

December 25, 2024

NOK Corporation

NOK Headquarters Honored with ICONIC AWARDS 2024 "Best of Best" for Innovative Architectural Design

NOK Corporation (Head Office: Shibadaimon, Minato-ku, Tokyo; President and Group CEO: Masao Tsuru; hereinafter "NOK") is proud to announce that the NOK Headquarters Building, located at 1-12-15 Shibadaimon, Minato-ku, Tokyo, has won the "Best of Best" award in the Architecture (Innovative Architecture) category of the ICONIC AWARDS 2024. Organized by the German Design Council, this prestigious recognition was announced in September 2024, celebrated at an awards ceremony in October, and finalized with the presentation of the certificate and trophy in December.

The ICONIC AWARDS is a prestigious international accolade recognizing outstanding design. The NOK Headquarters Building was honored with this award for its consistently high-level concept and meticulous attention to detail from the design phase through to completion.



NOK Headquarters Building

■ Jury statement

The headquarters of Japanese automotive parts supplier NOK in Tokyo shows how an office building with a seemingly conventional open-plan layout can become something particularly beautiful, with

the concept, detail and dedication defining the project at a consistently high level from its design through to its completion. The basic idea of the Takenaka Corporation planning office was to focus on the interior ceiling area. With its distinctive beams, it is intended to be recognized as a design element from the outside. In contrast, the façade, which uses a curtain of ultra-white glass, is visually restrained. The balance between the modern office building and the presence of a traditional shrine in the immediate neighborhood is fascinating.

■ NOK Headquarters Building overview

The NOK Headquarters Building, completed in September 2020, serves as a central hub for the globally operating NOK Group. Built around the concept of "Borderless," the design emphasizes connection with society while fostering cross-functional communication among both internal and external members. The building also prioritizes creating an environment that supports individual growth. Its interior features extensive use of domestically sourced wood, including cedar from Fukui Prefecture and cypress from Saitama Prefecture. This not only creates a warm, inviting workspace but also contributes to global warming prevention efforts.

- Location: 1-12-15 Shibadaimon, Minato-ku, Tokyo
- Design and Construction: Takenaka Corporation
- Structure: Steel frame and reinforced concrete (seismic isolation structure)
- Floors: 8 above ground, 1 below ground
- Total Floor Area / Height: Approximately 6,600 m² / 40 m
- Completion: September 2020
- Awards:
 - Minato Model Carbon Fixing Certification System: 2-Star Rating (December 2020)
 - Facility Lighting Award, Illuminating Engineering Institute of Japan (April 2022)
 - Minato Model Carbon Fixing Certification System, Excellence Award (October 2022)
 - International Architecture & Design Awards 2023, Gold Prize (January 2024)
 - ICONIC AWARDS 2024 Innovative Architecture, Best of Best (September 2024)



The NOK Headquarters Building as seen from the neighboring Shiba Daijingu Shrine



Work area featuring distinctive beams



Lounge with extensive use of wood

■ About the ICONIC AWARDS

The ICONIC AWARDS is an international design competition organized by the German Design Council. It celebrates all aspects of design related to architecture. It features five categories: Architecture, Interior, Product, Communication, and Concept. Awards are presented for outstanding works in each category, with distinctions of "Best of Best," "Winner," and "Selection" granted in order of excellence. In 2024, 55 projects were selected as Best of Best from among 540 submissions representing 36 countries.

URL: <https://en.innovative-architecture.de/>

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■ About NOK Group

The NOK Group is dedicated to "Essential Core Manufacturing - The manufacture of pivotal products that shape society." Through this approach the Group demonstrates its commitment to providing greater safety and comfort, the cornerstones of a prosperous society. The NOK Group consists of 93 companies located in 15 countries and regions with approximately 38,000 employees. Product development is built upon a robust base of foundational research, resulting in large-scale, stable and high-quality production. Moving forward, the Group will continue to provide technologies and products for all industrial areas, including automobiles and other mobility sectors, electronic products - centered on PCs and smartphones, office automation equipment, medical and healthcare devices, industrial robots, and satellites.