

Paradise City

South Korea's first integrated gaming and entertainment resort – the WATG-designed Paradise City – has broken ground in a ceremony attended by 400 guests and stakeholders.

Slated to open in 2017, the resort is located in the International Business Center of Incheon International Airport. The project is being developed in a joint venture between Korean casino operator, Paradise Group, and Japanese entertainment group, Sega Sammy Holdings, Inc.

Casinos, hotels, a luxury spa, theme park, shopping malls, restaurants and convention and exhibition halls are planned for the development, which will have seven distinct zones, each featuring its own unique experience.

"To showcase Korea's rich cultural, social, and commercial identity

in the design of the country's first integrated gaming/entertainment resort was a fascinating aspect to this project," comments Sean Sih-Young Jeon, Vice President, WATG. "Inspired by this vision, we created smooth transitions between the different resort zones to offer a unique integrated resort experience for visitors."

Robert Payan, Senior Vice President, WATG adds: "The building was designed to reflect a sense of timelessness, but with a modern energy vibe. Our approach was to design the core of the buildings with a classic influence, and then to introduce purely modern forms to give the structures a new vibrant energy."

Taking the lead on this project, WATG's design office in Honolulu has been closely involved with the development of Korea's gaming and resort industry over the past two decades, creating a number of landmark projects.