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International Design Practice, Belt Collins, acquires Shapins Associates of Boulder, CO
Two Firms Combine Commitment to Sustainable and context-sensitive Design

December 10, 2007 - Belt Collins, an international planning and design firm with over 450 employees worldwide, announced its recent acquisition of Shapins Associates, a landscape architecture and design firm in Boulder, Colorado.

The Shapins acquisition, the first for Belt Collins, is a strategic move to expand geographically and into related areas of professional experience. The merger is expected to strengthen Shapins' planning and design capabilities while giving Belt Collins a greater presence in the Western United States.

The team at Shapins Belt Collins focuses on the design of public spaces such as recreation facilities, parks, plazas, greenways, trails and urban landscapes. They specialize in ecologically sensitive and sustainable tourism areas with an emphasis on enhancing local character and culture while connecting people with nature. Principles of context-sensitive design and resource preservation and management are reflected in Shapins' portfolio of projects.

Prior to merging the operations of Shapins Associates (now Shapins Belt Collins) into the Belt Collins family, Belt Collins grew by establishing offices in Asia and the Continental United States. The most recent office established by Belt Collins (in 2006) is Belt Collins Northwest, located in Seattle, Washington.

“We welcome the inclusion of Shapins into the Belt Collins family and are eager to combine our resources and expertise on future work together,” said Anne Mapes, Chairman and CEO of Belt Collins Hawaii. “We share the same sensibility for thoughtful integration of the built environment

with the natural environment, and look forward to offering our clients the added benefits of our collective talent and experience.”

According to Shapins Associates founder, Jerry Shapins, “We have joined forces with Belt Collins because they are a proven and long standing industry leader, providing sustainable planning, landscape architecture and engineering services for the last 50 years, and because they too had a desire to explore new opportunities.”

For more information on Shapins Associates visit www.shapins.com. For more information on Belt Collins visit www.beltcollins.com.

About Belt Collins

Founded in 1953, Belt Collins has a successful history of providing land planning, civil and environmental engineering and landscape architecture, with a focus on creating environmentally sensitive projects throughout the world. In addition to Honolulu and the Continental United States, the firm has offices in Hong Kong, Shenzhen, Singapore, Bangkok, Guam and the Philippines. With over 450 professional and support staff, Belt Collins has grown to become one of the world’s leading design and consulting firms, having completed over 16,000 projects in 70 countries.

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