group) Co., Ltd. (China)
5. HOK Sport Limited (UK)
6. Dominique Perrault Architects (France)
7. Rafael Vinoly Architects PC (USA)
8. DECATHLON S.A. Project Planning & Engineering Consultants of Athens (Joint Venture)  
DECATHLON S.A. Project Planning & Engineering Consultants (Athens Greece)  
UNIVERSAL ATELIER International GROUP (Australia)  
NANJING DOMESTIC ARCHITECTURE & LANDSCAPE Institute (China)
9. Foster Arup Sport (Joint Venture)  
(1) Foster and Partners (UK)  
(2) Ove Arup & Partners Ltd. (UK)
10. China Architecture Design & Research Group (CAG) (China)

In the next design competition, we will ask the participants to deliver the plan to the level of details, not just a conceptual design. And also the design not only should have advanced character and creation from outward appearance, but also being balanced between practice and cost-efficiency, The design must be able to satisfy the needs from both the Olympic games, including swimming, diving, water polo events and synchronized swimming, and the needs of the largest multifunctional aquatic leisure, recreation, fitness and sports center in Beijing before and after the Olympic Games.

The detailed work schedule and time table have been described on the design competition document and the relevant materials. We believe every participant will become the winner finally as each of your dedicated design will become the legacy of Beijing Olympic history.

Again, I would like to extend my great thanks to every participant and also thank all of you for your great attention and dedication on the National Swimming Center. I believe Beijing and China will always remember your intelligence and creation.  
Thank you.