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Shaw Contract Group to Honor Commercial Designers for Smart Solutions with “Design Is...” Award

First-Ever Competition of Its Kind to Celebrate Design Beyond Aesthetics; Top Entries to be Featured at NeoCon for People’s Choice Vote

CHICAGO – [June 13, 2006] – Shaw Contract Group, the leading flooring provider to the commercial market, will showcase innovative interior design solutions by commending winners of its Design Is... Award via live Web cast on September 18, 2006. The company, which created the competition to uphold the notion that design is “not just a pretty face,” announced a call for entries in November 2005 and garnered 145 qualified entries from commercial interior design professionals.

A panel of five judges consisting of distinguished members of the design community reviewed the finalist entries and selected eight finalists base on projects displaying exceptional design solutions beyond aesthetic quality such as operational excellence or environmental leadership.

“We are thrilled to provide a medium through which design leaders can discuss and recognize innovative approaches to often-overlooked aspects of design,” said John Stephens, vice president of marketing for Shaw Contract Group. “The ongoing dialogue we hope the Design Is... Award creates will benefit the industry by recognizing excellence in design beyond just beautiful spaces, but projects that achieve human and business goals in ways that represents the best practices in global design.”

The initiative will also make a splash at NeoCon, the Chicago trade fair for interior design and facilities management organizations. There, Shaw Contract Group will host a private lounge featuring a multimedia presentation about the competition. Viewers will learn more about the competition parameters, preview details from eight top entries and participate in a People’s Choice vote.

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2- Shaw Contract Group Design Is...Award

The judging panel consists of:

Brigitte Preston, Lauck Group, Dallas, Texas
Viveca Bissonnette, Carrier Johnson, San Diego, California
Ken Wilson, Envision Design, Washington, D.C.
Helen Joo, Ballinger, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
David Hanson, DH Design, Vancouver, British Columbia

Entry forms for the 2007 Design Is...Award will be available in the fall of 2007 at www.shawcontractgroup.com.

About Shaw Contract Group

Shaw Contract Group defines design not only by great appearance, but also performance and sustainability. The result is long-lasting carpet with vibrant colors, distinctive patterns, and minimal environmental impact. As a division of Shaw Industries, Shaw Contract Group combines the expertise of the world's largest carpet manufacturer with the financial stability of a Berkshire Hathaway subsidiary. For more information, visit www.shawcontractgroup.com.

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