



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

August 3, 2007

**HOK SPORT SELECTED TO DESIGN NEW EVENTS CENTER IN ORLANDO**

KANSAS CITY, MO/ ORLANDO, FL – HOK Sport has been selected as designer of the new Events Center in Orlando, HOK and Orlando Magic officials announced today. The selected design team consisting of HOK Sport, Walter P. Moore, and Smith Seckman Reid will immediately undertake a process to add to the team MWBE and local design consultants to provide a full scope of services for the design of the new Events Center.

“Today’s professional arenas need to accommodate the entire game day and concert experience,” said HOK Sport Senior Principal Rick Martin. “Our proficiency in arena design, coupled with our longstanding commitment to sustainable design, will lend itself well to creating a civic icon in Orlando.”

"HOK will bring incredible vision and creativity to Orlando's new Events Center," said Orlando Magic Chief Operating Officer Alex Martins. "They have a team of talent with worldwide experience that will design a facility unique to Central Florida and with the flexibility to host major national events."

The new Events Center, which is scheduled to be open in September 2010, will be home to the Orlando Magic and will compete to host major national events, concerts and family shows. The City of Orlando will operate the new Events Center, while the community will own the facility.

In a historic move, the Magic agreed that the new Events Center will be designed and constructed to meet the certification criteria for a green building development standard.

The Events Center will be located just South of Church Street on the West side of I-4 in downtown Orlando.

The Magic’s current home, Amway Arena, houses 17,500 seats in just 367,000 square feet of space. The new arena will feature 750,000 square feet of space – more space to incorporate more modern day amenities found in most professional arenas of the day – and seating which will be expandable to more than 20,000 seats to accommodate major national events.

With groundbreaking scheduled for the summer of 2008, the architectural/engineering team will move quickly to design the new arena.

“We’re delighted the project has been approved and we’re very pleased to have emerged from the interview process as the top-ranked design firm,” said Martin. “In the coming weeks we look forward to finalizing the contract and proceeding with design of a new downtown Events Center.”

HOK Sport has vast experience in arena design, including 32 professional arenas, 48 civic arenas and 56 collegiate arenas. The firm’s experience includes such recent urban arenas as Pepsi Center in Denver; Toyota Center in Houston; and Philips Arena in Atlanta. Additionally, the firm is working on the only two professional sports projects striving for LEED Certification – the new Nationals Park in Washington, D.C. and the new Twins Ballpark in Minneapolis.

###

### ***About HOK Sport***

*HOK Sport is one of the world's leading design firms – and the only firm in the world dedicated exclusively to the design of sporting venues. As designers of some of the world's most identifiable sports and entertainment buildings, HOK Sport continues to define a building type which has played an increasing role in establishing the architectural fabric of modern cities. Their architects are the world's finest and most experienced, drawing from the combined expertise of more than 825 projects with construction value exceeding \$20 billion. HOK Sport’s client list is diverse and comprehensive; it includes 24 Major League Baseball franchises, 30 NFL franchises, 80 professional and civic arena clients, 40 soccer and rugby teams and 120 colleges and universities. The firm has received more than 200 design awards, including three national design awards from the American Institute of Architects. With offices in Brisbane, Australia; London, England; Nashville, Tennessee; Knoxville, Tennessee; Denver, Colorado; and Kansas City, Missouri, their reach is worldwide.*

[www.hoksport.com](http://www.hoksport.com)

### ***About the Orlando Magic***

*The Orlando Magic is committed to the community. On an annual basis the Orlando Magic gives more than \$2 million to the local community by way of sponsorships of events, donated tickets, autographed merchandise, scholarships and grants. Orlando Magic community relations programming impacts and estimated 75,000 kids annually. Over the last 18 years, more than \$13 million has been distributed to local non-profit community organizations via The Orlando Magic Youth Foundation. OMYF, a fund of the Robert R. McCormick Tribune Foundation, focuses on helping every child in Central Florida realize their full potential, especially those most at risk, by supporting programs and partnerships that empower families and change lives. Ticket highlights for 2007-08 include: a franchise-most 8,417 seats priced \$25 or under per game; A \$25 lower bowl ticket; and for the 10th straight year tickets priced at \$10 per game. For ticket information log on to [orlandomagic.com](http://orlandomagic.com) or call 407-89-MAGIC. Through NBA CARES, the league, players and teams will raise and contribute \$100 million for charity, donate more than 1 million hours of hands-on volunteer service to communities worldwide, and build more than 100 places where kids can learn and play over the next five years.*

### **For more information, contact:**

Gina Leo, Public Relations, HOK Sport, (816) 329-4409, [gina.leo@hoksve.com](mailto:gina.leo@hoksve.com)

Joel Glass, VP Communications, Orlando Magic, (407) 916-2631, [jglass@orlandomagic.com](mailto:jglass@orlandomagic.com)