FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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IIDA ACKNOWLEDGES CONTRACT MAGAZINE PUBLISHER JOHN ROUSE AS RECIPIENT OF INAUGURAL IIDA LEGACY AWARD

CHICAGO, IL — The International Interior Design Association (IIDA) proudly announces Contract magazine publisher John Rouse, Hon. IIDA, as the honoree of its inaugural IIDA Legacy Award. This award acknowledges outstanding contributions to the design profession through continued commitment to design excellence, and dedication to the IIDA mission of advancing and advocating for the Interior Design profession. The distinction also confers the recipient with Honorary IIDA Membership status.

“John has been a champion of Design in the written word for nearly three decades,” IIDA Executive Vice President and CEO Cheryl S. Durst, Hon. FIIDA, LEED AP, said. “Since assuming the mantle of its publisher in 2001, John’s vision for Contract magazine has continually set an industry standard for contribution to the international discussion of Commercial Interior Design and elevating the visibility of the profession. Through his passion for Design, John has steered Contract to numerous national awards, and continually celebrates brilliant design each year through the Interior Awards in New York and the annual Best of NeoCon award bestowed here in Chicago. His enthusiasm and commitment to Commercial Interior Design are second to none, and we are pleased to honor him with the first-ever IIDA Legacy Award.”

A design publishing veteran of nearly 30 years, John was especially acknowledged for his integral role in creating the Design Coalition for Professional Development (DCPD), the precursor to the Interior Design Continuing Education Council (IDCEC), the consortium of organizations that codifies and accredits professional development and CEU’s for the Interior Design profession.

John started his career in sales for Interiors magazine, working his way up to publisher in 1994. Following a series of mergers, John became publisher of Contract in 2001, overseeing day-to-day operations for the publication and its brand. In the coming decade, John would earn eight national design and editorial awards for the publication and its digital products. Contract, which he saw through its 50th anniversary celebration in 2010, is the only industry publication devoted exclusively to the Commercial Interior Design practice, and is the producer of two of the industry’s most prestigious design awards, the Interiors Award held in January each year at New York’s Cipriani, and the Best of NeoCon award presented annually in Chicago.

John formally received the Legacy Award and was recognized and celebrated as an Honorary Member at the IIDA Annual Meeting held June 8, 2014, at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago.

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About International Interior Design Association

The International Interior Design Association (IIDA) is the preeminent Commercial Interior Design professional networking and educational association with more than 13,000 Members practicing worldwide
in more than 50 countries. IIDA promotes the value of Interior Design to business decision makers and to the general public through its Members who create the exceptional environments that encompass every aspect of the human experience. IIDA is committed to enhancing the quality of life through excellence in Interior Design and advancing Interior Design through knowledge, value and community. www.iida.org