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LOGAN SIMPSON
DESIGN INC.

Logan Simpson Design Inc. Acquires Planning Firm Bear West

Tempe, Arizona—November 1, 2011—Environmental planning and landscape architecture firm Logan Simpson Design Inc. has acquired Bear West Company, the oldest continuously operating planning firm in Utah. Bear West provides community planning, environmental analysis, public involvement, and policy development services to public and private clients. The firm brings in-depth local knowledge of Utah, Wyoming, and Idaho, where Bear West worked extensively with local and state clients for almost three decades.

Bear West was founded by land-use attorney and current Salt Lake City Mayor Ralph Becker. LSD regional manager and senior planner Jim Carter, who was formerly Director of the Utah Department of Oil Gas and Mining and City Attorney of Park City, Utah, is also a Bear West alumnus. The acquisition will expand LSD's ability to provide planning and public involvement services throughout the Intermountain West, generating significant new business and revenue opportunities. Bear West's strong focus on community planning complements LSD's emphasis on environmental planning and landscape architecture. Both firms have lengthy histories of managing public involvement projects for federal, state, and local clients.

Bear West also has strong relationships with federal agencies such as the U.S. Forest Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The combination will reinforce LSD's already strong relationships with these and other federal agencies, such as the Bureau of Land Management. In the acquisition, LSD also acquired GovComments.com® and CommentPro®, web-based software that automates and streamlines collection, analysis, and management of public comments required for compliance with regulations such as the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

“LSD and Bear West have both played key roles in public planning efforts in the West,” said LSD founder and CEO Diane Simpson-Colebank. “Together, we have served the local, state, and federal agencies who manage public lands in the western United States.”

“Our combined ability to help clients plan for their futures is tremendous,” said Bear West Managing Principal Buck Swaney, “and good planning depends on public input. LSD and Bear West have helped hundreds of thousands of Americans be heard through the public involvement process. With CommentPro® comment management software, we can help them be heard even more clearly.”

LSD is one of the largest environmental planning and landscape architecture firms in the Intermountain and Southwest regions of the U.S., with more than 100 employees. In addition to planning services, LSD offers a staff of archaeologists, biologists, and other environmental professionals able to conduct the technical environmental studies required for compliance with environmental regulations like NEPA. LSD's award-winning landscape architecture group includes LEED-accredited who plan and design a wide variety of infrastructure, building, and recreation projects.