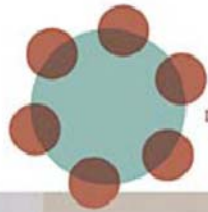


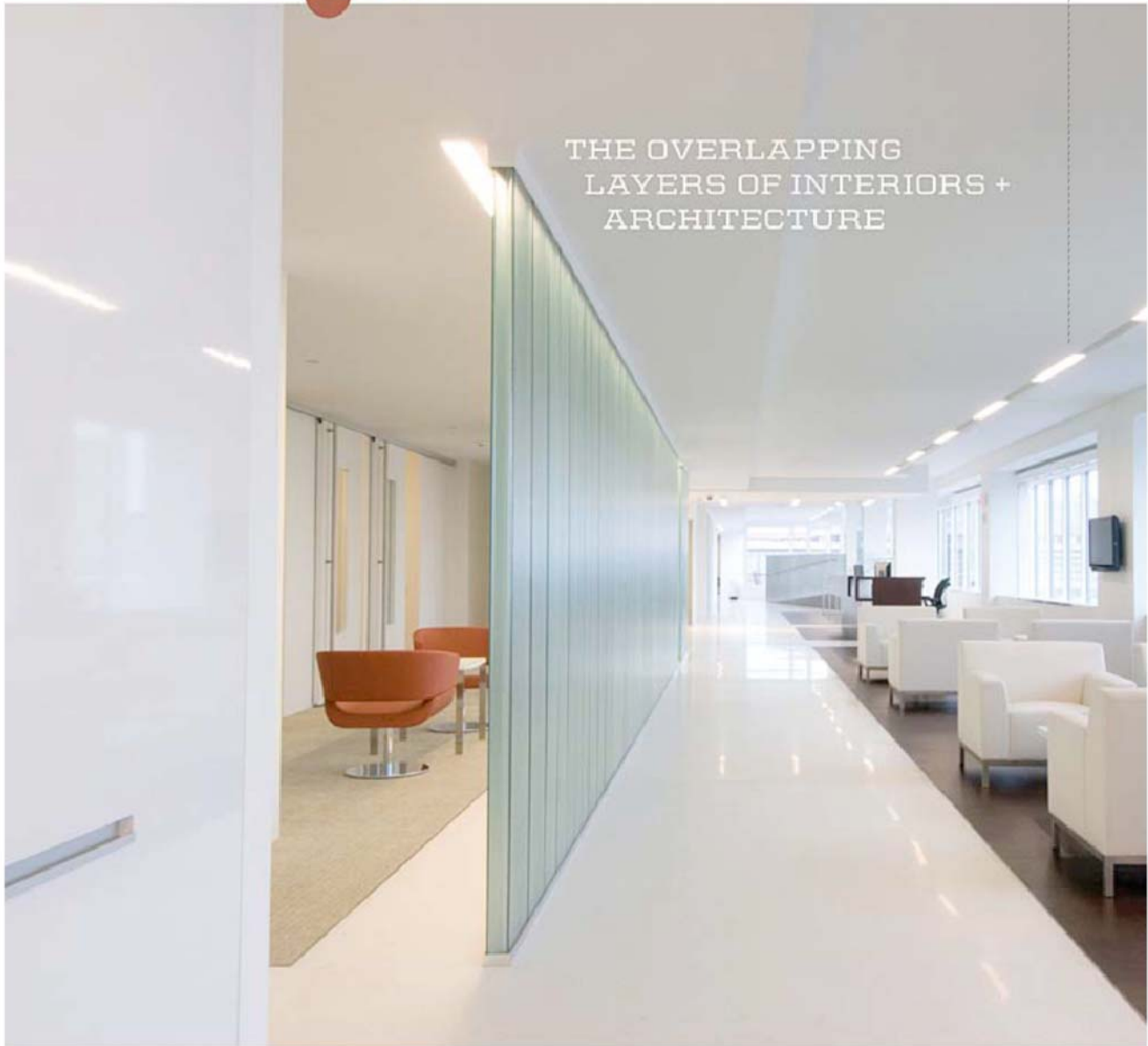


FEATURES: SPECIAL REPORT



DESIGNER ROUND TABLE

ACCOLADE⁵: SHADOW & LIGHT
a unique presentation of alternating illumination



With the vision of a central public "boulevard" that maximizes the volume of the space, the interior designer and GCA collaborated to accommodate the design through creative mechanical and lighting solutions that harmonized with the existing building structure.

FOLEY AND LARDNER LLP,
Washington, D.C.



Although interior materials and finishes may seem hundreds of AutoCAD layers away from the outer shell of a building, firms are designing from the inside out. This user-centric design strategy requires an ongoing dialogue between architect and interior designer to ensure the finished product suits the client.

● **AP:** When does an architect specify interior design and site furnishings?

● **ROBERT SLY, GCA:** Frequently, the architect is discounted as being only involved in base building architecture or construction documentation of the workplace, but a successful project design is achieved through a collaborative effort by both the architect and interior designer. Each share an expertise in several aspects of the design including space planning, lighting, sustainability, cost impact and finish application. This generates a quality assurance to find the best solutions and design for the client.

● **BOB PORTER, Vocon:** The architects' involvement varies depending upon the firm's focus, the specific role of the architect on a project and the project type. If the architect is the lead designer, he or she will typically be involved or oversee the development of the interior design and site

furnishing selections. In this capacity, some architects will directly participate in the finish material selections and color development, while others will collaborate with an interior designer.

● **JAIME VELEZ, SOM:** In our firm, the architecture department and interior department influences of a group are slightly different. We take advantage of our interiors experts, especially on the furniture side of things and things that fall more into the category of "FF and E"—furniture, fixtures and equipment. For instance, we do offices; but most reception areas are done by the interiors groups. When it comes to soft goods, like carpet or finishes for a lobby, it's within the interiors group.

● **HANS BALDAUF, BCV:** While many architects may not be involved in interior design, we are committed to the seamless connection between interiors and exteriors. We design interiors on

many projects, but on those that we don't, we work hard to make it seamless.

● **AP:** Does the level of the architect's involvement depend on the size of the firm?

● **JOAN KAUFMAN, Interior Planning+Design:** A number of architecture firms specialize in interiors and have developed their staff specifically to focus on this type of design. There are also interior design firms that focus on providing well-designed interior environments.

● **VELEZ:** The level of involvement definitely depends on the size of the firm. In a firm with three to four people, architects will have to do absolutely everything. It is a different model of practice.

● **PORTER:** A firm's size has less to do with an architect's role in interior design than the firm's culture and the specific skill sets of the architect. Our architecture is developed from the inside

a·light's accolade⁴:
corridor illumination via wall-mounted rows with intricate custom cross-spanned illuminated beams



PHOTOS COURTESY OF GCA