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BLINK

Finding the Value Connection Red Planet Hotels

bringing the outside in

Akaryn Hospitality Management Services





Alan Barr Creative Director Blink DG

BLINK

REVOLUTION

Blink Design Group has been acquired by Asian design firm Space Matrix as Space Matrix sets its sights on becoming a leading player in the hospitality design industry.

Founded by Clint Nagata, a Hawaiian-based Japanese architect, Blink already boasts an impressive list of clients that includes Conrad, Hilton, Jumeriah, Langham Place, Le Meridian, and Sheraton. The group is now looking to expand in the Asia Pacific region with projects in Thailand, India, Indonesia, Sri Lanka, China and Macau.

The strategic acquisition brings together a highly creative partnership between Blink's Clint Nagata and Alan Barr, who currently leads the Space Matrix Hospitality Group as creative director. All Space Matrix's hospitality projects

will now be developed under the Blink brand, while Blink will have dedicated studios in Bangkok, New Delhi and Singapore as well as access to the new resources that the acquisition provides.

"Evolution as a design process just isn't good enough anymore. A revolution is here and its name is Blink."

Additionally, Blink will be able to offer an end-to-end solution that includes a full suite of integrated services, including master planning, architecture, interior design, and branding as well as pre-design advisory and consultancy services—one of the few design agencies to do so. This enables clients



who are not sure how to proceed with their development are guided through the process to ensure the right decisions are made to optimise their development to suit the demands of the market and the clients needs.

The group also aims to offer its clients a different perspective through the continuation of "premium thinking, innovation, and design aesthetics".

Conceived of the project developers' desire to achieve "something different", the high rise QBE @ Gole Market in Delhi is an example of dedication to function and form fused with aesthetics and innovation. It's also an example of the growing trend of marrying the concept of hospitality to residential developments. The "townhouse in the sky" development as the QBE @ Gole Market is known as, consists of five cubes, each with five floors, with a pool on the first floor of each cube. The units are priced at around USD\$25 million per floor.

Speaking about the acquisition and the group's ambitious plans, Alan Barr said, "We offer a totally different product. We don't run with the flock. We have made a conscious decision to be the fish swimming upstream. We have decided to run a different direction. There are clients who want that, who want something different, and there are clients who just want to fit in. We are the different animal, where our drum beats a little faster, a little different. It's a little more rhythmic."



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