In early 2008, The HKSAR Government awarded Gammon-Hip Hing Joint Venture (G-HH JV) the design-and-build contract of the Tamar Development Project. The contract covers the design and construction of the Central Government Complex (CGC) Office Block, the Legislative Council Complex (LegCo Complex), an open space of not less than two hectares, two covered pedestrian footbridges and other ancillary facilities.
The Tamar complex is one of the government’s “greenest” complexes. Environmentally friendly and energy-efficient features include double-layer ventilated facades, green roofs, high energy efficiency sea-water cooled chiller plants, rainwater recycling for irrigation purpose, solar electricity panels, service-on-demand escalators, daylight sensor controls and computerized lighting controls. The G-HH JV design also provides a landscaped “green carpet” open space for public enjoyment.

Construction work commenced on the HK$4.94 billion project commenced in February 2008 and was completed by stages in 2011. Chief Executive Mr Donald Tsang declared the complex officially opened on August 18, 2011.

**Design concept**
The design concept of the development originates from four main themes of ideas, namely Openness, Enjoyment, Sustainability and Togetherness which form the basis for the orientation of the building and open space for subject site. The metaphor of G-HH JV’s design is ‘Door always open; Land always green; Sky will be blue; People will be connected’.

Door always open — The design projects the spirit of Hong Kong: an openness and receptiveness to new ideas and diverse cultures. The open door also symbolizes openness and transparency of governance; Land always green — Within the site the architecture is intentionally understated, and lush greenery takes centre-stage; Sky will be
COVER STORY

Photo: Gene Au Yeung

CGC Office Block (West Wing)
CGC Office Block
The design for the CGC Office Block serves as an iconic object, a symbolic support to the whole complex. Its expression of openness and transparency that enhances the connection between the City and Victoria harbour.

CGC Office Block (East Wing)

LegCo High Block
LegCo Complex
The design for the LegCo Complex takes on a dynamic and expressive form with clear and efficient organization.

LegCo Low Block

Green Carpet
The design for the Green Carpet provides the connectivity, linking the rest of government with the people of Hong Kong.

Link to Waterfront Promenade
(P2 demonstrator not included in the Contract)
blue — Tamar’s architecture demonstrates a passionate commitment to sustainable design, contributing to the concerted effort to bring back the blue sky; People will be connected — The essence of Tamar’s design is connectivity, both physically in terms of pedestrian movement, and symbolically in terms of dialogue between different parties.

Architectural design
The Tamar development embodies the CGC, LegCo Complex and Open Space. The CGC comprises the CGC Low Block for accommodating the Chief Executive’s Office, the Executive Council (ExCo) and its secretariat, and the CGC Office Block for accommodating the offices of Principal Officials, their bureaux and key staff. The new LegCo Complex will include a LegCo Low Block for accommodating the LegCo Chamber, conference rooms, press rooms and other ancillary facilities, together with
the LegCo High Block for accommodating the LegCo Secretariat, council members, printing room and other ancillary facilities.

**Central Government Complex Office Block**
The CGC Office Block is situated at the southern edge of the site abutting Harcourt Road. The CGC Office Block consists of three portions, namely the low zone, mid zone and high zone. The low zone (podium) contains main entrance lobbies, conference rooms and concourse for lift lobbies and facilitates the circulation of the public and staff at or near the ground floor. A Multi-Purposes Hall, the entrance foyer of which faces the sea, is located within the podium at the uppermost level below the West Wing of the towers.

The mid zone is then divided into two towers, East and West Wings, and houses the Government Bureaux. The high zone is
a link, bridging the East and West Wings and contains three independent levels of office. The two uppermost levels are reserved for the offices of Chief Secretary and Financial Secretary, and the Central Office.

The CGC Office Block serves as an iconic object, a symbolic support to the whole complex. Its expression is of openness and transparency that enhances the connection between the city and the harbour. The architectural language projects a civic dignity and accentuates the provision of the Civic Place through the centre of the block that allows for the enjoyment and convenience of the public, and as a visual amenity for the city.

Central Government Complex Low Block
The CGC Low Block locates at the western periphery of the site abutting the Tim Wa Avenue. The CGC Low Block contains the ExCo Chamber and an Ante-Chamber.

In a gesture of a balanced and constructive contrast to the LegCo Complex, the CGC Low Block is represented by an unfolding open cube. The visual impression is geometrically simple but the imagery is distinctive, intending to convey a sense of civic dignity, steadfastness and forward vision characterizing responsibility and leadership.

Legislative Council Complex
The LegCo Complex is located at the eastern side of the site abutting the Tim Mei Avenue. The LegCo Complex comprises two blocks, namely the Low Block and the High Block. The Low Block embodies the LegCo Chamber, the Ante-Chamber, the Conference and Press Rooms, the Dining Hall, etc. The LegCo Chamber, in an elliptical form facing the harbour provides a distinctive landmark for the site. The LegCo High Block is primarily an office block housing the LegCo Secretariat staff and the LegCo Members.

The public is able to enter the complex through two entrances either from the formal forecourt on the north to the Low Block or alternatively, to the High Block from a covered area fronting Tim Mei Avenue.

The ground floor of the LegCo Low Block is primarily public in nature. The Public Foyer overlooks the “Green Carpet” and has convenient access via escalators and lifts to the gallery levels of the LegCo Chamber. The second floor provides access to the Chamber gallery. The third floor provides the upper level gallery to the Chamber for Education and access to the public gallery Conference rooms.

tenderer
Gammon - Hip Hing Joint Venture

JV participants
Gammon Construction Ltd / Hip Hing Construction Ltd

lead design architect
Rocco Design Ltd

lead structural designer
Meinhardt (C&S) Ltd

lead building services designer
J Rogers Preston Ltd

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Fast Facts</th>
<th>Approx 42,000 sq m</th>
<th>Approx 129,160 sq m</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>total site area</td>
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<td>area of open space</td>
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<tr>
<td>number of blocks</td>
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CGC Office Block
number of storeys: 27 storeys plus 2 storeys below ground
building height: 120 m
GFA: Approx 94,280 sq m

CGC Low Block
number of storeys: 4 storeys plus 1 storey below ground
building height: 25.1 m
GFA: Approx 5,420 sq m

LegCo Complex
number of storeys: 10 storeys plus 1 storey below ground
building height: 52.3 m
GFA: Approx 29,460 sq m
Ground floor plan

Master layout plan
HKSAR Government Headquarters at Tamar
Coating System for Exterior Wall:
Ceraskaken

New Civil Aviation Department Headquarters
Coating System for Carpark Floor:
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