

MEDIA RELEASE**4 September 2007****Global demand fuels expansion of urban design team at Woods Bagot**

Demand for Woods Bagot's urban design services has seen the rapidly growing global architecture practice relocate one of its key leaders to the Middle East and appoint two further new members of staff in Sydney and Hong Kong, respectively.

With the desire for high quality interior design ever-increasing in the Middle East, Richard Marshall, a former Harvard professor and Woods Bagot's Global Director of Urban Design, has relocated from Sydney to Dubai. Richard and his team will focus on the Middle East to capitalise on the demand for their expertise in this rapidly expanding region.

Richard has over 16 years of professional experience in combining the design and delivery of new buildings with the urban design and master planning of new environments. He is an internationally recognised leader in the development of cities and urban environments, with a portfolio of work across Asia, Australia, the US, Europe and the Middle East.

"The United Nations has estimated that the global population will, this year, be more urban than rural for the first time in history," said Richard. "In this context, urban design is becoming more and more important as larger populations are housed in bigger cities. Woods Bagot is establishing a global sense of the design solutions which work for an expanding urban population and these appointments to the urban design team will further strengthen this position."

Following Richard's move, Michelle Cramer has joined the Sydney office as Urban Design Services Leader, with responsibility for all services in this sector for Australia. Michelle's diverse experience includes strategic and conceptual master planning for urban developments, such as mixed-use town centres, neighbourhoods and communities, in Australia, Asia and the UK.

Michelle has worked on large-scale urban projects including the design of infrastructure and planning for Sydney's 2000 Olympics and the city's East Darling

Harbour, which was recently short-listed in the International Urban Design Competition. She is a Fulbright Scholar and has taught at both Harvard University and the University of Sydney.

To meet increased demand for quality urban design services in Asia, Ian Hau joins as Urban Design Services Leader for the sector, based in Hong Kong. Ian brings along a strong grounding in urban design, waterfront redevelopment and sports planning. Key projects included the Doha 2006 Asian Games Overlay, the redevelopment of Khalifa Stadium Qatar, Shenzhen Swimming and Diving Halls and the Shanghai North Bund Masterplan.

Ian established Hau Najman Architects in 2003, as a studio focused on the cultural and environmental design sensibility for urban projects in China. Recently, he completed the design of the Tianjin CBD 'British Manners Area' redevelopment together with model workplace projects for the Tianjin government.

The new appointments mark an increase in Woods Bagot's capacity to deliver strategic masterplans and development frameworks in response to emerging global urbanization patterns. "We are moving these people into geographies where they can better serve our clients," said Richard. "Across our studios we are masterplanning over 15 million square meters of commercial, residential, retail, and cultural facilities, including some of the largest projects in the Middle East."

Ross Donaldson, Global Managing Director of Woods Bagot, said: "Woods Bagot's global structure allows the firm to draw on experience from all corners of the globe, while enhancing our regional offices' ability to drive major projects that are culturally and socially significant."

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About Woods Bagot

Woods Bagot is a global studio specialising in architecture, consulting, interiors and urban design. It currently employs over 600 staff in four regions in the Lifestyle, Workplace and Education & Science sectors.

Through the global research brand, PUBLIC, Woods Bagot collaborates with clients, staff and thought-leaders to challenge conventional design.

Notable projects include:

- Hong Kong University, Hong Kong
- QSTP, Qatar



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