

-For Immediate Release-

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Woods Bagot calls for a multi-sector approach to health design

Ideas and innovations are shared at the 2011 Design & Health Exhibition

Why should cinemas, sporting venues, casinos, and shopping centres have better amenities than health facilities?

What can we learn from Airport facilities such as self check and registration systems?

What innovations can health facility design adopt from commercial building design?

What is the potential for multi use / mixed development solutions to be part of a health precinct?

Presenting at the annual Health & Design conference in Melbourne this week, John Breguet, Director, Health Consulting, Woods Bagot, posed these questions to over 150 delegates.

“Within Australia, and moreover, the globe is facing an increased demand for health services associated with both an ageing population and an amplified enlightenment for self health. A flow on effect of this is that within the health setting we are confronted with a number of challenges, including that of access to basic and high end healthcare facilities, all within a tightening budget framework,” said John Breguet.

Embracing a multi-sector approach to health design envisages the delivery of greater basic health care – including routine assessment and treatment delivery, closer to where people live, work and learn.

“Services might be delivered from a shopping centre, mixed-use development, or as part of an expanded ‘civic’ amenity,” continues John.

Woods Bagot is structured to operate and integrate activities across three sectors – Education, Healthcare & Science, Lifestyle and Workplace and in future, see additional potential for the healthcare industry through the adoption of design solutions and innovations across sectors.

Yet how does this actually come to fruition? To facilitate the adoption of cross sector design solutions John suggests there will be a need to make a ‘measured’ investment.

“The opportunities presented by the Public Private Partnership model is one way in which cross sector innovation is being transferred,” said John.

Recently held in Melbourne from the 2-4 May, 2011, Design & Health Australasia 2011 is an international symposium and exhibition, dedicated to exploring global perspectives on enhancing health, wellbeing and quality of life within the local context of health reform and infrastructure development.

Woods Bagot will be presenting at the 7th World Congress for Design & Health in Boston, USA from 6-10 July 2011.

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About Woods Bagot

Woods Bagot was founded in Adelaide in 1869 and today is one of the world's leading architectural practices, with a global team of more than 700 working across North America, Europe, Asia, Australia and the Middle East. The firm's unique "One Global Studio" philosophy drives unprecedented knowledge sharing and true collaboration across time zones, producing innovative, inspired and functional design solutions for our clients. Underpinning Woods Bagot's knowledge culture is PUBLIC, our propriety research brand, created in collaboration with leading thinkers and academics.

The firm's diverse portfolio of high-profile projects includes: Adelaide Convention Centre, City Central Precinct (Adelaide), Melbourne Convention & Exhibition Centre, Hilton South Wharf (Melbourne), Eccleston Square Hotel (London), Nakheel Tower (Dubai) and the ivy (Sydney).

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