

St. Louis-based architecture firm expands with acquisition

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Two St. Louis-based architecture firms have merged through an acquisition. Fox Architects has acquired Zwick + Gandt Architects Inc. Terms of the deal, announced in a press release last week, weren't disclosed.

Brian Zwick and Joel Gandt, who founded Zwick + Gandt in 2005, continue with Fox as senior project managers. Zwick + Gandt's six employees were offered positions with Fox and five accepted, Fox partner Adnan Omeragic told the Business Journal.

Zwick + Gandt's employees, previously based at 9109 Watson Road in Crestwood, were relocated to Fox's offices at 1 Memorial Drive in downtown St. Louis.

Fox Architects, founded in 1978 by Michael Fox, now has 27 employees, 26 of whom are design staff, according to Omeragic. Fox has designed projects including corporate offices, laboratory and industrial facilities, health care, higher education and institutional spaces. In addition to architecture services, Fox is one of the St. Louis region's largest interior design firms, based on Business Journal research.

Fox's work includes the \$150 million Chesterfield headquarters of Reinsurance Group of America, the \$10 million Jesuit Archives and Research Center in the Central West End, and a number of local and other projects for Emerson Electric.

Officials said that acquiring Zwick + Gandt allows Fox to expand into the private education and mixed-use residential sector and increase its presence in St. Louis.

Zwick + Gandt brings extensive experience providing architecture, planning and interior design services in K-12 schools and colleges, municipal, mixed-use, multifamily residential, senior living and retail, among other sectors. Its projects include The Villages of Twin Oaks, a \$59 million mixed-use development; the \$56 million 5300 Centre Apartments in St. Peters, and private school projects such as Westminster Christian Academy's \$50 million Town & Country campus and work for Lutheran High School South and St. Joseph's Academy.

"Brian and I felt very comfortable with Fox Architects, knowing that our staff would have excellent opportunities and our clients would be well served for years to come, Joel Gandt said in the press release. "Our familiarity with folks at Fox Architects and our mutual business philosophies made this acquisition very seamless.

Link to original press release:

<https://www.fox-arch.com/st-louis-business-journal-st-louis-based-architecture-firm-expands-with-acquisition/>