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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**Humphreys & Partners Architects, L.P.
Wins Two Prestigious Pillars of the Industry Awards**

April 27, 2009 – Dallas, TX – As testaments to today's urbanization trend, The Carlyle in Downtown Minneapolis and Century Plaza in Midtown Phoenix have earned Pillars of the Industry awards for Dallas-based Humphreys & Partners Architects L.P. from the National Association of Home Builders.

The Carlyle, a new landmark for the city's historic district, was named Best Condominium High-Rise in the U.S. in the NAHB's 2009 showcase of designs and trends for the multifamily market. Century Plaza was honored as the nation's Best Adaptive Re-Use design, with a luxury condominium tower emerging from a 36-year-old office building in an urban, transit-oriented, mixed-use setting.

Developed by Opus Northwest Construction and the Carlyle Condos, LLC (Apex Asset Management Corp.), The Carlyle at 100 Third Ave. South has panoramic views of the Stone Arch Bridge, Mississippi River, St. Anthony Falls and Downtown. The Carlyle started with a one-acre empty canvas. "We were doing something that would be there 100 years from now. It is an important duty to do a timeless design and that is what we believe we've done," said Mark Humphreys, CEO of Humphreys & Partners Architects, L.P., "and, the views are absolutely stunning." In addition to Humphreys & Partners, the Carlyle's design team included Opus A&E.

The Carlyle's design challenge was to massage its tunnel-form construction, more common in Europe, into a flexible design "so it didn't look rigid," said Humphreys, who has accrued numerous Pillars of the Industry awards during his career. "This is a very significant accolade for Humphreys and Opus Northwest to win with a construction system that isn't very flexible." The architect used a perpendicular design to soften the rigid appearance commonly associated with the technique, which can be used to shorten construction time and create stronger skeletons for ceilings and floors.

In Midtown Phoenix, Humphreys reworked the design of a 15-story office building into 148 lofts and sophisticated urban homes, ranging from 734 square feet to 2,846 square feet. Equus Development Corp. is responsible for Century Plaza's redevelopment.

The 36-year-old Century Plaza, sitting on a 2.5-acre tract at 3225 N. Central Ave., underwent a re-skinning with aqua-color glass and an aluminum curtain wall frame to provide more natural lighting for unit interiors. A surface parking lot was converted into an amenity area with cabanas, spa, swimming pool and putting green. An adjoining parking garage was outfitted with a second-level pedestrian bridge to create a private access for residents and the first floor reserved for public parking to support the mixed-use project's retail space.

"The transformation looks like a new building," Humphreys said. "The challenge was taking the core and redeveloping its layout for individual residents' homes. This project could not have been built from the ground up because the cost would have been prohibitive to replace the structural system."

Central Plaza's uppermost floors, once housing mechanical equipment, now sports six two-story penthouses with spacious roof terraces and commanding views of the bustling Central Avenue corridor. Humphreys said the "edgy soft lofts" were designed with young professionals and empty nesters in mind.

"The office building had lost its practical use. Reusing the building's structure and putting it back in service, there is nothing better than that," Humphreys said, citing the pro-environment advantages of adaptive reuse.

Washington, DC-based NAHB announced the 2009 Multifamily Pillars of the Industry Awards for excellence in development, marketing and management at its annual gala, held recently at the Hotel Del Coronado in San Diego.

NOTE TO EDITORS:

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