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NEWS RELEASE

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Denton Corker Marshall wins design competition for a new building for the University of Technology, Sydney

Architects Denton Corker Marshall have won the design completion for a new state-of-the-art building for the Faculty of Engineering and Information Technology at the corner of Broadway and Wattle Streets in Sydney.

The \$170 million building, designed to strong environmentally sustainable principles, provides for 12 levels of research laboratories, lecture theatres, seminar rooms, teaching laboratories and academic offices.

The building is seen as a singular sculptural object, with floor levels concealed within the skin. The basic volume is broken or eroded by a 'crevasse' giving pedestrian access through the building and connecting with the surrounding locality. The volume of the building is then covered by four tilted and skewed plates – one for each façade. These form a series of triangular openings at the corners which extend to ground level, allowing access and visual penetration.

The surface of each plate is creased to form a series of 'gills', visually reinforcing the sense of plate as skin and creating a semi-transparent screen. Further permeability is established by perforating the skin of each plate. Using the '1's and '0s' of binary code, the alphabetical character string for 'University of Technology Sydney Faculty of Engineering and information Technology' is translated and re-worked to create a perforated pattern on the skins.

Director John Denton said 'In approaching the competition brief, we were keen to develop a solution that on the one hand engaged the urban context but also clearly stated 'This is a university of technology building''.

The design targets a minimum 5-star Green Star rating, with an energy saving strategy expected to deliver a 30% to 45% energy saving over benchmark tertiary educational buildings with similar functional spaces.

Vice-Chancellor Professor Ross Milbourne said 'A key driver for this project was to find a design that articulated UTS's position at the intersection of creativity and technology. I believe that this building will represent the most significant piece of architecture in Sydney since the Opera House.'

Denton Corker Marshall's design was selected from 6 architects in a two stage design excellence completion. 'The jury's decision was unanimous in the end,' said Chair of the Assessment Panel Graham Jahn, 'This proposal met the project's strategic drivers and its urban design approach will ensure the building becomes a positive landmark.'

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Notes to editors

- Denton Corker Marshall is an international architectural practice with offices in Melbourne, London and Jakarta. When writing about the practice please use its full name Denton Corker Marshall (and not DCM).
- For further information on the practice go to www.dentoncorkermarshall.com. For further information on the University of Technology Sydney go to www.newsroom.uts.edu.au/news and <http://www.utsbroadway.com.au/>.
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