

# Mulieris Towers Project

Ezequiel Taddeo of Pilotes Trevi, Argentina, tells *GDI* about Trevi Group's involvement in the building of the Mulieris Towers in Buenos Aires, Argentina

In Latin, the word mulieris means women. And it is no coincidence that the towers I refer to are named after women, since Puerto Madero, where they are located, is a living tribute to femininity. For example, most of the streets in the district are named after women who have left their mark on our country. Among them, Alicia Moreau de Justo, feminist activist and co-founder of the Permanent Assembly for Human Rights; Cecilia Grierson, doctor and founder of the School of Nurses; and Lola Mora, artist and urban planner, sculptor of the Monumental Fountain of the Nereids. This is not a minor detail, bearing in mind that, broadly speaking, the street map of Buenos Aires has male names.

## MULIERIS TOWERS

The Mulieris Towers are one of the most ambitious constructions in the autonomous city of Buenos Aires, Argentina and are in an area characterised by modern buildings. Standing in front of the entrance door of Tower No. 1, on Boulevard Azucena Villaflor, a young woman comments that she cannot look up for a long time because of vertigo. And it is no wonder because when she looks up and aims at the highest point of the building, she sees a concrete walkway, dotted with an infinite number of windows that

get smaller and smaller and seem to have no endpoint. At over 170m, these towers are imposing and generate a feeling of vertigo. Some say that on a bright day, with a clear sky, it is possible to see the coastline of Colonia del Sacramento, Uruguay.

The complex, located in Dam 2, was built on an area of 6,792m<sup>2</sup> and consists of two buildings with 44 floors each, offering a wide variety of services. These include outdoor pools, an indoor pool, a car wash, a party room, business premises, a gymnasium, a children's playground, meeting rooms, changing rooms and a garden. Not to mention the 16 lifts that make life easier for the locals. In short, a mini-city.

At the start of the project, Pilotes Trevi was contracted by the client Crearurban S.A. and carried out the works between March 2006 and September 2007. In approximately one and a half years, foundation works were carried out, using technologies for the execution of reinforced concrete slurry wall, grouted anchors, and tension piles for the foundation of the towers and to counteract the underlying hydraulic thrust.

## TRANSFORMATION

Although this was not one of the company's most important works, it was nevertheless one of its many contributions to the

development of the flourishing Puerto Madero. A district that has undergone a relevant transformation since the late nineties, from being an abandoned port centre to becoming one of the city's most sought-after locations.

Pilotes has been involved in the execution of several works, including the Le Parc Towers, the Renoir Towers, the Yacht Towers, and the iconic Puente de la Mujer (Woman's Bridge). The latter is probably the most important contribution made to the area.

Designed by the Valencian architect Santiago Calatrava, the Puente de la Mujer is one of the Capital Federal's most popular tourist attractions. This monument – 170m long and 34m high – is visible from the Paseo Colón avenue and represents a couple dancing the tango. By way of orientation, the pylon symbolises the man and the curvature symbolises his partner. Although, to be honest, it is a difficult image to decipher.

Well, companies like ours leave their mark on the place they have crossed. However, the question remains whether this legacy also applies in reverse.

Florencia Velo is a civil engineer and has been with the company since May 2008. She currently holds the position of technical office manager and manages personnel. She believes that "in recent years, the role of women in Pilotes is changing. I remember that when I joined Trevi there were very few women in the company, especially in the technical area. However, today there are many women both in the technical and commercial departments". And she concludes: "Our role has advanced a bit, in line with the changes in society." Perhaps Pilotes Trevi is undergoing a reconversion, too. ♥

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*The foundations for the Mulieris Towers were among the projects Trevi worked on as part of the transformation of the Puerto Madero district in Buenos Aires*

