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Allen Jack+Cottier celebrates its growing China practice with key additions to Beijing office

Sydney & Beijing, 20 January 2012

Leading Australian firm Allen Jack+Cottier has celebrated 10 years of growth in its China practice with the expansion of its Beijing office and two key new appointments to the design team based in Beijing.

Peter Ireland, Principal of Allen Jack+Cottier, said "We have been working very successfully now in China for ten years, and have come to understand elements of the Chinese market extremely well.

"We bring to China, many years of experience in large projects - in specialized residential, hospitality, health care and education and we can see major opportunities to build further on our practice there.

"As a firm we have over 60 years' experience and are relishing the opportunity of bringing that to this dynamic new market," he said.

"It's an exciting time to be in China, and will continue to be so - not only in terms of the strong economic growth but also in terms of the variety of architecture that we can do there.

Two well-regarded young Sydney architects, Lee Collard, Director of Architecture and Erin Colgrave, Architect, have joined the firm's Beijing practice, bringing extensive experience across a range of complex project types as well as a fresh young energy to the office.

Lee Collard joined Allen Jack+Cottier last year as director of architecture in Beijing.

Lee's role in China includes architectural design, practice management & project implementation & delivery. His completed projects demonstrate a range of skills in managing complex issues to achieve sensitive, contextual and commercially responsive outcomes. A graduate of University of Newcastle, Lee has experience in a wide range of project typologies including: multi-unit and single dwelling residential, commercial development, urban planning and design, and hospitality. He has made significant contribution to the architectural design & successful realisation of numerous completed projects, and is highly regarded by clients for his design skills and professionalism.

Erin Colgrave also joined Allen Jack+Cottier in 2011 to assist in developing our new Beijing office. She is a highly skilled architect with an impressive record of academic and practice experience.

Erin's work covers a range of sectors including commercial, retail, residential, public developments & masterplanning. She has experience in all stages of architectural design and delivery. She has worked extensively in the design & construction of luxury residences, and was a key member of the team which won the Dubbo Regional Art Gallery & Museum Design Competition. Recently, she was assistant project architect for a new commercial podium in Sydney's CBD.

In previous roles Erin has also worked on a selection of masterplanning & hospitality projects in China, in association with AJ+C.

Lee and Erin recently won the [Zhongguancun E Business Park competition](#).

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