



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### **RSP Architects and DPR Construction, Inc. awarded ENR's National 'Best of the Best 2008 - Best Green Building in the US for ASU Polytechnic Academic Complex**

Phoenix, AZ (9 February 2009) – In December, RSP Architects and DPR Construction, Inc's project for the Arizona State University Polytechnic Academic Complex was named as the winner of *Southwest Contractor Magazine's* Best of 2008 in the Public Green category for Arizona. Now, *Engineering News-Record (ENR)*, and the 11 Regional Publications of McGraw-Hill Construction, have recognized the same project in its first annual Best of the Best Awards, naming it the **Best of the Best 2008 – Best Green Building in the US.**

The national competition recognizes design and construction excellence based on regional winners of ENR's 11 regional publications' Best of 2008 Awards. Out of 225 regional winners, just 23 were chosen by an independent jury of construction professionals as national winners. The projects were judged for innovation, contribution to the community, aesthetic quality, and craftsmanship.

The design of the 245,000 square foot Polytechnic Academic Complex in Mesa contains four Arizona State University academic colleges and includes laboratories, classrooms, faculty offices, a lecture hall and a fine arts performance space. Situated on a decommissioned U.S. Air Force base, the project is seeking LEED®-NC Silver but may qualify for LEED®-NC Gold. By integrating photovoltaic panels, recycled concrete, and recycled building materials in its construction, the project utilized innovative techniques to make use of Arizona's abundant sunlight, while simultaneously protecting students from the heat. The new buildings were completed through the collaboration of RSP Architects, Lake|Flato, and DPR Construction, Inc. in June 2008.

"We are certainly celebrating the success of ASU," said RSP President David Norback. "The awards are just the last layer on this very successful project. Aesthetically, environmentally and functionally, the Polytechnic Academic Complex succeeds at so many levels. We're very proud of the team that made this happen."

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Arizona State University is committed to reducing its carbon footprint and creating sustainable environments for its students, said Todd Raven, ASU project manager. “The facilities are an example of that commitment, and we are delighted to see the efforts and talents of RSP Architects and DPR Construction being recognized nationally.”

The announcement by *ENR* comes on the heels of the 11th annual *Southwest Contractor* competition, which recognizes construction and design excellence in Arizona, Nevada and New Mexico. The ASU complex was among 22 winning projects selected from 650 entries by an independent jury of design and construction professionals.

**NOTE:** *LEED®-NC (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design – New Construction) is an accreditation given by the U.S. Green Building Council (USGBC). The USGBC grants certificates based on a stringent rating system that recognizes design and construction processes that minimize negative impact on the environment.*

### **About RSP Architects**

RSP Architects was established 30 years ago and now has approximately 240 employees in its offices in Minneapolis and Rochester, Minnesota; Phoenix, Arizona; San Diego, California, and Tianjin, China. Its headquarters is in the historic Grain Belt Brewhouse, an award-winning renovation and adaptive reuse project in Minneapolis.

RSP maintains a diverse practice with architectural expertise in corporate, healthcare, higher education, hospitality, institutional, manufacturing and research, retail, and government projects in the U.S. and internationally. In addition, RSP i-SPACE® is a proprietary service that offers unique insights into a firm’s real estate assets, while RSP Dreambox, a consultancy within RSP, takes an experiential approach to design, strategy, innovation and multimedia architectural services.

RSP clients include Ameriprise Financial, American Express Company, Arizona State University, Comerica, Inc., GMAC ResCap, Boston Scientific, Madison Marquette, the Mayo Clinic and Foundation, Tianjin Haihe Development Commission, Travelers, Target Corporation, UnitedHealth Group, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the University of Minnesota, and Wells Fargo & Company.

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### **About DPR Construction, Inc.**

DPR Construction, Inc. ([www.dprinc.com](http://www.dprinc.com)) is a unique technical builder with a passion for results. With an established goal of having a proven track record of being environmentally responsible in the way it does business, DPR provides the committed expertise and disciplined leadership required to deliver highly complex and sustainable projects in Life Sciences, Education, Advanced Technology, Healthcare and Corporate Office Construction.

A privately held, employee-owned company, DPR was founded in 1990 and has grown to more than \$1.7 billion in annual revenue, making it one of the largest general contractors in the nation and a story of “great” entrepreneurial success. With a backlog of more than \$2 billion worth of technically demanding and sustainable projects currently in preconstruction or under construction across the country, DPR is building for world-class customers, including: Arizona State University, Amgen, Banner Health, Bayer, Catholic Healthcare West, City of Phoenix, Covance, Digital Realty Trust, eBay, General Dynamics, Jones Lang LaSalle, Kaiser Permanente, Pixar, Ligand Pharmaceuticals, Salt River Project, sanofi-aventis, The Scripps Institute, TGen/IGC and the University of Arizona!.

The firm’s 226-person Arizona office has been “building great things” since 1994, and with more than \$257 million worth of work underway, is ranked as the 9<sup>th</sup> largest general contractor in Arizona. DPR serves customers nationally through its regional offices in Atlanta, GA; Austin, TX; Falls Church, VA; Morrisville, NC; Newport Beach, CA; Pasadena, CA; Phoenix, AZ; Redwood City, CA; Sacramento, CA; San Diego, CA; San Francisco, CA; San Jose, CA; and West Palm Beach, FL.

### **About ASU Polytechnic**

Arizona State University offers technical and professional programs that provide a project based, hands-on learning experience for students at the Polytechnic campus. Programs are available through the School of Applied Arts and Sciences, the College of Teacher Education and Leadership, the Morrison School of Management and Agribusiness, and the College of Technology and Innovation,

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