

smdp



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firm profile

smdp is a Chicago based Architectural design firm with a diverse portfolio of project types around the world. Our innovative design practice is comprised of dedicated professionals committed to providing solutions to contemporary architectural and urban issues.

Our practice is rooted in a respect for the broader cultural realm, and our desire to use design to create a unique sense of place for each community where we work. We believe in the inherent optimism of creation and thus seek projects expressive of their time, yet also respectful of the memory of the past and place. Inspired by the cultural, geographic and organizational diversity of our clients, we strive to realize environments that elevate daily life, respect the commercial enterprise and inspire the human spirit.

With each project our team draws on a wealth of their collective fundamental problem-solving experiences and through a humanistic application of technology define solutions that aspire to the functional, aesthetic and sustainable goals of our clients. This process has enabled the practice to design over 150 projects totaling over 20,000,000 m².

The firm serves clients in both the private and public sectors on projects ranging from new city master plans to interior renovations. We believe in the regenerative powers of design to maintain vital and sustainable urban environments and as such our services are broad and include Urban Planning, Landscape Design, Architecture, Interior Design, Graphics and Historic Preservation.



firm history

smdp was established by Scott Sarver, Dae Hong Minn and Bill Browne with the premise of providing service clearly and effectively focused on innovative design serving both the client and community.

Sarver and Minn first met while working together at SOM on several projects such as Plaza Rakyat in Kuala Lumpur and the New Seoul Metropolitan Airport, COEX Intercontinental Hotel and Tower Palace III in Korea. In 2001, they joined DeStefano Partners as principals and went on to develop the international market for the firm, completing over 100 projects in 10 years.

In 2011, Sarver and Minn acquired the rights to all of their projects at DeStefano Partners and, along with Browne formed smdp. Browne had founded Ratio Architects in Indianapolis, which over 30 years has grown to be one of the largest and best managed firms in the region. Together we operate as smdp with Sarver serving as the design lead and Minn serving as the management lead and Browne providing the leadership and visioning to continue the evolution of the firm, along with a talented staff of over 100 Architects, designers and planners.

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