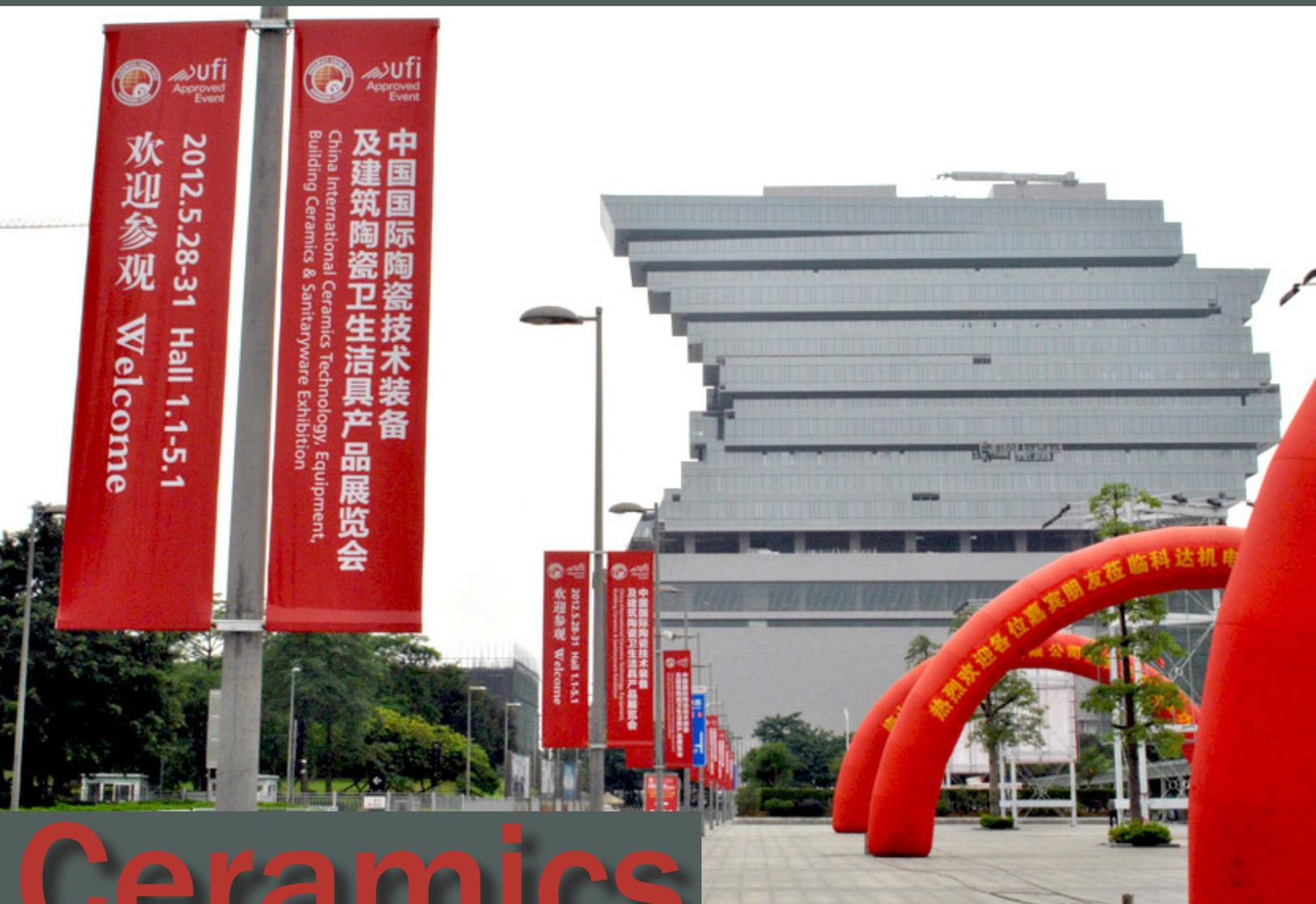


Single-Pass

(fixed array)

in-line Inkjet Printers for Ceramics

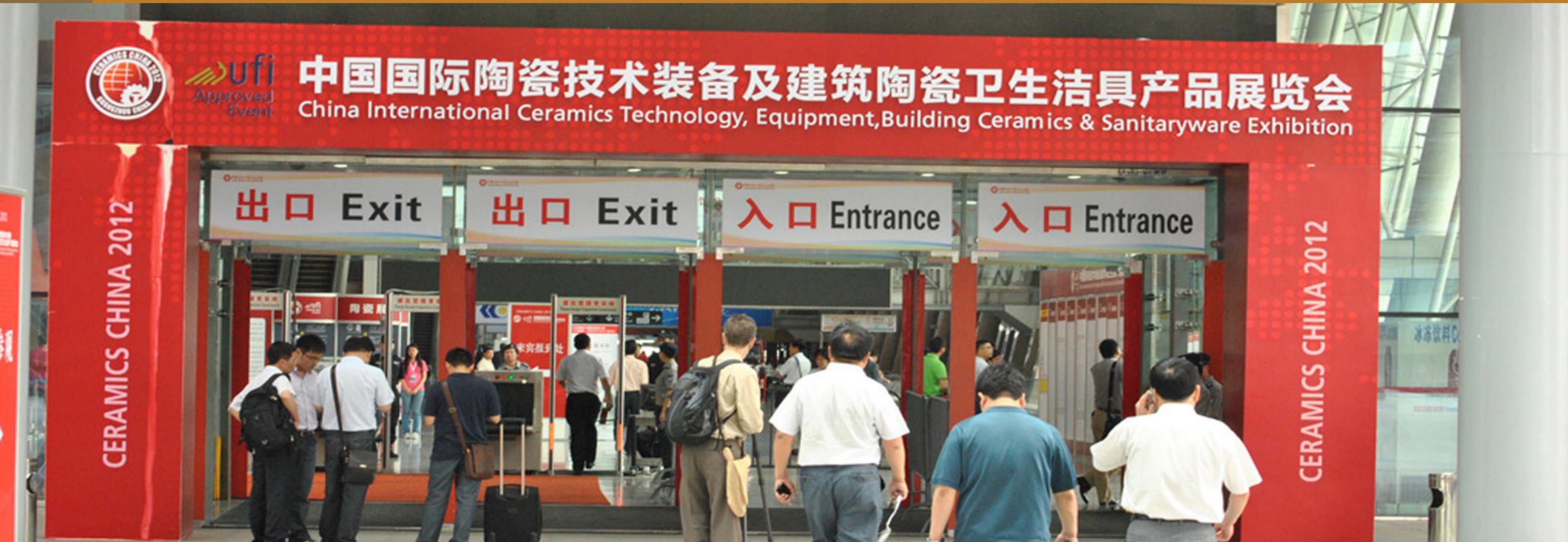
Dr. Nicholas Hellmuth



Ceramics

May 2012 Guangzhou

China 2012



Dr. Nicholas taking pictures

Introduction

In-line printer manufacturers

Ceramics factories are efficient primarily when the printing is in-line. So the printers are perched atop a conveyor belt that is part of the overall factory system.

95% of the printers at this expo were not UV-cured. UV-curing is okay to print on tiles after they have been fired, but there is no need to incur the costs of UV-curing lamps for printing tiles in-line in the factory BEFORE the tiles have been fired in a kiln.

There were 15 models of in-line inkjet printers from 14 manufacturers. In this introductory photo essay we picture a sample. In the TRENDS report we list all models, all manufacturers, and show all their booths. About three models asked that their printers not be pictured so as a courtesy we show no details of those brands. Since there were about a dozen brands illustratable, the TRENDS offers a great introduction to what is offered in Asia (and what is available now throughout the rest of the world via exports).

In the TRENDS report we document our classification of what different kinds of companies are producing in-line printers for ceramics. Are these companies really inkjet printer manufacturers, or are they ceramic factory equipment manufacturers who have simply added a printer to their factory equipment offerings?

Plus we discuss the difference between a UV-cured printer manufacturer who simply feels that ceramic in-line printing is a hot opportunity and suddenly produces a "ceramics printer" and a printer manufacturer who allies with a ceramics company to jointly develop a product based on realistic knowledge of the ceramics industry.

The TRENDS report is priced to cover the cost of our experience in the printer industry and the time our staff dedicates themselves to producing a full-color, nicely illustrated discussion of printers for ceramics factories. Write FrontDesk "at" FLAAR.org to request price and availability information.

Proofing wide-format printer manufacturers

Six brands offer proofing printers; these tend to be traditional UV-cured format, either a dedicated flatbed or conveyor belt combo. Of these most were not actually with UV-curing systems. Most (but not all) had ceramic frit ink. Two were UV-cured dedicated flatbeds.



Flora Cj180



Here is a good example of a short-run or proofing (sample printing) machine: Teckwin TeckBlaze 1500. Rather obviously this is a dedicated flatbed from the tradition of UV-cured printers but you avoid the cost of UV-curing systems. This uses an ink for ceramics.



Ceramic manufacturing equipment

KEDA ceramic machinery.



System booth side view.



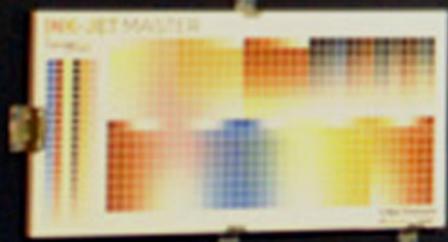
Modena booth side view



Ink



megacolor 
the color company





正大制釉
Z&D GLAZE

正大制釉
Z&D GLAZE

Glaze



Acknowledgements
 Ceramic manufacturing equipment manufacturers.
 The nice folks at KEDA..



Keda booth



Acknowledgements

Inkjet printer manufacturers

- cretaprint:
 - José Manuel García.
 - José Manuel Barberá.
- IN.TE.SA.:
 - Davide Medici.
- NEWTECH:
 - Mattachini Pierfranco.
- KeraJet:
 - Jacob Gimeno Garcia-Consuetra.
- Gongzheng:
 - David Chen.



Teckwin booth. FLAAR thanks Stella Hu for providing the airfare to Guangzhou and hotel for the Ceramics China 2012 show.

Acknowledgements

Ink companies

- Juan Sendra, Torrecid
- Bonet Group
- Megacolor
- Ceramic Inkjet Inks



陶丽西





- Dimatix Fujifilm:
Howard Baldwin & colleagues.



Acknowledgements

Printhead companies

- XAAR:
Mark Alexander,
Bob Bobertz,
Richard Barham.

The City of Guangzhou

Guangzhou is one of the ten largest cities in China and probably larger than most cities in Europe and the USA. We show a few views of the city here. May is the rainy season so mist hovers over the city every day, so tough to get a panorama, but with the snapshots you can get the idea that this is a significant metropolitan area.

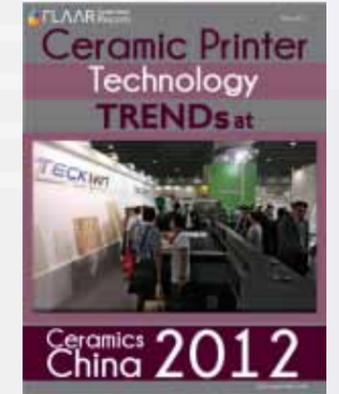
If you are considering attending a Chinese expo it is essential to be realistic about where to stay in Guangzhou, how to get to the expo center and back to your hotel (if you think it's as easy as flagging down a cab, then clearly you have not attended an expo in this city before). FLAAR provides consulting for expos at Guangzhou, including in-person to assist yourself and/or your team in China.

We provide tips on the airport, how to avoid counterfeit money (yes, it is handed out even at exchange booths at the airport).

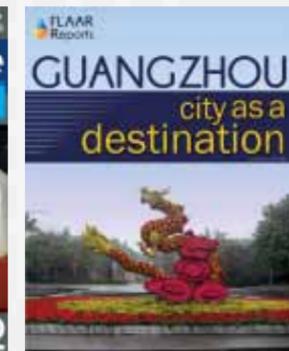
China is a friendly and hospitable country but it helps to understand aspects of business and social culture. Plus FLAAR can provide tips on hotel selection.



If you wish to purchase the full TRENDS report (52 pages, full color photos of the main brands of ceramic printers with comparative tabulation of all brands and all models at the expo, write FrontDesk@FLAAR.org to be invoiced.



If you [sign for consulting](#) with FLAAR reports you will get reports like this.



Guangzhou city



Central Business Centre of Guangzhou.



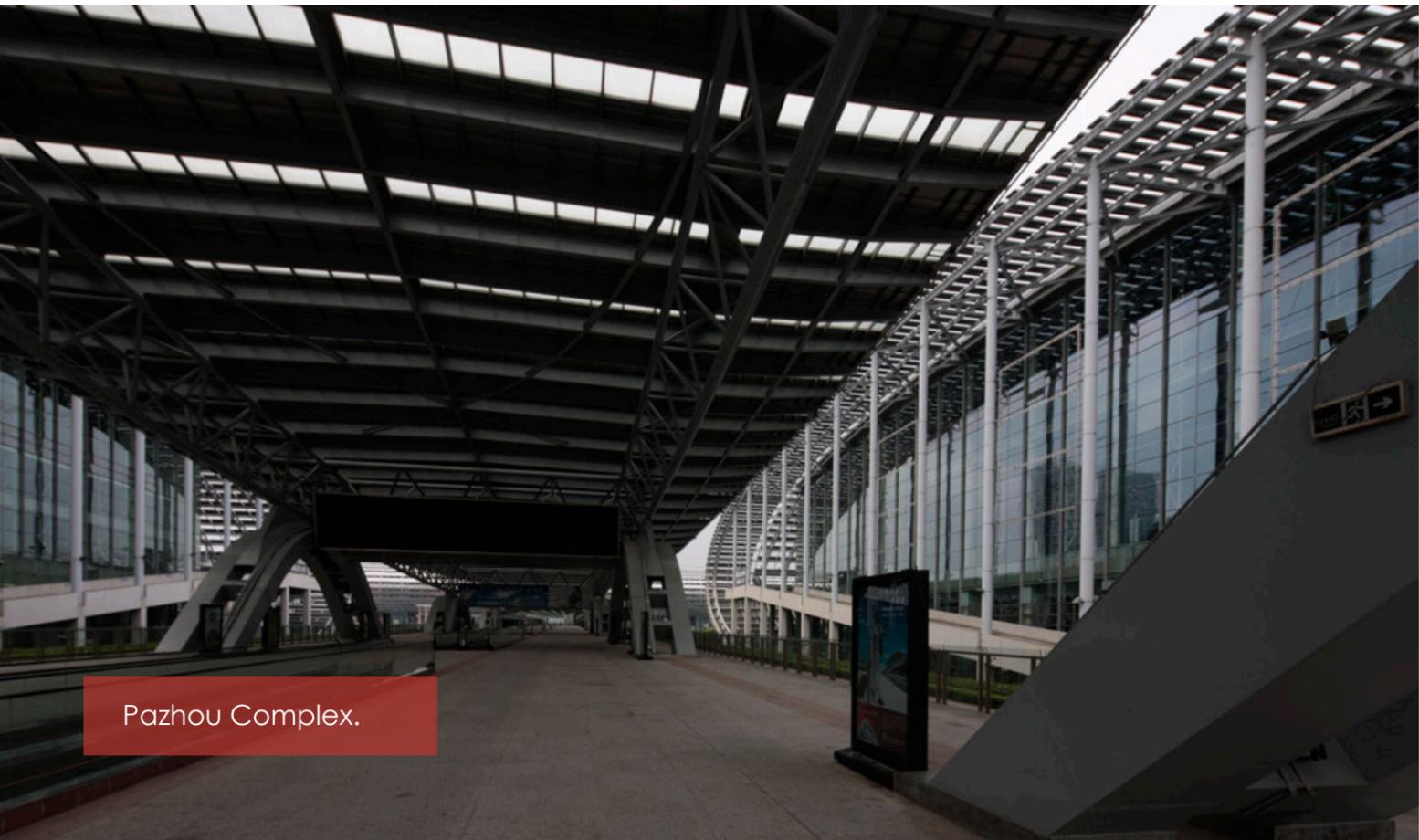
The Pazhou expo center

FLAAR has been attending printer expositions in Guangzhou for several years. Indeed we were already a week in Guangzhou earlier this year for two simultaneous wide-format inkjet printer signage expos.



Guangzhou International Convention Exhibition Center
(Pazhou Complex).

Pazhou Complex outside view.



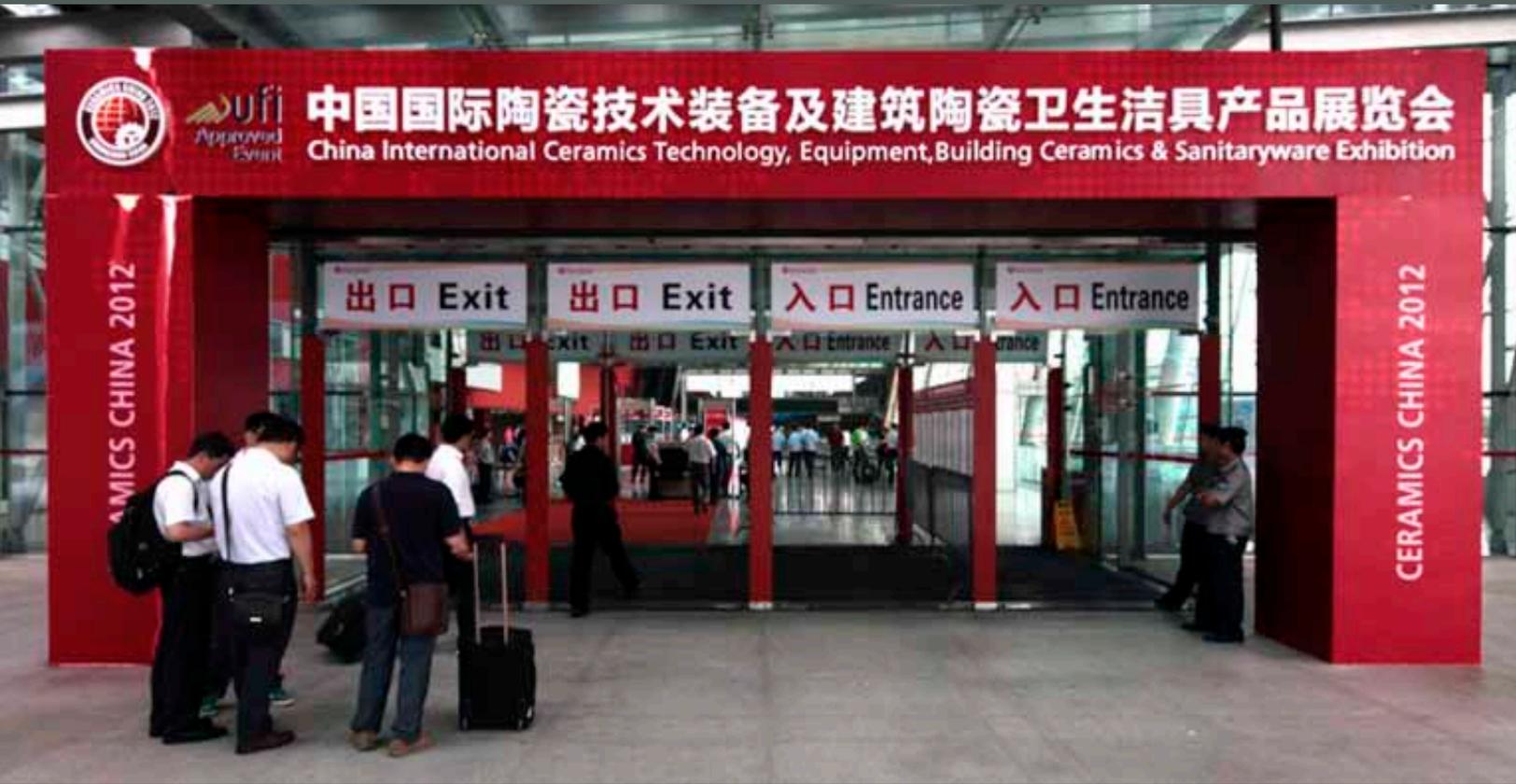
Pazhou Complex.



Pazhou Complex entrance.



Dr. Nicholas Hellmuth & Alejandra del Valle working at Ceramics China 2012



Ceramics China 2012