

# World Trade Center Spire Hoisted; Will Be Tallest Building In Western Hemisphere

By Rebecca Kelly

Stunning photos captured a spire made of glass and steel that according to the Huffington Post has been lifted by a crane to the top of New York's One World Trade Center on Thursday with an American flag attached as construction workers were seen applauding as it was lifted to the roof.

It will be the final detail for the building that will top off the 408-foot spire that will make it the tallest building in the Western Hemisphere at 1,776 feet. The tallest building in the world is in Dubai which tops out at 2,700 feet.

Construction workers began to lift the spire just before 11 a.m. EST past the 104 floors of the building that has now replaced the fallen twin towers that were lost on September 11, 2001, when terrorists crashed jet airplanes into them taking the lives of almost 3,000 people.



Construction workers watch as the One World Trade Center spire is hoisted to the top of the new building scheduled to open in 2014.

Photo credit:  
AFP/Getty Images

According to The Port Authority of New York and New Jersey it took about 30 minutes to get the 800-ton and 408-foot sphere to the top of the building which now overlooks the Statue of Liberty and Ellis Island.

The idea of constructing the building was proposed in 2005 with the start of construction in 2006. The building contains 73 elevators and five floors below the ground with a cost of \$3.8 billion upon its completion.

The beacon at the buildings peak will reportedly ward off aircraft and provide public transmission services for TV and Radio broadcast channels.

While the exact date of the building's opening is not yet known, the high-rise building located at the 1 World Trade Center address is scheduled to open for business in 2014.