



MIDWEST



**GET SMART**  
A CHICAGO-BASED ARCHITECTURE  
FIRM PUTS WHAT IT PREACHES  
INTO PRACTICE

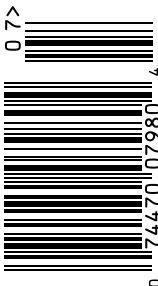
**MIDWEST MEETS MIDDLE EAST**  
DENVER'S RNL IS TAKING ITS  
DESIGNS TO THE DESERT

# LASER VISION

**BHC RHODES' HIGH-TECH TOOLS MAKE SURVEYING A SNAP**

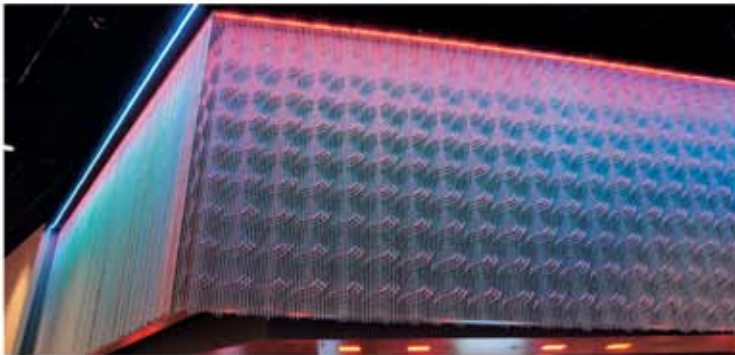
READ BY SAVVY CEOS ABOUT TO LEASE 198 MILLION SQUARE FEET OF OFFICE SPACE

OCTOBER 2009 \$3.50



# H2B

architects



...empowered by design

...empowered by design is not just a philosophy, but a way by which we live and work. Our team of architects combine a unique blend of insightful strategies and powerful creative solutions. It is our enthusiasm and diversity of experience that keeps us striving for design excellence.

H2B architects, inc. | 1800 Baltimore Ave, #1 South | Kansas City, MO 64108 | 816-979-1800

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# MARKETPLACE OFFERS FROM OUR PARTNERS



## H2B Architects Inc.

H2B architects Inc. is empowered by design, a philosophy that describes the way its employees live and work. H2B is an architectural firm that specializes in hospitality, entertainment, restaurant and commercial development. It is a group of architects with a unique blend of insightful strategies and powerful creative solutions. Find out more about H2B architects by visiting the company's Web site ([www.h2barch.com](http://www.h2barch.com)) or by calling 816-979-1800.

## Southwest Johnson County Economic Development

Southwest Johnson County is the Kansas City metro's location of choice for logistics. Whether it's the New Century AirCenter, the BNSF Intermodal (KC Logistics) Hub or the Midwest Commerce Center, the county offers great rail service and highway access. Contact the Southwest Johnson County Economic Development office to find out more about opportunities by phone at 913-715-6007 or online at [www.thinksouthwestjohnsoncounty.com](http://www.thinksouthwestjohnsoncounty.com).



## Magic Touch

"Going Green With The King", with hosts Gary and Trish Walker, is an hour-long weekly show that promotes sustainability, spotlights green products and discusses environmental issues. The show features expert guests who share actionable information to help listeners act more responsibly. Tune in every Friday at 12:30 p.m. on KCXL 1140 AM, or stream it live at [www.kcxl.com](http://www.kcxl.com).



## Straub Construction

Straub Construction Company Inc. is an award-winning general contractor that focuses on a diverse scale of commercial and multi-family projects.

Since 1920, Straub Construction has produced a strategic blend of general contracting, construction expertise, quality work and superior project management that keeps clients coming back. The team provides innovative solutions and values on-time and on-budget construction.

To learn how Straub can make construction easy for you, visit [www.straubconstruction.com](http://www.straubconstruction.com) or call 913-451-8828.



# SOUND OFF INSIGHT FROM OUR PARTNERS



*For more information on these companies, go to [MidwestCEO.com](http://MidwestCEO.com), click on the “In Every Issue” tab and then scroll down to “Sound Off Midwest C.J.”*

What is the best “next generation” tool or process you see on the horizon for what you do?

“The best ‘next generation’ tool is actually applying one of the best historical tools: cooperation and partnership. The efficient use of resources can only occur through a rarely achieved level of cooperation that critically analyzes and is willing to highlight duplication and inefficiency. With the long-term trend of shrinking resources and increased demand for service, the ‘next generation’ tool that will allow future success is and will continue to be in the form of innovative or renewed partnerships. The era of ‘turf’ and duplication must come to an end and usher in an era of cooperation for the betterment of the financial and physical environment.

“In the government sector it is important to ‘look in the mirror’ for inefficiencies but also to look around the mirror for opportunity to enhance services and reduce costs to all citizens.”

**Scott Wingerson, assistant city manager of Gladstone, Missouri**

“We believe architecture in the next generation will be known as ‘green design,’ as opposed to ‘traditional design.’ Green or sustainable design will be a way by which we craft and build for the future. Thanks to the advancement in building product development, sustainable design is being incorporated in most of the products we specify, whether we are striving for LEED certification or just building smarter. The knowledge and technology that we develop today will be the basis of a more efficient design for tomorrow and for our children.”

**Jeff Hall, principal at H2B Architects Inc.**

“As leaders in critical environment construction, we are continually researching newer, more effective solutions to improve the environments for customers we serve. One example of this is a new gypsum board product, which is extremely useful because it does not have traditional paper backing. Organic materials, such as paper, serve as a food source for mold spores. These and other contaminants are present in the environment and the air we breath. By compromising these mold spores’ ability to grow in conditioned buildings, we can maintain a higher level of indoor air quality. To occupants of buildings used for hospitals, laboratories, office buildings and assisted-living facilities, these changes can be very significant. This is just one example of a very effective, ‘next generation,’ critical environment construction process we know of in our industry.”

**Dan Foltz, president of KBS Constructors Inc.**