

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## PERKINS EASTMAN EXPANDS PRESENCE IN LATIN AMERICA

Global Design Firm's Guayaquil Office to Lead Master Plan for Development of Lands Currently Occupied by José Joaquín de Olmedo International Airport

Guayaquil, Ecuador (April 12, 2017) The Board of Directors of global design and architecture firm Perkins Eastman is pleased to announce the expansion of its design, consulting, and planning operations in Latin America, based out of the firm's regional office in Guayaquil, Ecuador, which opened in 2008. This announcement coincides with a major development concerning the lands surrounding the soon-to-be-decommissioned [José Joaquín de Olmedo International Airport](#). Perkins Eastman has been hired by the city to develop the master plan for this parcel, which comprises approximately 3.4 square kilometers and borders the Río Daule. Stephen Forneris AIA, Managing Principal of the Guayaquil office, joined Mayor Jaime Nebot for a [press conference](#) on March 28 to share news of this development and to proffer what the future holds for Ecuador's largest city.

The ambitious task of developing a master plan for the site represents a major milestone for Guayaquil's ongoing urban regeneration campaign, started by Mayor Nebot in the early 2000s. The master plan itself, currently in its nascent stage, is envisioned by Perkins Eastman to become a major and long-term economic driver for the city, combining best practices in planning & urban design, public transit & infrastructure, education, healthcare, hospitality, and commercial mixed-use – all project types for which the firm is internationally renowned.

"It is an honor to be partnering with the city and its civic leaders on this project," says Forneris. "We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to help lay a path for Guayaquil's future. Every city eventually tackles challenges related to planning, density and transportation, and considers ways in which new technologies will determine how those challenges are met." He continues: "Designing for the health and sustainability of this growing city and its citizens is paramount. We want to create a city of the future."

Among Perkins Eastman's notable projects in the region are [San Alberto Hurtado](#), a residential and mixed-use urbanization development located on Guayaquil's western end, designed in partnership with charitable foundation Hogar de Cristo; the master plan for the modernization of Hospital Luis Vernaza, Ecuador's largest public hospital; and [Colegio](#)

[Franklin Delano Roosevelt](#): The American School of Lima, an independent preparatory school serving the international business and diplomatic community in Lima, Peru.

More recently, [Perkins Eastman partnered with Degenkolb](#) to send a team of architects and seismic engineers to Ecuador following last year's devastating earthquake. The team assessed damage to critical infrastructure—namely schools, hospitals, and civic buildings—and developed recommendations for advancing seismic building codes for greater earthquake resilience.

Bradford Perkins, Chairman and CEO of Perkins Eastman, says, “When we opened our Ecuador office in 2008, we did so with the objective of gradually introducing our unique design expertise and global resources to South and Central America. Nearly a decade later, our Guayaquil office is now firmly established and poised to become a competitive leader in the region. With the full support of the firm's international network of offices and design studios, we're always improving our regional capabilities, which enables us to provide [award-winning design](#) on a variety of project and building types.”

As a global design leader in multiple continents and across varying practice areas and building types, Perkins Eastman has built a distinct legacy since the firm was founded in 1981. Noteworthy projects in other parts of the world include TKTS Booth in Times Square, New York; Dunbar Senior High School, Washington, DC; Huishan North Bund, Shanghai; the Master Plan for the City of Hanoi, Vietnam; The New York Wheel, Staten Island, NY; Mayo Clinic Destination Medical Center, Rochester, MN; Memorial Sloan-Kettering's Josie Robertson Surgery Center, New York; and The Wharf, Washington, DC, among many others.

## About Perkins Eastman

Perkins Eastman is among the top design and architecture firms in the world. With almost 1,000 employees in 15 locations around the globe, Perkins Eastman practices at every scale of the built environment. From niche buildings to complex projects that enrich whole communities, the firm's portfolio reflects a dedication to progressive and inventive design that enhances the quality of the human experience. With work in 46 states and more than 40 countries, the firm's portfolio includes transportation and public infrastructure, high-end residential, commercial, hotels, retail, office buildings, corporate interiors, schools, hospitals, museums, senior living, and public sector facilities. Perkins Eastman provides award-winning design through its offices in North America (New York, NY; Boston, MA; Charlotte, NC; Chicago, IL; Dallas, TX; Los Angeles, CA; Pittsburgh, PA; San Francisco, CA; Stamford, CT; Toronto, Canada; and Washington, DC); South America (Guayaquil, Ecuador); North Africa and Middle East (Dubai, UAE); and Asia (Mumbai, India, and Shanghai, China).