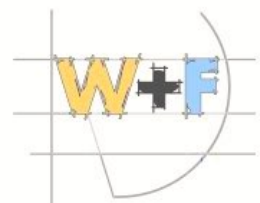


The
WAKU + FOLK
PARTNERSHIP

Offices



Our Ethos

The WFP is an architectural services company that employs highly qualified and motivated individuals that deliver for the client. Each member of the partnership has evolved professional skills that are tailored to the client's requests and needs. Whether it is interior design, project management, construction management or 3D visualization, the WFP guarantees customer satisfaction.

Our breadth of experience and knowledge of the Japanese market gives the client confidence that we can deliver. We are experienced in working with foreign architectural firms tasked with branding and rolling out stores in Japan. Our CM and PM expertise blended with the western understanding separates us from our competitors. We work for the client as an advocate placing their needs above all others.

As a design company we have always striven to incorporate the principles of PM into the design process whenever possible. Our feeling is that this sort of process creates a better project for the client and actually maximizes the budget by smoothing out the lines of communication between the client, contractor and us as the designer and project manager. Rolling projects into a design/build framework allows the customer to have quicker turn around thereby saving money.

We have also never focused on one type of design. It is our opinion that limitations on creative process produces negative results. We also believe that clients often have valuable insight as to what they want. Our role as the steward of a project is to deliver a design that gives the client this but also what they need. Our design skills are anything from restaurants and bars to offices and retail stores.

The Team

Edwin Henry Folk IV - Managing Partner

Edwin H. Folk started the WFP in 2006 with only one goal: providing clients with the best architectural services in the Japan market. Edwin has spent the last 18 years in Japan working and has over 25 years of international PM, CM and design experience. He has a sense of materials and detail that have been refined over time. As a designer with a background in PM and CM gives him the ability to deliver on time and on budget complex projects. Edwin has done PM for some of the largest foreign companies in Japan with a high degree of satisfaction. Being both bilingual and bicultural Edwin knows the Japanese market and how to measure the expectations of the client and deliver on time and budget.

Ivan Pazos - Senior Project Architect

Ivan Pazos has almost 20 years of international experience in some of the most prestigious design firms. As a senior architect and team leader at SOM Ivan has shown the ability to not only create cutting edge designs around the world but also deliver according to the needs of a specific project. Most recently Ivan has worked as a senior architect for Niho Seikiei in the international division where he worked on large and medium scale civic, commercial and hospitality projects. Ivan is qualified as a licensed architect in both the United States and Spain.

Ikuko Ota - Project Architect

Ikuko Ota is a 1st Class Architect. With over 15 years experience working with some of the best know companies and designers in Japan she offers not only the skills of an architect but the innate knowledge of Japanese PM . Ikuko has a strong foundation in interior architecture and a strong sense of material usage and spatial coordination. Ms. Ota has also been instrumental in working with Japanese construction companies in both CM and PM roles in order to bring projects in on time and on budget.

Hiroyuki Nishioka - Senior Project Manager

Hiroyuki Nishioka is a 1st Class Architect, 1st Class Construction Engineer and Certified Construction Manager. With over 25 years of experience working for the largest A&E firm in Japan his breadth of knowledge in both engineering and PM are incredibly valuable. His knowledge of the construction laws and the local requirements provide great insight in how to avoid potential design and PM issues.

Masami Nakagawa - Project Architect

Masami Nakagawa is a 1st Class Architect, 1st Class Construction Engineer and Certified Construction Manager. With 25 years of experience working with one of the most venerated design firms in Japan Mr. Nakagawa's has a great deal of knowledge regarding all aspects of the construction laws in Japan. As a designer his experience is varies from large scale apartment blocks to office towers and shopping malls.

Miwa Yokotani - Interior Designer

Miwa Yokotani is a multilingual second class architect in Japan. Miwa has over 25 years of practical experience in interior design firms in Tokyo. She is particularly knowledgeable regarding the technical and government requirements for particular projects. Her experience is vast and includes hospitality, interior offices, restaurants and residential towers among other others.

Ryota Naruhashi - Project Manager

Ryota Naruhashi is a bilingual second class registered architect in Japan. He has over 10 years experience working as both a designer and project manager on a variety of projects ranging from new residential construction to light commercial and health care. Ryota was a central PM doing vendor bid analysis and procurement for the 22 million USD P&G corporate relocation in Kobe in 2016.

Gorka Blas - Designer

Gorka Blas is an international award winning designer. He has worked with Zaha Hadid Architects and Foster & Partners as a senior team lead architect and designer. He has worked on internationally recognized projects such as the Dongdaemun Design Center in Seoul and the MOL office in Budapest. He has also won international design project such as the Daegu Gosen library in Korea. Aside from his excellent design skills he is well versed in BIM.

Offices

Selected Works:

- Hewlett Packard Osaka, Japan
- GSC Manhattan, New York City
- Grainger Kyoto
- Pritzker Hyatt HQ Chicago
- BBVA Bancomer Mexico City

Past Clients:

- ANA Crowne Plaza Kobe
- ANA Crowne Plaza Osaka
- BGIS
- Bitzer Japan
- CBRE Japan
- Colliers
- Flying Tiger Copenhagen
- Grainger Japan
- JLL
- Proctor & Gamble
- Pitney Bowes
- Ramada Hotel
- Swiss Reinsurance

Hewlett Packard Osaka

HP has a global presence in the technology world with a reputation for innovation and precision that is second to none. Its dedicated, diverse and creative employees are driven to uphold this reputation and constantly maintain the company's level of excellence. Through well-thought-out workplaces that foster teamwork, a culture of inclusion can promote a cutting-edge workplace. HP's workplace culture is value based, people focused and driven by innovation. Here we used a mix of natural materials to highlight that innovation and showcase the subsequent human potential afforded by cutting-edge HP products.

Osaka, Japan

600 m²

Budget: ¥120,000,000









GSC

While working as a designer at SOM Ivan Pazos helped deliver the NYC headquarters of international investment manager GSC Group. In this project the primary architectural goals were to create an office that is technologically sophisticated while having the space reflect its location facing Central Park. The space uses cutting edge and captivating digital art to enhance the work areas and brings in natural light while giving employees views of Central Park. The natural finishes and surfaces give the office the comfortable feel of a space that is akin to hospitality and residential design.

Manhattan New York City

3,000 m²

Budget not Disclosed







Grainger Japan

Grainger is an America Fortune 500 company. As one of the world's largest industrial supply distributors it has recently established a presence in Japan. With a 40,000 square meter distribution site the Kyoto office will act as the national headquarters and provide logistical and technical support. We were approached to conceive and execute this office in under 2 months and delivered. The design focuses on creating a work environment that is open and flexible. Japanese and western elements were used in the plan creating a work space that fosters creativity and the free flow of ideas between the employees.

Kyoto, Japan

250 m²

¥11,500,000





Pritzker Hyatt Headquarters

As a senior designer at SOM, Ivan Pazos was instrumental in helping to develop and execute an award winning design that reflected the company's core values as a leader in the hospitality industry. A seven-story atrium has cantilevered wooden "amenity boxes" that provide areas for meetings and a grand staircase connects the floors with the workspaces creating a workplace urbanism. Additionally, the use of natural materials and an earth-toned color palette create a welcoming feel that reflects the hospitality core of the company.

Chicago, Illinois
26,000 sm²
Budget not Disclosed







BBVA Bancomer

The BBVA Operations Center is an architectural landmark in Mexico City. It is a state-of-the-art, environmentally sustainable award winning building that has raised the profile of BBVA Bancomer in Latin America. Ivan Pazos working as a senior designer helped to reimagine the 21st century work environment. The BBVA operational philosophy has switched to a horizontal management structure that relies on more on collaboration than the traditional top down model. The interior design reinforces this goal by creating social spaces that are shared and meeting places that are open to the informal and collaborative.

Mexico City, Mexico
154,000 m²
Budget not Disclosed





