



AIA, AGC, and CURT Form Collaborative Group to Transform Design and Construction Industry

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For immediate release:

Washington, D.C. – July XX, 2006 – In an effort to address and solve problems caused by industry fragmentation, lack of clear communications across professions, and old business models, The American Institute of Architects (AIA), the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), and the Construction Users Roundtable (CURT) today announced the formation of a new collaborative working group to spearhead design and construction industry transformation issues for the three organizations.

“This undertaking represents an unprecedented level of collaboration between building owners, designers, and contractors,” state group leaders Norman Strong, FAIA, AIA Vice President, William Tibbitt, former CURT president, and Doug Pruitt, AGC Vice President Nominee. “The formation of this group is an owner driven and fully cooperative response to the recent AIA/AGC Construction Industry Summit and a second three-party meeting at the AIA/AGC Joint Committee in Colorado Springs. Together we look forward to tackling the theoretical and strategic challenges to design and construction industry transformation by working across traditional stakeholder boundaries.”

Over the past two years, collaborative discussions between the AIA, AGC, and CURT, have resulted in three significant milestone publications and events, all focused on industry transformation.

- 1) The shared drafting of CURT white paper 1202 in August, 2004, titled “Collaboration, Integrated Information and the Project Life Cycle in Building Design, Construction and Operation” (http://www.aia.org/SiteObjects/files/ip_productivity.pdf)
- 2) The continued mutual effort resulting in CURT white paper 1003, “Optimizing the Construction Process: An Implementation Strategy”, written in 2005 and just published (http://www.aia.org/SiteObjects/files/ip_optimizingconstructionprocess.pdf)
- 3) The jointly hosted AIA/AGC Construction Industry Summit, held in Washington, D.C. on May 8th and 9th 2006 (http://www.aia.org/SiteObjects/files/ip_summit_final.pdf)

In a continued spirit of collaboration, this new group will build upon the platform of the white papers and the summit. Headed up jointly by equal representation from AIA, AGC, and CURT, the working group will address the need for new business models, insurance products and contracts as well as industry “primers” and “how-to’s”.

Group leaders will develop a formal action plan over the course of the summer for release during the CURT meeting in Detroit, September 11 - 13, 2006.

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About The American Institute of Architects

For almost 150 years, members of The American Institute of Architects have worked with each other and their communities to create more valuable, healthy, secure, and sustainable buildings and cityscapes. AIA members have access to the right people, knowledge, and tools to create better design, and through such resources and access, they help clients and communities make their visions real. www.aia.org

About The Associated General Contractors of America

The Associated General Contractors of America (AGC) represents more than 32,000 firms, including 7,000 of America's leading general contractors, and over 11,000 specialty-contracting firms. More than 13,000 service providers and suppliers are associated with AGC through a nationwide network of chapters. Visit the AGC Web site at www.agc.org. AGC members are "Building Your Quality of Life."

About The Construction Users Roundtable

The Mission of **The Construction Users Roundtable (CURT)** is to create strategic advantage for construction users. **CURT** accomplishes this by providing aggressive leadership and focus on business issues that promote excellence in the development and execution of engineering, maintenance and construction projects. CURT owner members collectively represent over \$130 billion in annual construction and maintenance spending. More information is available at www.CURT.org.