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Ningxia Exhibition Centre, Yinchuan, Ningxia, China

Friday 25 Jan 2013

**Breaking conventions**



Images: Sure Architecture

**ECOWAN PROJECT**

**EDITORIAL**

**Cultural references inspire decor at Ningxia Exhibition Centre by Sure Architecture**

For a long time, the region of Ningxia in north-west China has been influenced by Islamic style and culture. Sure Architecture has taken this deep-rooted influence and incorporated it into their latest concept: Yinchuan Exhibition Center. The concept has been submitted to the Yinchuan Government for realisation in a new central business district as an extension to the existing city.

Of their concept, Sure Architecture says: "We broke through conventional museum design, taking into consideration the history and the culture of this city. This 5-level, 25,302 sq m museum building is being planned with a functional partitions, and a new way of arrangement for the visiting people flow.

"Our first idea was to use West Xia Helan stone and using some traditional Chinese techniques we started to work with the stone to create the Islamic pattern. The history of Yinchuan, the tradition of the Chinese Art Stone and the Muslim culture were fused in the design of the Yinchuan Exhibition Centre. It will become a landmark and will be the starting point of the China and Arab Axis; furthermore, Yinchuan as the historical mission of China's bridge to the Arab world."

Patternwork carved into the façade is a derivative of traditional Islamic arrangements, creating aesthetically pleasing interior and exterior decoration whilst referencing local and historical culture. This also aids natural ventilation and lighting.

The main entrance of the exhibition hall is to the south and the whole building acts a singular exhibition space. The atrium is located across from the main entrance and is used to connect each floor and create a big vertical connection space where



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visitors can appreciate the whole museum. The entrance for the administration office is on the west of the building. From the main atrium one can take the elevator directly to the office floor on the fourth level. A VIP entrance is located to the north, providing a relaxing space for the VIP visitors.

Sure Architecture has also incorporated passive energy-saving practices, such as exterior insulation, Low-E Glass, an automatic shading system, indoor atrium wind well effect, etc. to achieve the requirements of energy saving and emission reduction. Building physics and passive energy-saving technology, used for this plan, are currently the most advanced energy-saving technology.

### Key Facts

<b>Status</b>	<b>Concept design</b>
<b>Value</b>	<b>0(m€)</b>
<b>Sure Architecture</b>	
<b>www.sureaa.com</b>	

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