

## MEINHARDT IN FOCUS

Since the beginning of this year, “Omicron” has emerged as the dominant variant in the region causing more chaos and uncertainty. **The construction industry remains on a roller coaster ride, with investor confidence again being tested. Nevertheless, the economy is showing some signs of recovery and we remain optimistic** that the worst of the pandemic is now behind us with a healthy number of new enquires received this past month. Both Meinhardt’s Bangkok and Yangon offices remain fully open to serve all our clients. We will continue to provide high quality services for our existing and new projects as the leading consulting engineers in the region.



*Theera Wattanasup*  
Director



## PROJECT IN FOCUS

WHA Group is one of leading firms in Thailand and Southeast Asia, provides logistics, industrial property development and utility power services. Meinhardt is proud to participate in their innovative project **“WHA Tower Bangna”**, which is a new headquarter of WHA Group.

The tower comprises 52,000 sq.m. over 25-storeys. The flexible office space features lots of innovation and unique architecture to enhance the executive working ambience. Meinhardt provided **Civil & Structural and MEP engineering design review services, and Façade and Lighting design services.**

## STAFF IN FOCUS

**Khun Sopak Kanchanasot**, Associate Director, joined Meinhardt (Thailand) Ltd. in 2004, graduating with a B.Eng. (Civil Engineering) and M.Eng. (Structural Engineering). He has 19 years’ experience in a wide range of developments including residential, commercial, office, low-rise and high-rise buildings, factories, schools, and sports complexes both in Thailand and regionally, coupled with experience in the design of the highways and infra-structure.

“I have always been glad to be a part of the great atmosphere at Meinhardt, working with my fellow dedicated teammates across multiple disciplines, working together to deliver challenging projects.”



*Sopak Kanchanasot*  
Associate Director

## FACT IN FOCUS



The cement industry contributes 8% of the world’s CO2 emissions. If it was a country, it would be the 3<sup>rd</sup> highest emitter (after USA and China). A square meter of floor space constructed using concrete and steel emits 27kg and 40kg of CO2, respectively. Substituting concrete and steel with timber could reduce emissions by up to 10 times, whilst also providing long term carbon capture and storage within the building. Building with timber maybe challenging but is not impossible, even in high rise buildings. **The world’s highest wooden building is currently the Mjøstårnet\***, an 18-storey (85.4m high) mixed-use tower in Norway, with structural frame made from glue-laminated timber (GLT) and cross-laminated timber (CLT). Other notable examples include the unfinished 105m high Sanctuary of Truth museum in Pattaya, Thailand; the £1bn Google HQ in London which will have the world’s largest wooden facade (23,300m<sup>2</sup>) and Forest Green Rovers football club in England, who are planning a new 5,000-capacity (expandable) wooden stadium. Meanwhile, France has pledged that new public buildings must be constructed with a minimum 50% wood or sustainable materials from 2022 onwards.

\*Mjøstårnet at its opening in March 2019,  
by NinaRundsvaen, licensed under CC BY-SA 4.0

Source: Guinness World Records, Tallest wooden building, accessed 15 January 2022, <<https://www.guinnessworldrecords.com/world-records/79569-tallest-wooden-building>>