

Seoul Broadcasting Centre



The reorganisation vertically of what is typically a low-rise assembly of inter-related buildings became the most challenging part of the project.

Place/Date
Seoul, South Korea 1995

Client
Seoul Broadcasting System

Cost
£80 million

Area
81,882 m²

Architect
Richard Rogers Partnership

Structural Engineer
Buro Happold

Services Engineer
Hilson Moran Partnership Ltd

Acoustic Consultant
Arup Acoustics

Co-Architect
ILKUN C&C Architects Inc



RRP won an international competition to design new headquarters for Seoul Broadcasting Systems, comprising news, education, music and radio studios as well as supporting production and programming areas. This building was to occupy a focal position within the new Mok-Dong area, located on the northern boundary of Omok Park. Initially a twin-tower scheme, RRP subsequently modified the design to provide a single, 82,000 square metre, 24-storey tower with five levels of basement separated from the seven-storey studio building by a transparent 13-storey atrium. An underground station at the south-eastern corner of the site provides links to the city centre.

The design provided the client with a distinct identity in the world of media business and television production. RRP's scheme is light, open and sufficiently flexible to respond to the needs of the constantly changing world of television. The tower houses the administrative and transmission functions of SBS while the studio accommodates productions and the operation of the television station. In order to articulate these disparate functions, the atrium introduces light and provides a public face for the organisation.

A high level of acoustic separation is required for the studio, necessitating additional slabs, ceilings and walls. The roof and walls of the atrium are clad in planar glazing and supported by a system of trusses fabricated from steel tie-rods and pipe sections. In some areas of the building, the proximity of noise-sensitive production areas required high performance sound insulating structures for the walls, ceiling and floors. Service areas are located outside the studios, facilitating easier access and maintenance. Following the evolution of the scheme design, the project was executed by Ilkun C & C Architects and completed in 2003.