

# **EQUIP**

**xavierclaramunt**



# **Architecture & Landscape Research and Innovation**

# Architecture & Landscape Research and Innovation



# Making new experiences possible for people



EQUIPxavierclaramunt brings together the main values of Spanish contemporary Architecture and the intense design culture of Barcelona, to offer a service based on innovation, expertise and excellence, specially focused on the design of commercial buildings such as office and highrise buildings, public facilities and hotels and landscape.

## WHO EQUIP IS

Multidisciplinary Architectural Practice  
Founded in Barcelona in 1990  
Fundació Palo Alto

We at EQUIP Xavier Claramunt are a **Multidisciplinary Architectural Practice** which offers three main product lines: **Architecture & Landscape Research and Innovation**.

We have just recently added a new category to these areas: Responses.

The practice was founded in Barcelona in **1990**. Since 2001 it has been based in **Fundació Palo Alto**, the architecture, image and design company complex in Barcelona.



## HOW EQUIP WORK

Programme analysis  
Location, processes, materials  
LAB: training

We work by **freeing ourselves of any pre-existing formal conventions**, undertaking a constant re-evaluation of the way in which our teams and clients understand their surroundings. Each design proposal has its origins in an **idea arising from the program**. It is never a preconception or a preformed notion. Establishing a work process defines the end identity.

The main characteristic which distinguishes us from other design groups is our working **without preconceptions** or preformed notions and ideas. We embark on each process together with the client, analysing information provided so as to attain **competent understanding of needs** and thus be able to generate proposals according to requirements.

Thanks to such an approach to design we remain close to our client's main needs, thus avoiding external mismanagement of any kind.

In order to be prepared for any eventuality, we at EQUIP use **LAB**. This is a system which consists in working on a specific approach before an actual client appears in order to enhance responses given to our clients' questions on previous occasions, or to prepare ourselves for future questions not yet formulated. LAB is a training session, a permanent pre-season warm-up which runs in parallel to everyday work.

## PHILOSOPHY

Permanent Reinvention  
Closer to People  
Approach of Proposal

Our products are based on three fundamental premises: The first premise is **permanent reinvention in our approach to understanding** concepts. We always make an unre-served re-evaluation of everything from the developed product through to our attitude towards work and process management.

The second premise is our desire to **be closer to people**. We propose products which will inspire cooperation between people and will be of use to them.

The third premise is to always follow a **proposal approach**. We redefine concepts using key words which explain new products to us. We redefine approaches to respond to situations as they arise.

## EQUIP ORGANIZATION

EQUIP agency-Architecture Practice  
EQUIP lab-Research and Innovation

## EQUIP AGENCY

Architecture and Landscape Practice

EQUIP Highrise buildings

EQUIP Office and Commercial buildings

EQUIP Hotels

EQUIP Landscape

## EQUIP LAB

Research and Innovation



## EQUIP ORGANIZATION

## EQUIP AGENCY

Architecture and Landscape Practice

Different areas of expertise

External consultants

Industrial partners

We at EQUIP are a **group of professionals who come from different areas** of expertise which are organised into departments and project groups. All proposals are analysed in conjunction with external partners who have come together to form a network of consultants and industrial partners.

Equip International

Department of Architecture and Interior Design

Department of Industrial Design

Department of Graphic Design

Department of Models

Department for Media Coverage

Action group

The first step is to establish a group leader responsible for decisions regarding the project and for talking to the client. The leader will immediately start work with the client to define the needs and the program and reach a consensus on all the approaches to be adopted.

Define the needs for the program

Define the proposals with the client

Make models of the proposals. Prototypes

Establish a time schedule for works

Definitive proposal

## EQUIP ORGANIZATION

## EQUIP LAB

Research and Innovation

Proposal approach+LAB

Providing a response to questions formulated by the EQUIP and being prepared for those which will be formulated in the future: This activity takes place within the framework of LAB, where work is carried out on dealing with hypothetical future requests as well as establishing models for clients we are yet to meet.

It is a question of providing responses to questions which our ideas come up with when they are trying to face new challenges. Our objective is to propose new, plausible approaches.



## CENTURY CITY TOWER

Binjiang, China. 2011

250.000M<sup>2</sup>

Hangzhou is striding from the West Lake Era to the Qiantang River Era. The New Century City, together with the Qiantang Central Business District, aim to become the new centre of a large Metropolitan Hangzhou, as a result of the integration of Binjiang, Xiaoshan and Xiasha Districts with the present city. The new Wanxiang Multifunctional Block will be a new focal point on the Century City Area and one of the new landmarks of Hangzhou new city centre, an icon amongst the different expressions of verticality of the new district.



## EQUIP Highrise buildings

Our non-conventional approach to commissions places EQUIP as an outstanding design team for iconic buildings with mixed use, including hotels, retail or offices.

We create ad-hoc proposals which might answer to a unique urban situation or the customer's will for a determined building.



### BEIJING TOWER HOTEL

Beijing, China. 2007

21.000M<sup>2</sup>

Torre Beijing is a high-rise building for a hotel in Beijing. It is an indefinite object with no clear façade, no single height, not wanting to give its name, which rises from the earth to gradually form prismatic shapes. A pleasant start to a symbolic development.



### FLAMENCO TOWERS

Binjiang, China. 2007

125.020M<sup>2</sup>

The Flamingo Towers are twin buildings in the Chinese city of Hangzhou. Located in the new development area created in contrast to the city's overprotected historical centre, the complex consists of two towers which refuse to look just to one side and twist in all directions.



**MOCAPE, MUSEUM OF CONTEMPORARY ART**

Shezhen, China. 2007  
21.900M<sup>2</sup>





**BMW MOTOR MUNICH**

Sabadell, Spain. 2005

6.280M<sup>2</sup>

A façade that cries out to attract your attention if you try to pass it by too quickly. A billboard. An enclosure for a car showroom which closes and tries to dazzle you from afar. It then opens up and allows you to look inside as you approach, teasing you with the wink of an eye.



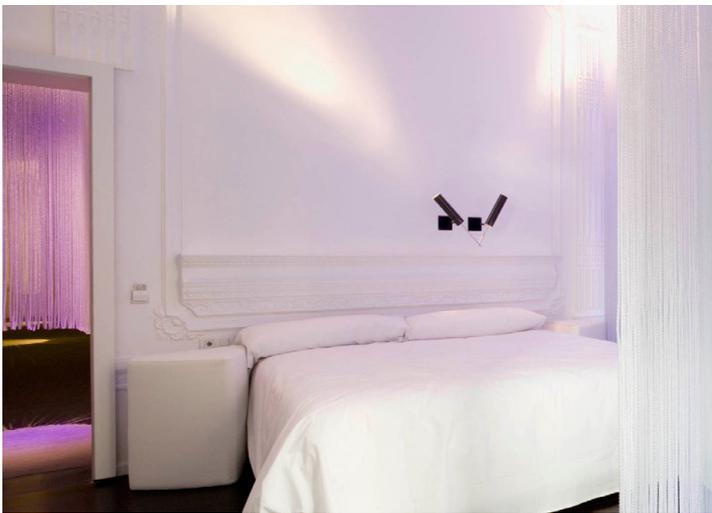


## HOTEL CHIC&BASIC BORN

Barcelona, Spain. 2006

1.540M<sup>2</sup>

It is an experience of relationships between people. Yes, it is also a hotel in where guests are invited to interact with their partner and with other guests. Shadowed movement inside the room is subtly diffused on the outside. It is impossible to know exactly what is going on, but it is noticeably intimated.





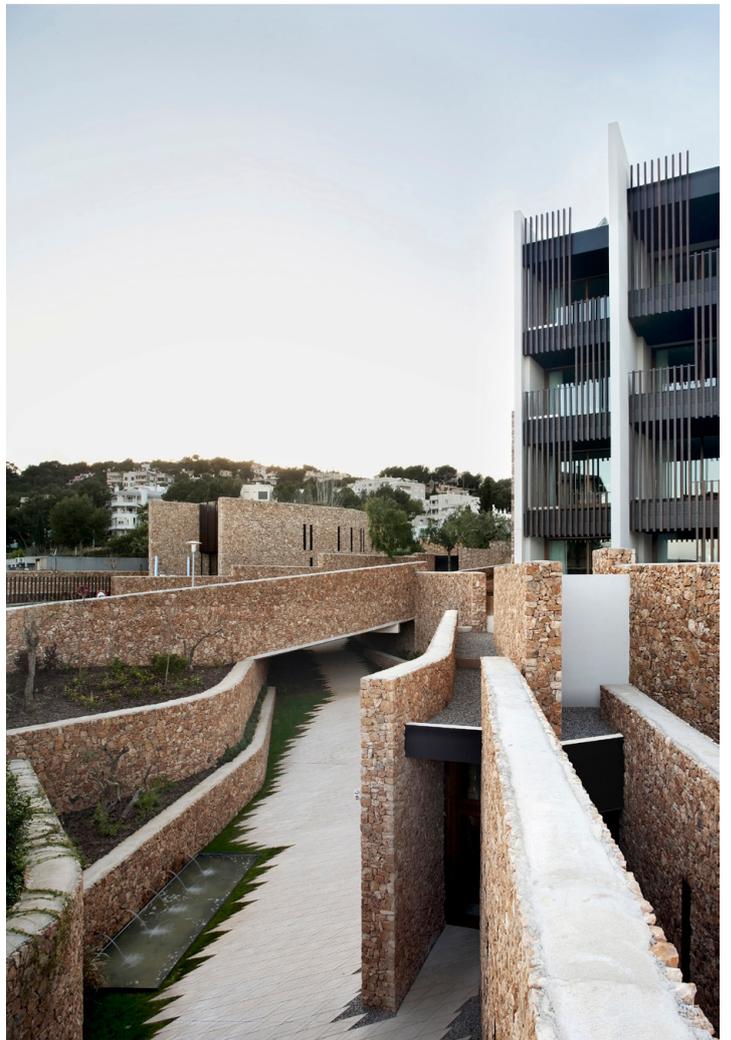
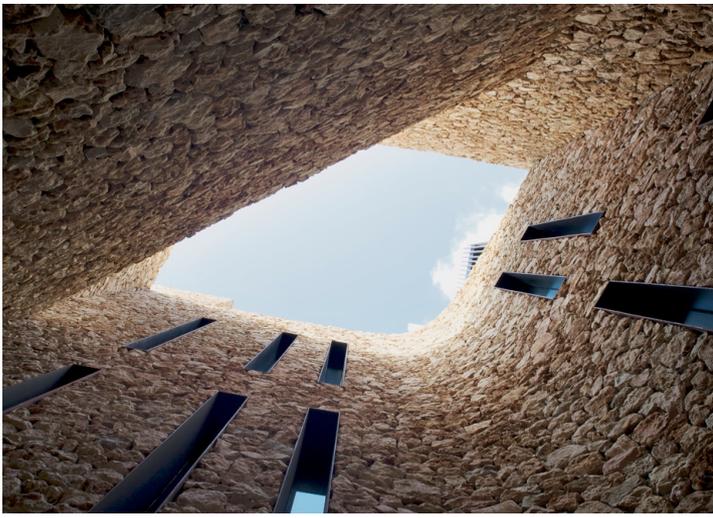
## **HOTEL HOSPES GRANADA**

Granada, Spain. 2005

7.100M<sup>2</sup>

This is the extension for a hotel constructed in a palace. An extension that passes unnoticed during the day, so as not to detract attention from the palace, its much older sibling. At night, it turns into a source of light which illuminates the palace. The value of its presence is grounded in its anonymity.

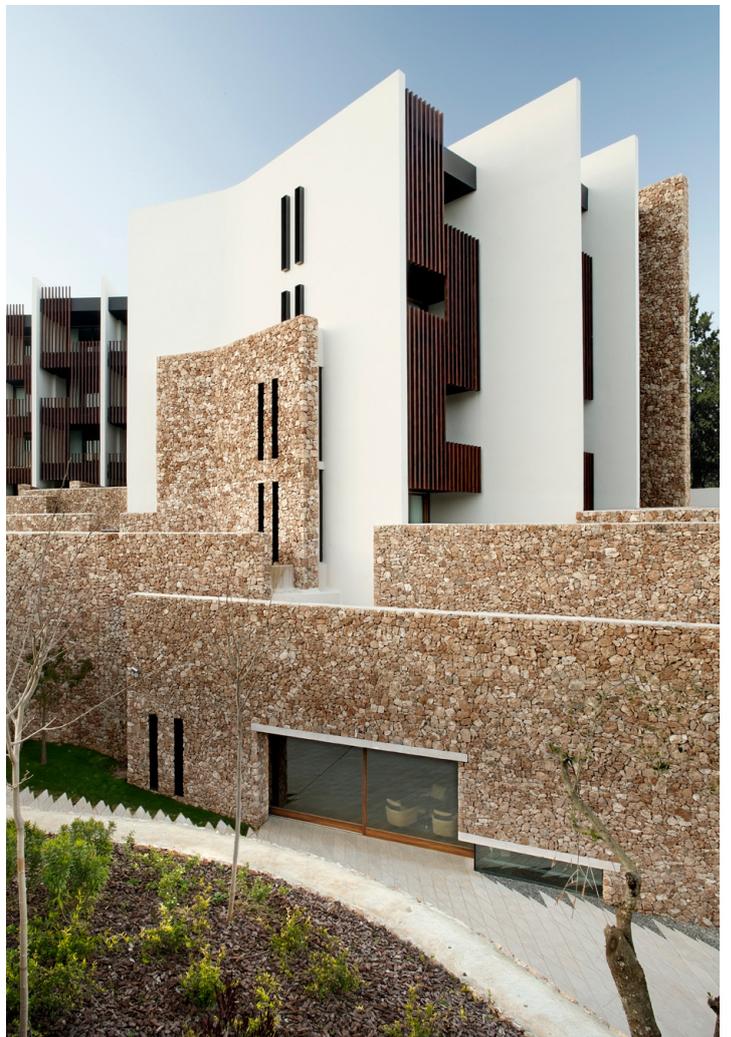




## HOTEL HOSPES PALMA

Palma de M., Spain. 2007  
5.500M<sup>2</sup>

This is a hotel on the sea front. A hollow is excavated, stone retaining walls are constructed to support the wings of a hotel that wants to be part of a forest because it knows that climbing a tree is the only way to get a view over the sea.





### **HOTEL ACTA MIMIC**

Barcelona, Spain. 2010

4.700M<sup>2</sup>

It comes from thinking that sleeping and washing are the main activities for a tourist in a hotel. Once decided that, the shower is taken to the front, giving it more light and generating a sequence of slides from the need of privacy.

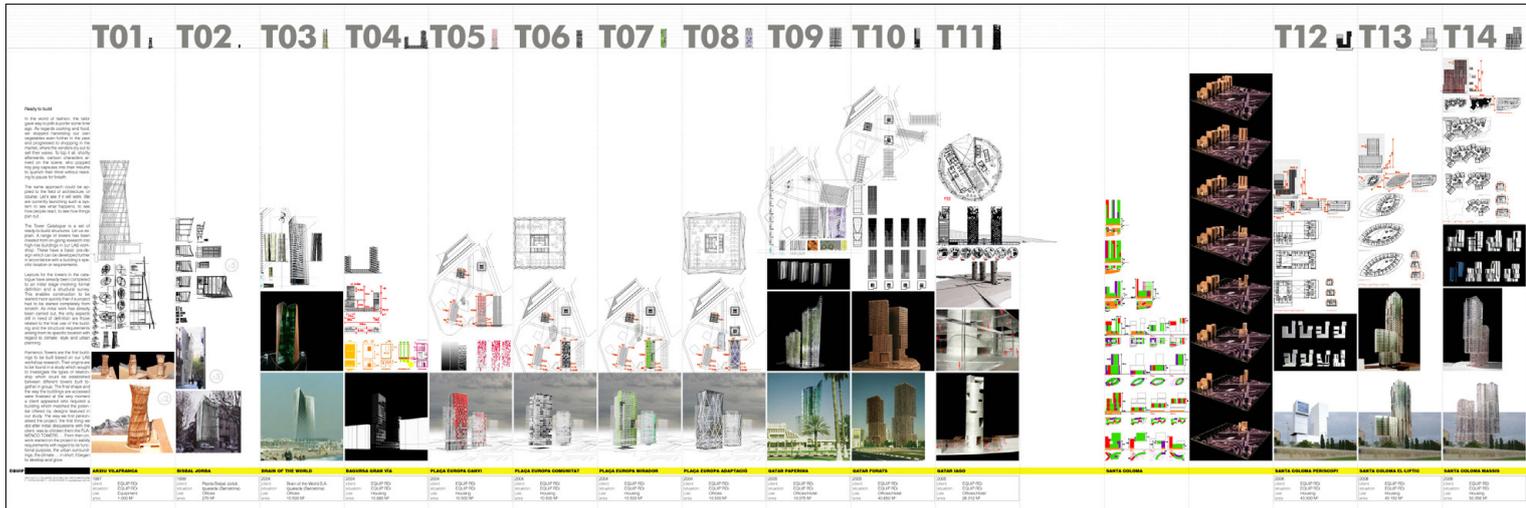




## SHANGHAI 2.0

Shanghai, China. 2008  
50.000M<sup>2</sup>

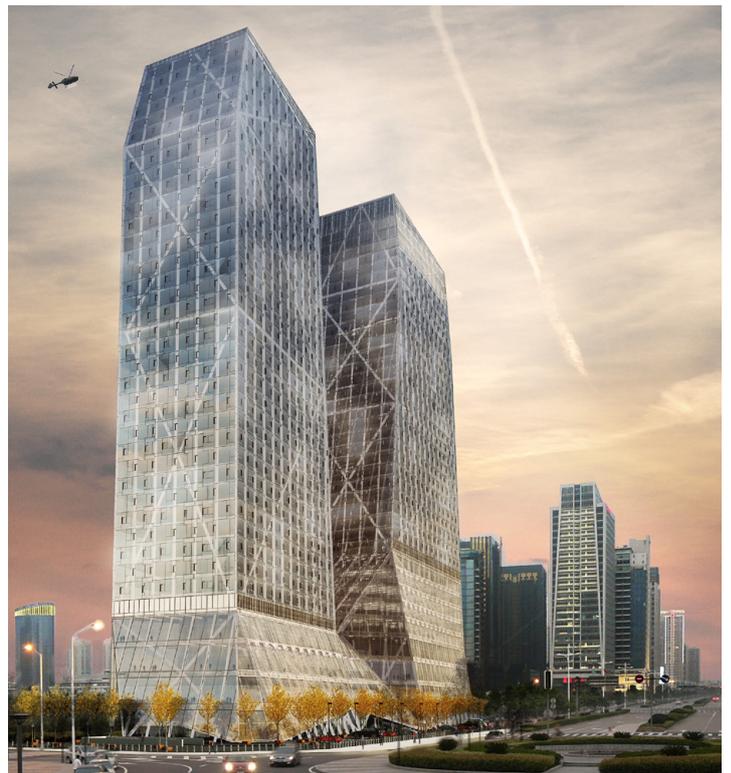
Shanghai 2.0 is a movement where someone is doing something on their own which they would prefer to do together with someone else, as performing a sequence of dance steps is just not the same when you have no partner. But music can be heard. A powerful sound arouses an imperfectly devised structure, which slips off its shoes and transforms its rigid pillars with scarves and tunics to create an elegant stylisation, thus seeking to dismantle what some excessively rigid mind had tried to construct.



## VTOWERS

Binjiang, China. 2008  
131.400M<sup>2</sup>

V Towers is fruit of an iconographic will and of the strict functional and urban planning specifications required for the project. The size of the requested development and a meticulous study of the functional program seemed to indicate a need for two apartment and office towers over a commercial podium. Our project tries to distort this predictable layout in keeping with the other new buildings of the development, and proposes a dynamic building where the two towers, instead of being set over a podium, emerge from a common knot on the base and lose weight while growing up. The result is a building with two arms raised in a V.



# Catalogue of Towers



Equip envisaged the need for a **commercial out-of-the-shelf catalogue** of towers that may fulfill any customer's needs with already studied and proved solutions for skyscrapers.

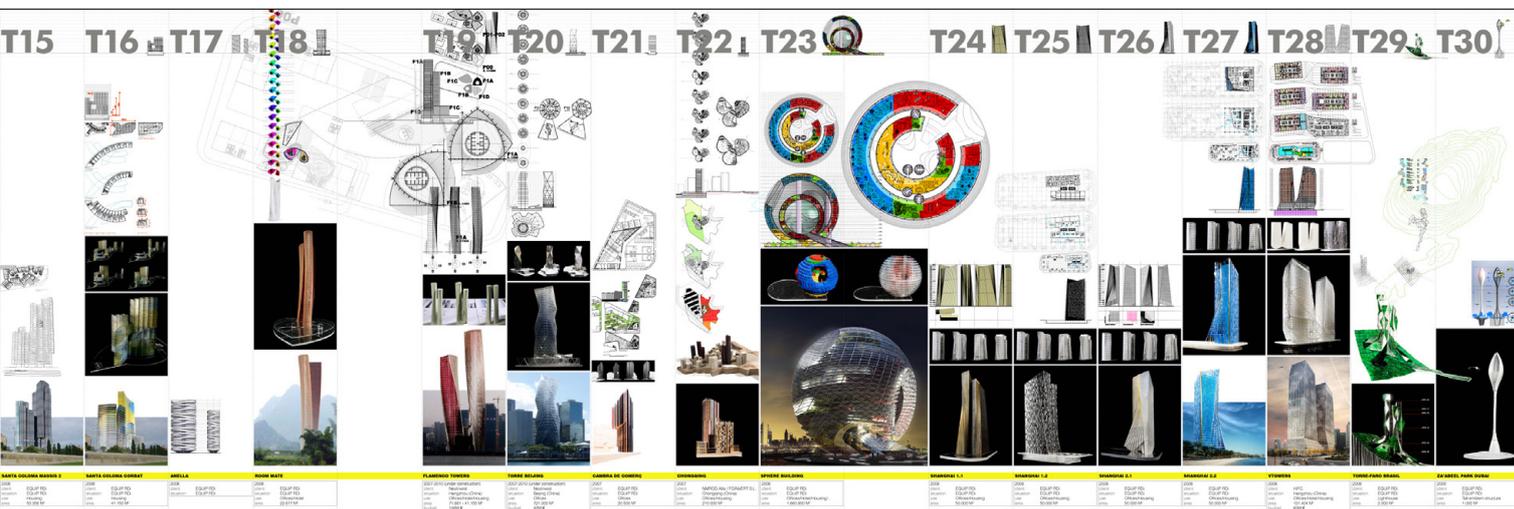
The catalogue includes many pre-defined buildings with different heights, urban situations, and program definitions, which will **easily adapt to the customer's requirements** of cost and time implementation.

## CUBIC TOWERS

Binjiang, China. 2010

95.000M<sup>2</sup>

BOEE Multifunctional Block will be one more of the new towers in project for the New Century City Area, south-east bank of Qian Tang River, in front of Hangzhou new Central Business District. Our proposal consists on the rising of an alternative icon to be unique amongst the different expressions of verticality of the new district. BOEE Urban Incubator will be a new focal point on the area together with the two highest landmarks set up with that purpose on the Century City Urban Plan. The stacked boxes of the new BOEE Urban Incubator are an expression of the programmatic complexity for the new mixed use development: offices, shops, luxury apartments, facilities and BOEE new headquarters.



## SPHERE BUILDING

Mixed-use tower. 2008

1.660.900M<sup>2</sup>

The Sphere Building can be described as a nested ball where the first balloon, which is a sphere, distributes a mixed-use scheme along its perimeter: offices, greenery and leisure facilities. A second sphere, which contains the first one, fulfills its built perimeter again with a mixed-use scheme, this time adding housing. The open space in between the two spheres grows an oasis, a green area protected from the hostile exterior.

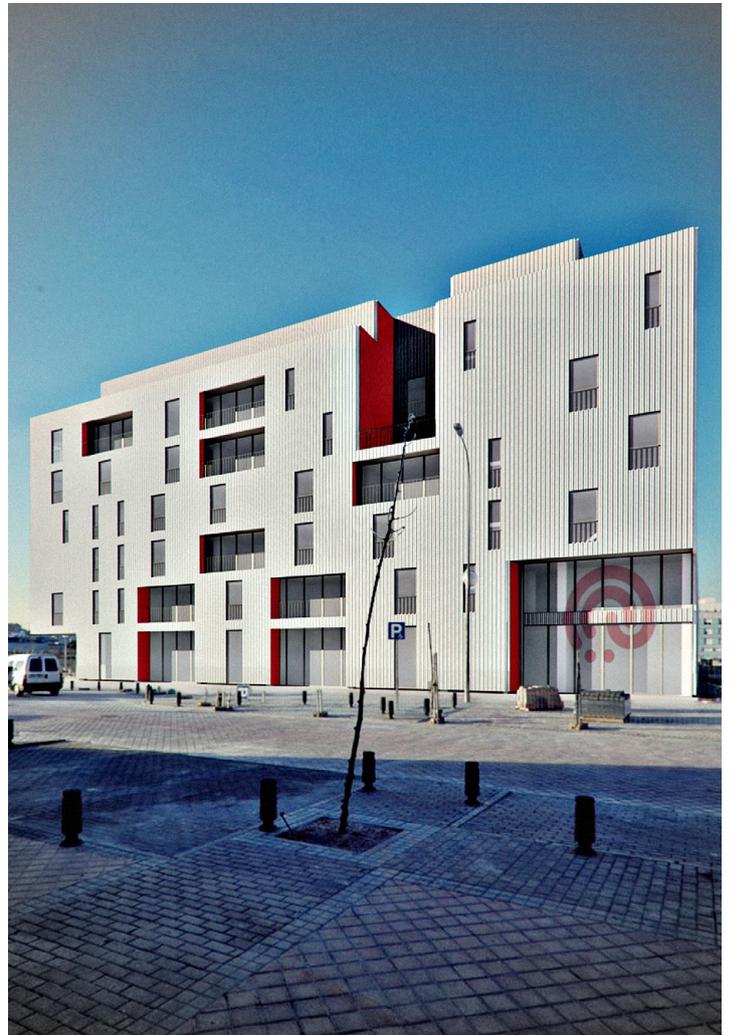




## EQUIP LAB **Smart Living**

Smart Living is the first company that integrates the entire process of design, construction and selling in order to promote quality housing at a highly competitive price. A IKEA home concept.

- Low price**
- A IKEA home concept**
- Housing prêt-à-porter**
- Fits to all clients-users**
- Different levels of definition**
- Prefabrication System**
- Execution time is 4,5 month**
- Fits to all places**





## EQUIP LAB Barça World

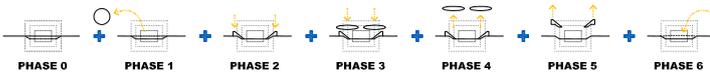
In cooperation with Football Club Barcelona, Equip developed the first world wide Barça World, a multiuse public center around the image and values of one of the world's best football teams ever.

Barça World will deploy an outstanding center of entertainment, sport activities, museum and shops around Barça's sport sections and teams.

## EQUIP LAB Inflatable Stadiums

Equip developed a cutting-edge system to build large ephemeral stadiums specially dedicated to unique sports events that require a short but intense use of such facilities.

The system uses pioneer civil engineering technologies to stabilize large embankments and aeronautics solutions for ephemeral inflatable roofing that could be removed to minimize later maintenance.



PHASE 0. Plot location

PHASE 1. To reduce the landscape impact and minimize the construction, we make excavation and use the land to create artificial islands

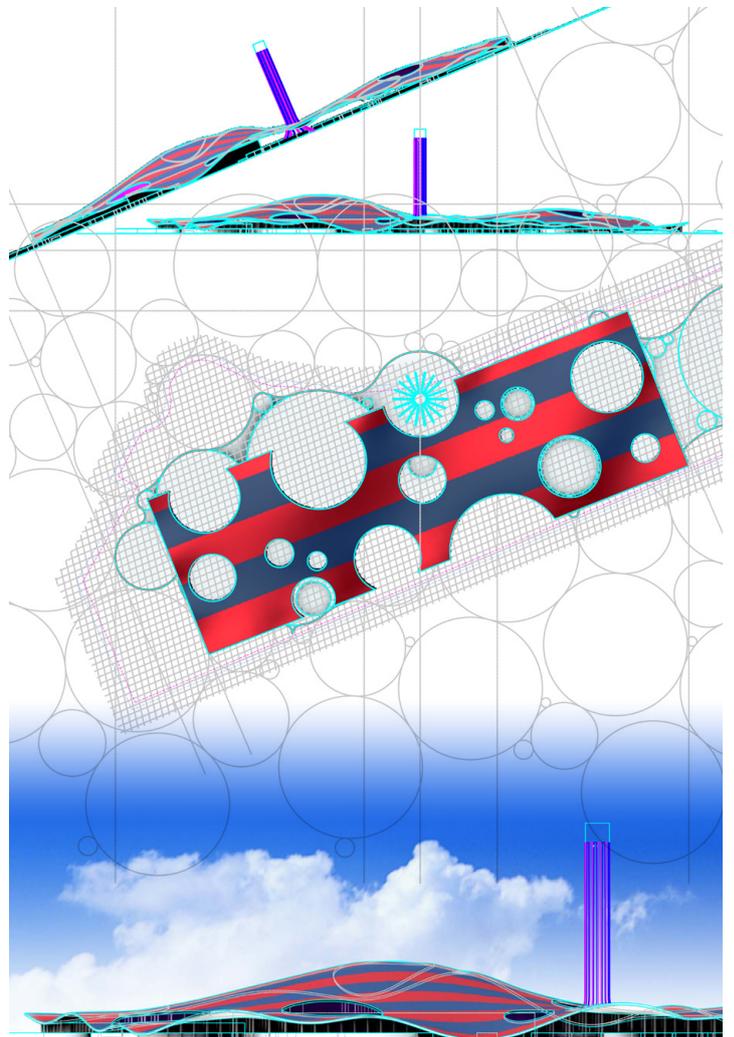
PHASE 2. Using civil engineering techniques of concrete injection, the embankment will be stabilized

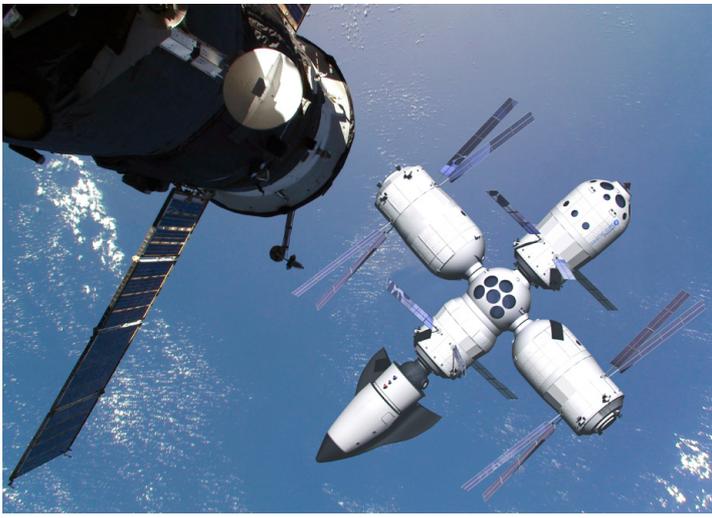
PHASE 3. Minimizing the need for sustaining structure

PHASE 4. Using aeronautical solutions for a light and detachable roofing, the high degree of prefabrication optimizes quality and time in the work site

PHASE 5. In order to reduce the costs of later maintenance, once the sports event is finished, some of the stadiums might be dismantled

PHASE 6. Finally, the large can be filled in with waste products in a sustainable recycle system





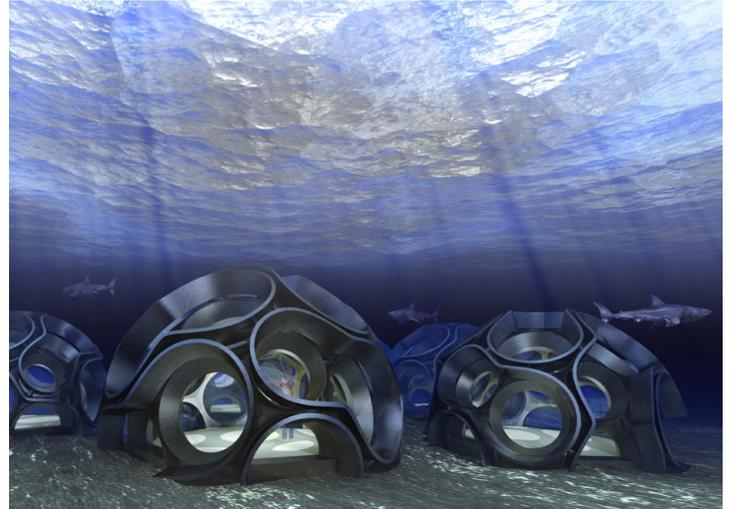
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## Galactic Suite Space Resort

Galactic Suite Space Resort develops the first orbital hotel in the world, to provide a once-in-a-life-time space tourism based experience.

The space hotel is a in a countless stars hotel, a small modular station based in existing technologies developed by the European aerospace consortium Astrium. The hotel will be built in phases, starting with a single flyer module with full autonomy and features.

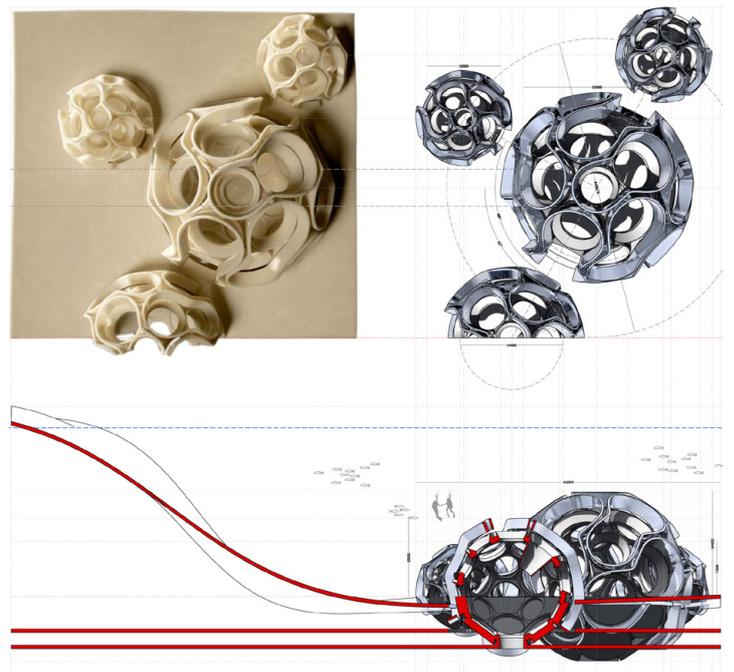
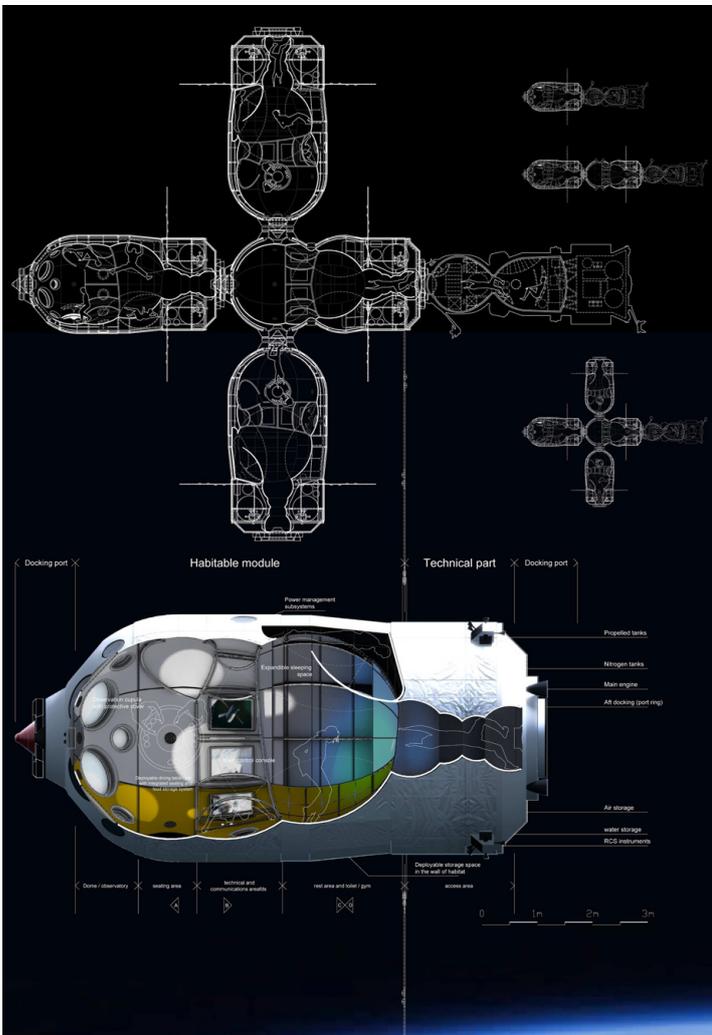
**The first hotel in space  
The gate to space industry  
The key to lead the space tourism  
With existing technology**



EQUIP LAB

## Galactic Suite Sea Suite

It is a **hotel on the sea bed**. Beneath the surface, it follows the sequence of the tides which, along with the sun and the moon, indicate the passing of the day. A settlement at the last frontier on earth to be conquered by man, the sea.



Innovation adds values to our clients' business image  
Integrate Context, Functionality and Client Needs  
Strict control over the budget and deadlines



**Innovation + Expertise = Excellence**

