

## SAMSUNG JONG-NO TOWER

Seoul, South Korea



April 2016

Dissatisfied with the design of its 20-story tower being built in Seoul, Korea, Samsung Corporation halted construction and launched a limited design competition in 1994, hoping to salvage the 17 stories of steel frame and concrete floor slabs that had already been erected. Rafael Viñoly Architects won by rethinking the program and creating three unique, but linked, building volumes. The resulting design is a mixed-use facility incorporating offices, entertainment, and an iconic restaurant volume suspended at the top, making the tower an instantly recognizable city landmark.

The 12-story ground-floor volume, built from the preexisting floor slabs, faces the city center with a convex structural glass curtain wall and contains open-plan offices. Rooftop terraces on this volume provide tenants with an expansive view of the city. Separated from the lower offices by two floors of mechanical space, Rafael Viñoly Architects designed an eight-story rectangular volume that houses further office areas, but is distinguished from the lower structure. A circular, tube-like stair and elevator core rises at each of the three corners of the roughly triangle-shaped building, extending above the office blocks to support the “cloud,” a double-height restaurant, which floats above the city skyline for 360-degree views.

RAFAEL VIÑOLY ARCHITECTS

### FACTS + FIGURES

#### Completion

1999

#### Size

55,740 gsm

#### Awards

Special Merit, Benedictus Award, DuPont, 2000

#### Media Coverage

*INSIDE JoongAng Daily*,  
“Samsung Jong-no Tower,” March 2003

#### Client

Samsung Corporation

#### Consultants

*MEP Engineer*  
WSP

#### *Structural Engineer*

Dewhurst Macfarlane & Partners  
Structural Design Group

#### *Structural Engineer of Record*

Samoo Architects & Engineers

#### *Landscape Architect*

Jeffrey L. Bruce & Company, LLC

#### *Acoustics / AV / Security Consultant*

Shen Milsom & Wilke, Inc.

#### *Retail Architect*

CallisonRTKL

#### *Lighting Designer*

Hillman Dibernardo &  
Associates Inc.

#### *Specifications Writer*

Robert Schwartz & Associates

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