# **Best Practices**



## **Definition of Architect Positions**

From 2002 AIA Compensation Report: A Survey of U.S. Architecture Firms

The AIA collects and disseminates Best Practices as a service to AIA members without endorsement or recommendation. Appropriate use of the information provided is the responsibility of the reader.

#### SENIOR PRINCIPAL / PARTNER

Typically an owner or majority shareholder of the firm; may be the founder; titles may include president, chief executive officer, or managing principal/partner.

#### MID-LEVEL PRINCIPAL / PARTNER

Principal or partner; titles may include executive or senior vice president.

## JUNIOR PRINCIPAL / PARTNER

Recently made a partner or principal of the firm; title may include vice president.

#### **DEPARTMENT HEAD / SENIOR MANAGER**

Senior management architect or non-registered graduate; responsible for major department(s) or functions; reports to a principal or partner.

## PROJECT MANAGER

Licensed architect or non-registered graduate with more than 10 years of experience; has overall project management responsibility for a variety of projects or project teams, including client contact, scheduling, and budgeting.

#### SENIOR ARCHITECT / DESIGNER

Licensed architect or non-registered graduate with more than 10 years of experience; has a design or technical focus and is responsible for significant project activities. Licensed architect or non-registered graduate with 8-10 years of experience; responsible for significant aspects of projects.

#### ARCHITECT / DESIGNER II

Licensed architect or non-registered graduate with 6-8 years of experience, responsible for daily design or technical development of projects.

### ARCHITECT / DESIGNER I

Recently licensed architect or non-registered graduate with 3-5 years of experience; responsible for particular parts of a project within parameters set by others.

#### THIRD-YEAR INTERN

Unlicensed architecture school graduate in third year of internship; develops design or technical solutions under supervision of an architect.

## **SECOND-YEAR INTERN**

Unlicensed architecture school graduate in second year of internship.

## **ENTRY-LEVEL INTERN**

Unlicensed architecture school graduate in first year of internship.

## TO OBTAIN THE COMPLETE REPORT

2002 AIA Compensation Report: A Survey of U.S. Architecture Firms can be ordered from the AIA Bookstore, (800) 242-3837 (option 4), or online at www.aia.org.

## ARCHITECT / DESIGNER III