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#### **NEWS RELEASE**

# CapitaLand and Hotel Properties Limited unveil OMA's design for The Interlace condominium at Gillman Heights Internationally renowned architect OMA introduces new residential typology to Singapore

**Singapore, 4 September 2009** – CapitaLand and Hotel Properties Limited today unveiled the design for The Interlace, a new residential development located on the former Gillman Heights Condominium site. A total of 1,040 apartment units will be built on the expansive eight-hectare site set amidst a verdant green belt at the Southern Ridges of Singapore.

Designed by Ole Scheeren, Partner of the Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA), The Interlace breaks away from the standard typology of residential developments in Singapore which comprises a cluster of isolated, vertical towers. Instead, the design for The Interlace explores a dramatically different approach to tropical living with an expansive and interconnected network of communal spaces with the natural environment. Thirty-one apartment blocks, each six stories tall, are stacked in a hexagonal arrangement to form eight large-scale courtyards. The interlocking blocks resemble a 'vertical village' with cascading sky gardens and both private and public roof terraces.

Mr Ole Scheeren said: "The design addresses concerns of shared space and social needs in a contemporary society and simultaneously responds to issues of shared living and individuality by offering a multiplicity of indoor/outdoor spaces specific to the tropical context."

Ms Patricia Chia, CEO of CapitaLand Residential Singapore, said: "This is a great opportunity to create and build a residential destination at the Gillman Heights site that will challenge the present architectural definition of the living space. In developing the dramatic external form, we have also focused much attention on creating comfortable internal spaces. Our vision for the site is to build homes that will last through the generations and to define an address that the home owner identifies with. The name, The Interlace, reinforces the interconnectivity between man and the space, community and natural environment surrounding him. Ole Scheeren has created a new postcard for Singapore."

Mr Christopher Lim, Group Executive Director of Hotel Properties Limited, said: "The Interlace, with its innovative design and lush cascading gardens, is set to be another focal point in the Southern Ridges area. The development will integrate seamlessly with the serene parks and dramatic bridges surrounding it. Together with the site's excellent location in the lush Southern Ridges area and accessibility to retail, entertainment and office facilities, we are confident that The Interlace will appeal to well-travelled and cosmopolitan homebuyers who have been searching for a home with a difference."

The design of the project is led by Ole Scheeren, Partner, together with Eric Chang, Associate of OMA. Mr Scheeren is responsible for the office's works across Asia, including the China Central Television Station (CCTV) headquarters and the Television Cultural Center (TVCC) in Beijing, and the MahaNakhon in Bangkok. His previous work includes the Prada Epicenters in New York City and Los Angeles.

The project architect is Singapore-based RSP Architects Planners & Engineers and the landscape architect is award-winning ICN Design International. CapitaLand is the lead project manager for The Interlace, which it is developing jointly with two other shareholders, including Hotel Properties Limited.

#### The Interlace

The Interlace sits on an elevated 81,000-square metre, 99-year leasehold site bounded by Alexandra Road and the Ayer Rajah Expressway. With about 170,000 square metres of gross floor area, the development will provide 1,040 apartment units of varying sizes with extensive outdoor spaces and landscaping.

#### A commitment to nature

The design capitalises on the generous size of the site and further maximises the presence of nature by introducing extensive roof gardens, landscaped sky terraces and cascading balconies, and minimising above-ground vehicular circulation, such that there will be large green areas within the development. The Interlace incorporates sustainability features through careful environmental analysis of sun, wind, and micro-climate conditions on site and the integration of low-impact passive energy strategies.

#### The experience of space

The site completes a green belt that stretches between Kent Ridge, Telok Blangah Hill and Mount Faber parks. The 31 apartment blocks at The Interlace are stacked in an interlocking hexagonal arrangement to form eight large-scale, open and permeable courtyards and create the topography of a 'vertical village' with cascading sky terraces, private and public roof terraces and balconies, vertically extending and elevating the natural landscape of the courtyards. The horizontally inter-layered volumes generate numerous vantage points with unobstructed vistas in multiple orientations towards the greenery of the surrounding parks, city skyline, and the sea.

# A focus on community

While maintaining the privacy of individual apartment units through the generous spacing of the building blocks and far-ranging views, The Interlace offers residents the choice of areas for individual retreat as well as communal spaces for shared activity. Extensive residential amenities and facilities are interwoven into the lush vegetation and offer opportunities for social interaction, leisure, and recreation within the green terrain.

# Enjoying the conveniences of urban living

The Interlace is centrally located and readily accessible to numerous leisure and business hubs as well as transport connections. It is a five-minute drive to VivoCity, Sentosa and the integrated resort, a 10-minute drive to the Central Business District and 15 minutes to Orchard Road. The development is accessible via the Ayer Rajah Expressway and West Coast Highway, as well as the Queenstown, Redhill, HarbourFront and future Labrador Park MRT stations.

Retail, entertainment and office facilities in the vicinity include VivoCity, St James Power Station entertainment hub, HarbourFront Office Park, IKEA and Anchorpoint Shopping Centre. For nature lovers, the development is within walking distance to the Southern Ridges, a nine-kilometre chain of green, open spaces spanning Mount Faber Park, Telok Blangah Hill Park, Kent Ridge Park and West Coast Park. It is also in close proximity to one of Singapore's national parks, HortPark, which is a 23-hectare regional park connecting Telok Blangah Hill Park to Kent Ridge Park and offers recreational and lifestyle activities within a one-stop gardening hub. In addition, The Interlace will be near to a 2.2km Labrador Nature and Coastal Walk, to be completed by 2011, and which will connect Alexandra Road to the Keppel Harbour area. The walk is part of an eight-kilometre loop that connects The Southern Ridges to the southern waterfront of Singapore.

Educational institutes in the area include ISS International School (American College), National University of Singapore, United World College, Anglo-Chinese Junior College, Anglo-Chinese Independent School, INSEAD and Crescent Girls' School.

## **About CapitaLand Limited**

CapitaLand is one of Asia's largest real estate companies. Headquartered and listed in Singapore, the multi-local company's core businesses in real estate, hospitality and real estate financial services are focused in growth cities in Asia Pacific, Europe and the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries. The company's real estate and hospitality portfolio spans about 120 cities in over 20 countries. CapitaLand also leverages on its significant asset base, real estate domain knowledge, financial skills and extensive market network to develop real estate financial products and services in Singapore and the region. The listed subsidiaries and associates of CapitaLand include Australand, CapitaMall Trust, CapitaCommercial Trust, Ascott Residence Trust and CapitaRetail China Trust.

# **About Hotel Properties Limited**

Hotel Properties Limited (HPL) was listed on the Stock Exchange of Singapore in 1982. Starting with just the Hilton Hotel in Singapore, HPL has expanded rapidly over the years. Today HPL has interests in 21 hotels spanning 9 countries and has established its position as a niche property developer of prime residential properties.

## **About Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA)**

The Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA) is a leading international partnership practicing contemporary architecture, urbanism, and cultural analysis. The office is led by six partners – Rem Koolhaas, Ole Scheeren, Ellen van Loon, Reinier de Graaf, Shohei Shigematsu and Managing Partner, Victor van der Chijs – and employs a staff of around 220 people of more than 35 nationalities.

OMA's recently completed projects include Prada Transformer, a rotating multi-use pavilion in Seoul (2009), the Zeche Zollverein Historical Museum and master plan in Essen (2006), the Seoul National University Museum of Art (2005), the much acclaimed Casa da Música in Porto (2005), the Prada Epicenter in Los Angeles (2004), the Seattle Central Library (2004), the Leeum Samsung Museum of Art in Seoul (2004), the Netherlands Embassy in Berlin (2003), the IIT Campus Center in Chicago (2003), and the Prada Epicenter in New York (2001).

The work of Rem Koolhaas and OMA has won several international awards including the Pritzker Architecture Prize in 2000, the Praemium Imperiale (Japan) in 2003, the RIBA Gold Medal (UK) in 2004, and the Mies van der Rohe – European Union Prize for Contemporary Architecture (2005).

#### **About Ole Scheeren**

Born in 1971 in Karlsruhe, Germany, Ole Scheeren is an internationally acclaimed architect and partner along with Rem Koolhaas in the firm of Office for Metropolitan Architecture (OMA). Scheeren is director of OMA Rotterdam and OMA Beijing and in charge of the firm's work across Asia. As partner-in-charge of OMA's largest project to date, he led the design and construction of the China Central Television Station (CCTV) and the Television Cultural Center (TVCC) in Beijing. His current projects include MahaNakhon, a 300-meter tower in Bangkok; The Interlace residential development in Singapore; a media center in Shanghai; the Taipei Performing Arts Centre in Taiwan; the conceptual plan study for the West Kowloon Cultural District project in Hong Kong; and a recently won competition to build the new city center for Shenzhen in South China. Since 1999 he has directed OMA's work for Prada and completed the Prada Epicenters in New York City (2001) and Los Angeles (2004). In 2006, Scheeren designed two exhibitions – one for The Museum of Modern Art in New York and another for Beijing – featuring the CCTV project.

Ole Scheeren joined OMA in 1995 and became partner in 2002. Previously he worked for architecture firms in Germany; collaborated with 2x4, a graphic design firm in New York; and was engaged in a range of projects through his own studio in the United Kingdom. He has been involved in various art initiatives and exhibitions, such as Cities on the Move in London and Bangkok, Media City Seoul, and the Rotterdam Film Festival. Scheeren's work is featured in the collections of major museums, including the Museum of Modern Art MoMA, New York. He writes and lectures on a regular basis. Educated at the Universities of Lausanne and Karlsruhe, Ole Scheeren graduated from the Architectural Association in London and received the RIBA Silver Medal.

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