

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

NORR Designed Al Hitmi Building Short Listed for World Architecture News Award

TORONTO, Ontario – December 8, 2010 - The Al-Hitmi office building in Doha, Qatar, which was designed by NORR Group Consultants International Limited, has been included in the short list in the Commercial Properties division of the international architectural awards programme organised by World Architecture News (WAN)

The WAN Awards are devoted to completed or to be completed but yet un-built commercial buildings and honours all types of facilities in this sector — offices, banks, hotel, cultural and leisure complexes and commercial centres.

Yahya Jan, NORR Vice President and Design Director explains, “Not only does this unique building provide excellent office space close to the water, but it is a elegant and sculptural showpiece for the commercial community.”

The Al Hitmi Commercial Development is located on a prime waterfront site along the Doha Corniche, and this contemporary project is one of the latest landmarks in this city’s rapidly emerging skyline. The project consists of a 7-storey high linearly arranged office block anchored by a 15-storey residential tower. The massing of the project is a direct response to the development’s proximity to the water.

This high-quality commercial building complex is divided into two wings. The east wing comprises two basements, a ground floor, a transfer level, six rentable office floors and a roof garden. The west wing also comprises two basements, a ground floor and a transfer level, but has seven rentable office floors and a roof that is used to house the complex’s chillers. The middle area comprises an atrium with seven bridges connecting the two wings.

The unique lighting systems in the building capture the imagination as the interior lights dim as workers leave the building but entertain the community as darkness falls. The building is enrobed in a unique emdelight illuminated glass blocks and works with special controls to bring the building to life with ever-changing exterior colours throughout the night.

The WAN award winner for the Commercial Properties division will be announced December 14th.

NORR

Founded in Canada in 1938, NORR has offices in Dubai, Abu Dhabi, New Delhi, Calgary, Vancouver, Toronto, Ottawa, Kingston, Chicago, Detroit, Sacramento and Tampa.

A member of the Ingenium Group of companies, NORR offers full-service architecture, engineering, planning and interior design, providing truly integrated solutions for a wide range of transportation, commercial, institutional and lifestyle projects. The NORR brand provides a well-honed balance of design, technology and management skills. For more information: www.NORR.com

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