

Press Release

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BENOY Announces Multi-Million Pound China Contracts during the Prime Minister's Delegation

International, award-winning Architecture firm BENOY is delighted to announce three major new contracts for the company in China, with a combined fee value of over £4 Million.

Specialising in iconic urban design as the Architects of Westfield in London, Ferrari World Abu Dhabi, ION Orchard in Singapore, Shanghai IFC and Elements Mall in Hong Kong, Benoy started working in China in 2001. Over the last decade, the global Benoy team has worked tirelessly to establish a reputation as one of the most recognised international architectural brands and a leading player in China.

Named 'Company of the Year in China' at last year's British Business Awards, Benoy is now realising the aspirations of some of China's biggest developers by designing nearly 200 world-class retail, hospitality, transportation, residential and commercial destinations that enhance the quality of urban life in 28 cities.

With client Maxon Group, Benoy has been commissioned to design the iconic **Tongzhou Centre, Beijing** a mixed-use development in the heart of Beijing's Central Business District. This 700,000m² project will include two super high-rise office towers, two serviced apartment towers and one super-luxury hotel. The ambitious project has an investment value of RMB 10 Billion.

Benoy's contract to design the major 500,000m² **Raffles City, Shenzhen** for CapitalLand will be the first Raffles City in Southern China. Situated in the heart of Shenzhen's commercial Nanshan district, the scheme will comprise of an office tower, retail mall, hotel and an impressive high-end residential development. Raffles City, Shenzhen has an investment value in the region of RMB 6 Billion.

For our client APP, **White Magnolia, Shanghai** will introduce a spectacular centerpiece to Shanghai's eagerly anticipated New Bund area. The 400,000m² development includes a 320m office tower, five-star hotel tower, iconic leisure and entertainment pavilion and five floors of retail that connect with Shanghai's Metro system. This breathtaking location, with views of Pudong across the Huangpu River, will introduce an innovative new "indoor-outdoor" retail concept for China, transforming Shanghai's shopping, leisure and lifestyle offer.

Chairman of Benoy, Graham Cartledge CBE, said:

"We are honoured to announce three milestone contracts for Benoy in China. It is a privilege to be able to contribute to the evolution of the contemporary Chinese city and use our global expertise to design and deliver commercially-successful developments for our visionary clients."

Business Secretary Vince Cable said:

"Benoy's expanding presence in China is testament to the strong economic relationship between China and the UK, and to the benefits that trade and overseas investment can bring to UK companies.

"I am pleased to see more and more companies capitalising on the opportunities offered by China's development. I hope that this week's visit will serve to open doors for more UK firms, and I wish Benoy every success in their future business."

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Notes to Editors

Benoy's Chairman Graham Cartledge CBE is accompanying the Prime Minister to China as part of the official business delegation.

Benoy

Benoy's Chairman Graham Cartledge CBE will be signing the company's Tongzhou Centre contract with our client Mei Ling Yang, Chairman of Maxon Group and Yunfeng Wang, Party Secretary, Tongzhou District at the VIP Signing Ceremony hosted during the Business Summit in Beijing on Wednesday 10 November.

For interviews, further information and imagery please contact Kitty Parkes who will be in Beijing from Sunday 7 – Thursday 11 November 2010.

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- Benoy is an international, award-winning firm of Architects, Masterplanners, Interior and Graphic Designers. Founded in 1947, Benoy has become a truly global player, a leading creative force and one of the top ten architectural practices in the UK.
- Benoy has offices in the UK, Abu Dhabi, Mumbai, Singapore, Hong Kong and Shanghai and received the Queen's Awards for Enterprise in the category of International Trade in 2008. In November 2010, Benoy will open an office in Beijing.
- Benoy is working in 28 locations across China, including: Anshan, Beijing, Chengdu, Chongqing, Dongguan, Foshan, Guangzhou, Guiyang, Guizhou, Hai Nan Island, Hangzhou, Hong Kong, Jinan, Jinhua, Kunming, Nanjing, Ningbo, Qingdao, Shanghai, Shenyang, Shenzhen, Suzhou, Tianjin, Wuhan, Xian, Xinghua, Zhangzhou and Zhuhai.
- Benoy was ranked 29th in the 'The Sunday Times International Track 100' (published 11 July 2010); short listing the top British private companies on international sales growth.
- Striving to promote the British creative offering overseas, Benoy's Chairman Graham Cartledge CBE is a proactive Board Director of the China Britain Business Council. Graham also sits as a member of Rt Hon Vince Cable's Asia Task Force.

Benoy Foundation in China

- Benoy is a proactive supporter and investor in the local communities where the company works in the UK and around the world. This is achieved through local CSR initiatives and the work of the Benoy Foundation – a charitable trust made possible by Graham and Jo Cartledge.
- The Benoy Foundation identified a charitable partner who shares the company's commitment and long-term mindset to China. ActionAid have operated in the region since 1997 and have the local infrastructure and Government support to improve economic and social opportunities within these communities.
- The Benoy Foundation project in partnership with ActionAid is well underway in China. It focuses on infrastructure and service upgrades to rural villages, including the construction of water wells, irrigation channels and bridges. It also looks to develop women's skills in agriculture and food production, improving their ability to generate income, and building and running local health centres. In addition, a 'revolving loan fund' is available to help families buy crops, livestock and start a small business.
- The project is active in over 20 villages impacting on some 7000 people in two of China's poorest provinces, Guangxi and Guizhou. Graham and Jo Cartledge visited these villages to meet beneficiaries and see the initiative at work in September 2010.

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