



News Release

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Belt Collins Acquires Boulder Landscape Architecture Firm Two Firms Combine Commitment to Sustainable and context-sensitive Design

HONOLULU – Belt Collins, an international planning and design firm headquartered in Honolulu, Hawaii, recently acquired Shapins & Associates, a landscape architecture company located in Boulder, Colorado.

Prior to merging the operations of Shapins & Associates (now Shapins Belt Collins) into the Belt Collins family of companies, Belt Collins grew organically by establishing offices in Asia and the Mainland U.S. The most recent office established by the parent company (in 2006) is Belt Collins Northwest, an engineering consulting practice located in Seattle, Washington.

The Shapins acquisition is the first for Belt Collins, a strategic move to expand geographically and into related areas of professional practice. Shapins Belt Collins specializes in natural and cultural resource preservation, context-sensitive design, and public lands planning. The merger is expected to give Belt Collins a greater presence in the Western United States.

Shapins brings to the Belt Collins family its experience and long term association with clients such as the National Park Service, the Bureau of Land Management and the US Fish and Wildlife Service. An ongoing high-profile project is being performed for the National Park Service. Shapins Belt Collins is helping the agency to develop a long range management plan for the Statue of Liberty National Monument and Ellis Island in New York.

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The team at Shapins Belt Collins focuses on the design of public spaces such as recreation facilities, parks, plazas, greenways, trails and urban landscapes with an emphasis on retaining and enhancing local character and culture and environmental features. They have mastered the ability to design ecologically sensitive and sustainable tourism areas with an emphasis on connecting people with nature.

“We welcome the inclusion of Shapins into the Belt Collins family,” says Anne Mapes, chairman and CEO of Belt Collins Hawaii, “and are eager to combine our resources and expertise on future projects together. We share the same sensibility for thoughtful integration of the built environment with the natural environment, and are mindful of the need to address sustainability issues. With Shapins’ expertise, our clients will be the ones to benefit most from our added strength.”

In addition to its offices in Honolulu, Seattle, and Boulder, Belt Collins has offices in Hong Kong and Shenzhen, China; Singapore; Bangkok, Thailand; Guam; and the Philippines. Founded in Honolulu in 1953, Belt Collins has grown from a staff of two to over 450 professional and support staff. Services provided include planning, civil and sanitary engineering, landscape architecture, environmental consulting, GIS and graphic design. Acknowledged internationally as a leading design and consulting company, Belt Collins is best known for its extensive work in planned resort, residential and community design both in Hawaii and elsewhere. Visit the firm’s award-winning web site at www.beltcollins.com.

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