

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## PERKINS EASTMAN OPENS SOUTH AMERICAN OFFICE

### New Office Represents Significant Milestone in Firm's Global Expansion

New York, NY (October 13, 2008) The Board of Directors of international architecture and design firm Perkins Eastman is pleased to announce the opening of a new office in Guayaquil, Ecuador.

Strategically located to offer world-class architectural services in a broad geographic area covering both South and Central America, the 10-person office will continue Perkins Eastman's tradition of innovative design with the full support of the firm's global network of offices. The office will be led by Stephen Forneris AIA, a licensed architect in both Ecuador and the US and Associate Principal of the firm, who will split his time between New York and Guayaquil to facilitate the work share between the two offices while simultaneously easing the growing demand for global talent. Under Forneris' leadership, the office is expected to grow to 20-30 employees.

Forneris' expertise and leadership has helped to develop a strong client base in the region. He was heavily involved in the formation of the Code and Safety for the Americas (CASA) Act. The CASA Act was a US Congressional initiative to bring building codes and standards to Latin America; signed into Law 2002. Forneris continues to remain active throughout the region and is presently working on a visual guide to building a low income home according to the most advanced building technology guides used in the US construction market. The book is expected to be released early 2009.

The firm has had a long involvement in South America. Perkins Eastman's Chairman and CEO Bradford Perkins, FAIA, MRAIC, AICP and author of the recently released *International Practice for Architects* remarked that, "The Guayaquil office will make it possible for us to expand our services in this region. Many of our initial international assignments were in South America, and we look forward to a growing involvement in the region."

Perkins Eastman's ability to draw on expertise from around the world is unparalleled. As the most recent addition to the firm's network of offices, the Guayaquil office will maximize its regional capabilities and firm's global expertise to provide award-winning design on a variety of project types to this historically rich and culturally diverse area of the world.

### About Perkins Eastman

Perkins Eastman is among the top architecture and design firms in the world. The firm prides itself on progressive and inventive design that meets client goals and enhances the human experience. Because of its depth and range, Perkins Eastman works seamlessly with developers and owners on assignments from niche buildings to complex projects that enrich whole communities. Projects range from high-end residential and commercial conversions, hotels, retail/mixed use, and corporate offices and interiors,

# Perkins Eastman

ARCHITECTURE  
CONSULTING  
INTERIOR DESIGN  
PLANNING  
PROGRAMMING

to schools, hospitals, museums, senior living and public sector facilities. With nearly 800 employees, Perkins Eastman provides award-winning design through its domestic offices in New York, NY; Boston, MA; Arlington, VA; Charlotte, NC; Chicago, IL; Oakland, CA; Pittsburgh, PA; and Stamford, CT; and internationally in Dubai, UAE; Guayaquil, Ecuador; Mumbai, India; Shanghai, China; and Toronto, Canada.

## **About Guayaquil, Ecuador**

Officially Santiago de Guayaquil, the city of Guayaquil is the largest and the most populous in Ecuador. Located 250 km south-west of Quito, Guayaquil is the capital of the Ecuadorian province of Guayas and as Ecuador's main port is the center of fishing and manufacturing.

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