



Local Market Release

Helix Architecture + Design and RATIO Design Merge to Broaden Design Capabilities and Expand Midwest Presence

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (Aug. 6, 2026) — Helix Architecture + Design, an award-winning architecture and interior design firm entering its 35th year in Kansas City, and RATIO Design, an interdisciplinary practice with multiple studios serving projects throughout the world, today announce their merger. The combined firm will operate as RATIO | Helix in Kansas City while maintaining continuity for clients and teams. The merger was supported by Hennick & Company, a trusted long-term partner to the world's leading professional services firms, which made a strategic investment in RATIO Design in 2021.

The merger brings together two firms grounded in design excellence and a shared belief in the power of architecture and interiors, and a desire to strengthen communities, support clients, and create meaningful places. Together, RATIO | Helix will deliver expanded expertise at greater scale, while preserving the local relationships, collaborative spirit, and commitment to the communities they serve that have shaped both firms' work. The merger reflects a proactive, shared approach to growth, with both firms intentionally choosing to combine strengths rather than pursue a traditional acquisition structure.

"Their style of work meshes very well with ours," said Bill Browne, Jr., FAIA, LEED AP, Principal and Chief Executive Officer of RATIO Design. "Helix's work has a big impact on people and communities. Together, we see opportunities to create purposeful work across Missouri and Kansas while expanding into nearby regional markets that naturally align with our studios and our clients."

RATIO | Helix will operate as a single business unit, integrating resources across studios, disciplines, and project teams, so clients benefit from the right people and perspectives for each project. The combined team will work side-by-side on expanded opportunities across key markets, including housing, higher education, workplace, civic and cultural, mixed-use, health sciences, historic preservation, and adaptive reuse projects. All Helix partners and all members of its senior

management team will remain with RATIO | Helix and become long-term shareholders in the combined entity going forward. The Kansas City team will continue serving clients, now backed by the added depth of a larger practice and a network of colleagues who share a hands-on, collaborative way of working. Clients will continue working with the same teams, with no disruption to existing projects.

“We share that same culture, work ethic and people-first approach as RATIO,” said Erika Moody, FIIDA, Principal, President at Helix Architecture + Design. “We know their work, and over time, came to see how seamlessly our firms could work together, grow thoughtfully, and increase opportunities for our teams. We share a similar commitment to design, collaboration, and community impact.”

As a Vice President and member of RATIO’s executive leadership team, Moody will support firmwide strategic vision and growth while also leading business development for interior design across the organization.

In addition to Moody’s continued leadership role, Helix’s senior leadership team will remain in place in Kansas City, with Doug Stockman serving as Principal leading design across the region and Alissa Wehmueller serving as Principal and Kansas City Studio Leader.

Together, the firms bring a portfolio of notable work across the region, including the Wichita Biomedical Campus and UMKC Olson Performing Arts Center renovation, both currently in progress, as well as the recently completed JE Dunn Headquarters renovation. The firms’ work has earned recognition from organizations including the International Interior Design Association (IIDA) Mid-America Design Awards, AIA Central States, and ULI Kansas City.

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About Helix Architecture + Design

[Helix](#) was founded on the unwavering belief that great design can change people's lives for the better. For more than 34 years, our integrated team of architects and interior designers have crafted one-of-a-kind spaces for clients who share this belief.

Together we have brought to life some of the largest projects in our region as well as some of the more intimate pockets of goodness. We do not settle for what is expected; we look beyond to see what will set our clients and our projects apart.

Learn more: <https://www.helixus.com/>.

About RATIO Design

[RATIO](#) is a global design firm connecting people and place, shaping environments of purpose, beauty, and meaning. We design for impact with interdisciplinary teams, offering architecture, historic preservation, interior design, landscape architecture, urban design, and graphic design services.

Founded in 1982, its seven collaborative studios bring together diverse perspectives to shape the future of Higher Education, K12 Education, Workplace, Civic & Cultural, Parks & Recreation, Hospitality, Sports & Venues, Residential, Mixed-Use, and Health & Lifesciences design.

RATIO has completed work in more than 41 states in the US and 15 countries and territories around the world. Notable projects underway include the 5-star CairoHouse Hotel in Egypt, the Signia by Hilton Hotel in Indianapolis, the Raleigh City Hall in Raleigh, the Cranes Landing in Denver, and the IU Health new downtown hospital in Indianapolis. Learn more: <https://ratiodesign.com/>.

About Hennick & Company

HennickCo is a long-term strategic partner to the world's leading consulting, advisory and professional services firms. HennickCo invests with a generational perspective – helping world-class consulting, advisory and professional services firms thrive for the long-term. The firm partners with outstanding leadership teams who retain meaningful equity ownership and day-to-day control of their organizations, ensuring alignment among shareholders, maintaining stability for clients and professional staff, and safeguarding the distinct cultures that make each firm exceptional.

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