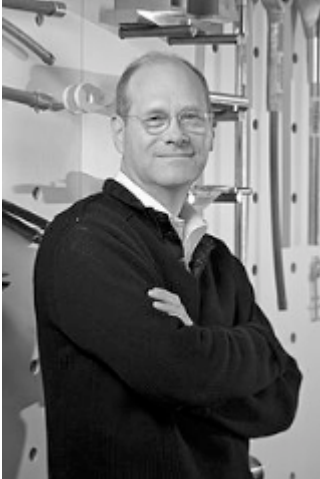





William F. Baker (engineer)





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Encyclopedia

William Frazier Baker (born October 9, 1953, Fulton, Missouri) is an American structural engineer known for engineering [Burj Dubai](#)

Burj Dubai

Burj Dubai , a supertall skyscraper under construction in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, is the tallest man-made structure ever built, at...

, the world's tallest building/manmade structure.

After obtaining a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Missouri, Baker held a brief tenure with ExxonMobil and later completed his master's degree at the University of Illinois. He then joined the prestigious architecture and engineering firm of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill LLP in Chicago in 1981, eventually becoming a partner (1996).

Baker's many skyscraper projects include the [AT&T Corporate Center](#)

AT&T Corporate Center

The AT&T Corporate Center is the 5th tallest completed skyscraper in Chicago in Cook County, Illinois, United States and the 9th tallest in the United States at a height of 1,021 ft containing 60 floors...

(Chicago, 1989), [Trump International Hotel and Tower \(Chicago\)](#)

Trump International Hotel and Tower (Chicago)

The Trump International Hotel and Tower, also known as Trump Tower Chicago and locally as the Trump Tower, is a skyscraper condo-hotel in downtown . The building, named after real estate developer Donald Trump, was designed by architect Adrian Smith of Skidmore, Owings and Merrill...

(Chicago, 2008), [Infinity Tower](#)

(Dubai, 2009), [Pearl River Tower](#)

Pearl River Tower

The Pearl River Tower is an ultra-sustainable, 21st Century skyscraper that is under construction at the junction of Jinsui Road/Zhujiang Avenue West, Tianhe District, Guangzhou, China. It was designed by American architect Gordon Gill who worked at Skidmore, Owings and Merrill until 2006 and now...

(Guangzhou, China, 2009), Nanjing Greenland (Nanjing, 2009), and the unbuilt [7 South Dearborn](#)

(Chicago, 2003), although he is best known as the engineer of [Burj Dubai](#)

Burj Dubai

Burj Dubai , a supertall skyscraper under construction in Dubai, United Arab Emirates, is the tallest man-made structure ever built, at...

(Dubai, 2009), the world's tallest manmade structure. To support the tower's record heights and slim footprint, he developed the "buttressed core" structural system, consisting of a hexagonal core reinforced by three buttresses that form a Y shape. This innovative system allows the structure to support itself both laterally and torsionally. It also eliminates the need for column transfers, and moves loads in a smooth path from the tower's spire into its foundations.

Baker is a Fellow of both the [American Society of Civil Engineers](#)

(ASCE) and the [Institution of Structural Engineers](#)

Institution of Structural Engineers

The Institution of Structural Engineers is the world's leading professional body for structural engineering based in the United Kingdom. It has 23,600 members in 105 countries.. The Institution is a learned body and provider of professional accreditation for structural engineers...

(IStructE).

On July 11, 2009, Baker was the first American to be awarded the [Fritz Leonhardt](#) Fritz Leonhardt

Fritz Leonhardt was a German structural engineer who made major contributions to 20th century bridge engineering, especially in the development of cable-stayed bridges...

Prize For Achievement in Structural Engineering.

Education

- University of Illinois, Master of Science in Civil Engineering, 1980
- University of Missouri, Bachelor of Science in Civil Engineering, 1975

Professional Associations

- Fellow, American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE)
- Fellow, Institution of Structural Engineers (IStructE)
- American Concrete Institute (ACI)
- Committee on Specifications, American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC)
- Council on Tall Buildings and Urban Habitat (CTBUH)
- National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying (NCEES)
- International Association for Shell and Spatial Structures (IASS)
- International Association for Bridge and Structural Engineering (IABSE)
- Earthquake Engineering Research Institute (EERI)
- University of Illinois President's Council
- Structural Engineers Association of Illinois (SEAOI)
- Structural Engineers Association of Northern California (SEAONC)
- Structural Engineers Association of New York (SEAONY)

External links

- [Official SOM Biography](#)
- [Burj Dubai](#)

See also

- Skidmore, Owings & Merrill
- [David Childs](#)

David Childs

David M. Childs is the Consulting Design Partner at Skidmore, Owings & Merrill who has projects all over the world and now is designing the new 1 World Trade Center in New York.-Background:* Deerfield Academy...

- [Roger Duffy](#)

Roger Duffy

Roger Duffy is an American architect, known for his rigorous and unconventional approach to design. He currently works as a partner at the firm Skidmore, Owings and Merrill...

- [T.J. Gottesdiener](#)

T.J. Gottesdiener

T.J. Gottesdiener, FAIA, is an architect and Managing Partner of the New York office of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill . A graduate of Cooper Union's Irwin S. Chanin School of Architecture, Gottesdiener joined SOM in 1980 and was made Partner in 1994...

- [Ross Wimer](#)

Ross Wimer

Ross Wimer is an American architect, known for integrating the rigor and logic of engineering into his designs. He is a design partner in the Chicago office of Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, LLP; the Vice Chairman of the SOM Foundation; and is a member of the American Institute of Architects...

- [Craig W. Hartman](#)

Craig W. Hartman

Craig W. Hartman is a United States architect and FAIA currently of the Skidmore, Owings and Merrill San Francisco, California office. His most prominent work is the Cathedral of Christ the Light for the Roman Catholic Diocese of Oakland. It is the first cathedral in the world built entirely in...

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