

Oz tech titans to build world's tallest 'hybrid timber' tower in Sydney

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The Atlassian building is designed by New York architects SHoP and Australian firm BVN

Global software giant Atlassian will build the world's tallest "hybrid timber" building for its new headquarters in Sydney, the company said Thursday.

The 40-storey structure, coming in at 180 metres (590 ft), will be

constructed with timber mass—layers of softwoods pressed together—and will feature a glass and steel facade, topped by outdoor gardens.

The Atlassian building, designed by New York architects SHoP and Australian firm BVN, will operate on 100 percent renewable energy and incorporate solar panels and self-shading windows in its facade.

It will use Mass Timber Construction, a technique that fuses softwoods, which Atlassian described as a key technology to lower the building's carbon footprint.

Construction is due to start next year and be completed in 2025.

Highly ecological, hybrid timber constructions have seen a burst of popularity. The Netherlands is due to begin work next year on a 140m (459 ft) hybrid timber tower in Rotterdam.

Atlassian, founded in 2001 by Mike Cannon-Brookes and Scott Farquhar, says the tower will house 4,000 staff and form the hub of a new tech precinct in the central Sydney business district.

"The space that we are building will be highly sustainable and highly flexible—it will be purpose-built for the future of work, for tomorrow's world, not today's," Farquhar said in a statement.



Atlassian, founded in 2001 by Mike Cannon-Brookes and Scott Farquhar, says the tower will house 4,000 staff

He noted the post-COVID reality of more people likely working from home, but said companies still needed offices to thrive.

"Now we can design this space especially for these new ways of working," he said.

Cannon-Brookes and Farquhar, both 40, met at the University of New South Wales in Sydney in 1998 and launched Atlassian three years later.



Construction of the Atlassian building is due to start next year and be completed in 2025

The company, now one of the world's biggest collaborative software firms, has made the pair among Australia's richest people, each worth around \$12 billion according to Forbes.

The Atlassian HQ project is not their first foray into the Sydney property market.

The duo live in side-by-side estates on Sydney harbour which both broke records as the most expensive homes in the city when purchased in 2017 and 2018 for around \$50 million and \$70 million.

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