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The 'desirability' theory by Alex Shlaen

Despite rankings of various 'best' cities around the globe, Alex Shlaen feels that the data are not accurate enough to reflect the

Malaysia: An investor's look by Tay Han Chong

Tay Han Chong tells Property Report the pros and cons of investing in Malaysia.

Property Investment : The Basics by Annie Lim

Annie Lim explains the ups and downs of property investment and some of the basics knowledge that one needs when investing.

Legal issues with the transfer process. by Desmond Hughes & Timo Bauer

If you want to make a point about the nonchalant attitude of a developer and agent to timing, what can you legally do?

Good deeds. How good is your title? by Julian Male

The dream of owning your own piece of paradise can turn into an investor's worst nightmare unless you know your legal rights.

2008/2009 What an eventful

Bangkok building takes bronze in global architecture competition.

by Andrew Batt



A Bangkok skyscraper has ranked third in a prestigious global high-rise architectural competition.

The Met on the Thai capital's South Sathorn Road, designed by WOHA Architects, has won the bronze prize in the annual Emporis Skyscraper of the Year award. The 69-storey residential tower incorporates multiple green features and optimises energy-efficient comfort in a tropical climate.

Chicago's Aqua was the overall winner. Jury members meet annually to judge buildings of at least 100 metres tall completed during the award year. At a height of 262 metres, Aqua is currently the 40th tallest in the United States of America and was the fifth tallest building completed last year.

Members of the jury praised Aqua for its innovative shape, the appearance of which changes drastically depending on the perspective. They also commended the technical achievement in relation to the precision of the building's construction and the green design innovations employed despite the massive size of the tower.

The Silver Award was presented to O14 in Dubai, designed by Reiser + Umemoto Architecture. O14, whose name is taken from its lot number in the Business Bay development. The building is an office tower wrapped in a curved concrete sheath, punctuated by circular holes of varying sizes. Its shell forms a shield against the powerful sunlight in the Arabian desert.

WOHA Architects, the company behind The Met, also designed Newton Suites in Singapore which collected second prize in the 2007 Awards. A total of 305 buildings were eligible for the 2009 awards. A presentation ceremony will be held in Chicago later this year.

The top ranked buildings in the Emporis Skyscraper Award for 2009 were:

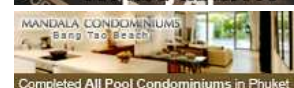
1. Aqua, Chicago, U.S.
2. O14, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
3. The Met, Bangkok, Thailand.
4. Torres de Hércules, Los Barrios, Spain.
5. Trump International Hotel & Tower, Chicago, U.S.
6. The Red Apple, Rotterdam, Netherlands.
7. Bank of America Tower, New York City, U.S.
8. Almas Tower, Dubai, United Arab Emirates.
9. Millennium Tower, San Francisco, U.S.
10. William Beaver House, New York City, U.S.

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year**by Dr Chua Yang Liang**

Despite the weak economic outlook, 2009 took the property market by surprise doing much better than expected.

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timeshare developments in the near future...

★ **Bangkok office market transactions top THB10 billion during 2009,**

A number of cash-rich Thai families are looking at office buildings as alternative investments, while the trend of companies looking to dispose of non-core assets looks set to continue w...

★ **Best Western opens its fourth hotel on the island of Phuket.**

Best Western International has announced the opening of its fourth hotel in the Thai island of Phuket. The 129-room Best Western Allamanda Laguna Phuket is situated on Phuket's Bang Ta...

★ **IFA Hotels & Resorts reports US\$17 million loss**

Kuwaiti fractional property and hotel developer IFA Hotels & Resorts has reported a half-year loss of 4.96 million Kuwaiti dinars (US\$17.37 million)....

Properties of the week**Land - Canggu****Price : POA**

Last piece available in the area! Perfect land contour, slightly sloping down to the beach. Good infrastructure. Asphalt access ready. Beautiful view, quiet & nice environment.

Land - Jomtien South**Price : 1,000,000 THB**

1 RAI 39 TLW OVER 332 RD THIS AREA ENJOYS STUNNING MOUNTAIN VIEWS WITH DISTANT SEA VIEWS 10 MINS FROM TESCO & NR PLUTALUNG GOLF COURSE THERE ARE NOW HOUSE BUILDS IN PROGRESS TO THIS AREA CAN SPLIT

House / Townhouse - Malaysia**Price : 3,650,000 USD**

This luxurious resort living house is situated in Sect 16, sitting on a 15000sft freehold land with a built up area of 9118 sft. It consisted of 5 bedrooms + 2 study +1 maid, 9 bathrooms and 8 store rooms. There is an audio visual room in the basement, ablution and prayer rooms and a steam room as we

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