

REAL ESTATE  
POWER  
99



THAILAND EDITION 2008



**Desmond Hughes,**  
partner,  
Belmont Limcharoen Co., Ltd

Englishman Desmond Hughes began working in real estate after qualifying as a lawyer nine years ago. He worked in London as an executive with Freshfields, Bruckhaus, Deringer and with KLegal as a real estate lawyer before becoming a partner with Belmont Limcharoen in Thailand four years ago.

As a springboard from the success of the company's Bangkok office the company expanded into Phuket four years ago and later into Samui. Belmont Limcharoen was soon being recognised as one of the leading firms amongst its client base and by other real estate industry representatives on both islands.

Hughes standing is reflected by the fact that the 31-year-old also is regularly called upon to deliver presentations and opinions on legal and commercial matters in real estate in Thailand at public events both in Thailand and abroad.



**Andrew Hunter,**  
managing director,  
Hunter Sotheby's International  
Realty Affiliates LLC

UK national Andrew Hunter, who worked as an investment banker before moving into sales, shot into the real estate scene when he and his wife and business partner Krista made a daring bid to secure a partnership with famed auctioneers and real estate agency Sotheby's.

The pair had worked in Saigon, Hong Kong, Sydney and Shanghai before relocating to Phuket. After the couple settled in they approached Sotheby's with the offer of opening an office under its name – the company's first in Thailand. Sotheby's opted to go into business with the couple and in 2007 Hunter Sotheby's opened for business close to Laguna Phuket. The fledgeling firm, although in just its second year of operation, has quickly made a name for itself as a ultra-high-end property specialist.



**Chirayu Isarangkul Na  
Ayutthaya, director general,  
the Crown Property Bureau**

Dr Chirayu holds an Economics (Hons.) degree from the London School of Economics, and a Ph.D in Economics from the Australian National University. Starting his career as an economist, he went on to serve as dean of the School of Development Economics at the National Institute of Development Administration (NIDA). During 1981-1986 he was appointed to the cabinet of the Royal Thai Government and served as Deputy Minister of Industry, Minister of Industry and as a Minister attached to the Prime Minister's office.

Since 1987, Dr Chirayu has managed the substantial holdings and investments of the Crown Property Bureau, in a position of Director General. He also served as Chairman of the Board of Siam Commercial Bank until 2007, when he resigned to become Chairman of the Board of Siam Cement PCL.