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Global Design Firm WATG Promotes Four Senior Executives Solidifies Executive Leadership

Irvine, October 2014 - WATG has promoted Margaret McMahon and Robert Day to position of senior vice president, and Muriel Muirden and Robert Zheng to executive vice president.

"I am very pleased to announce the promotions of these four exceptional individuals. Their professional achievements and client service have been exemplary, and they have become major contributors to WATG's continuing growth and success," said Mike Seyle, CEO and president.

Margaret McMahon joined WATG three years ago to lead the interior design studios as managing director of Wimberly Interiors. Among her outstanding accomplishments is the launch of Wimberly Interiors as a new brand in the industry. Under her leadership, Wimberly Interiors successfully opened new studios and ateliers in New York, Los Angeles, Singapore, Dubai and Miami. McMahon's notable projects include the award-winning Bentley Suite at The St. Regis New York, The Ritz-Carlton, Panama City and the Viceroy Hotel Istanbul. One year ago, McMahon was inducted into Hospitality Design's prestigious Platinum Circle. McMahon is also the first interior designer and first woman to be promoted to senior vice president at WATG.

Muriel Muirden, managing director of strategy, has challenged conventional thinking in the tourism, leisure and hospitality industries for 25 years. She joined WATG three years ago to build the firm's strategy service line, offering clients unique insight and global development intelligence. Based in London, Muirden and her growing team not only provide strategic advice internally, but offer WATG clients in the real estate, tourism, leisure and hospitality industry pre-development strategic consultancy, concept evaluation and business planning. In 2013, Muirden was elected to serve on the WATG's board of directors and has been instrumental in shaping the over-all business strategy as the firm looks forward to the next 25 years.

Rob Day, senior director of planning and landscape, leads WATG's planning and landscape service line in Singapore. His planning projects are characterized by cohesive and forward-thinking design such as the long-term development master plan of Phu Quoc Island, Vietnam; and the expansion of Bei Da Hu resort and support town in northeast China. Day has extensive international planning and landscape experience on three different continents, including the USA, Europe, and Asia. He is serving his second term as a member of the WATG board of directors, after having previously served from 2006 to 2009.

Chao “Robert” Zheng joined the Honolulu office of WATG in 1996. As a veteran in the industry, he relocated to help open WATG’s Singapore office in 2007 and was instrumental in the phenomenal growth of that office. With his focus on the Asia market, Robert helped to boost business development in Asia. While China continues to rank among WATG’s strongest markets, Zheng returned to Honolulu in 2012 to drive the rising Hawaii and South Pacific markets while continuing to service Asia. In his function as Senior Director of Development, he continues to drive business development with his exceptional international experience and expertise in the industry. Zheng was recently appointed to serve on the board of TIM International, Inc. (TIMI), the alumni association of the School of Travel Industry Management at the University of Hawaii at Manoa.

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About WATG

Over the course of the last seven decades, [WATG](#) and affiliated design studio [Wimberly Interiors](#) have become the world’s leading hospitality design consultancy. With offices in Irvine, Los Angeles, New York, London, Istanbul, Dubai, Singapore, and Honolulu, the full-service design firm is best known for creating internationally acclaimed destinations in 160 countries across six continents. WATG offers strategy, planning, architecture, urban design, landscape design, and interior design for urban, tourism and resort destinations. WATG’s projects are renowned not only for their design and sense of place but also for their bottom-line success. Explore more at [watg.com](#)

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