

ENR THE TOP 500

Overview p. 2 // Profitability p. 2 // Top 500 Volume p. 2 // Backlog p. 2 // Past Decade's Design Revenue p. 2 // Markets' Share of Total Revenue p. 3 // Domestic and International Staff Hiring p. 3 // International Market Analysis p. 4 // Companies: Maser Consulting p. 5 // Top 20 Design Firms by Sector p. 6-8 // Top 50 Designers in International Markets p. 9 // Top 100 Pure Designers p. 10 // Companies: SAIC Plans Split Into Two Firms p. 11 // Top 500 Dialogue p. 12 // Oil & Gas: Floating LNG Plants p. 13 // Top 500 Design Firms List p. 14 // Where To Find the Top 500 p. 24 //

NUMBER 82



THE INTERCHANGE A Minneapolis multimodal facility was designed by Perkins Eastman's EE&K unit in a joint venture with Knutson Construction. It is scheduled for completion in 2014.

IMAGE COURTESY OF EE&K, A PERKINS EASTMAN CO.

Firms See a Slow Recovery

Economic signs show a weak market rebound, but large design firms are skeptical that a major turnaround will come soon By Gary J. Tulacz



Maser's Focus Is Laser-Sharp



At **No. 214**, Maser Consulting P.A., Red Bank, N.J., is focusing on growth that includes embracing new technology not only to maintain a leadership role in land surveying, its biggest niche, but also to boost its edge in emerging telecommunications and transportation markets.

The firm oversees deployment of Amberg Technologies' trolley-based survey system to measure track alignment on New York City MTA's East Side Access rail-tunnel project (above). The system "vigilantly measures aboveground railway track movement to one-sixteenth of an inch," says Leo Ponzio, Maser chief administrative officer and survey services director. "Forty-eight inches between the upper crust of the tunnel and ground level lies a complex, existing rail system that supports hundreds of service trains daily. Even slight shifting of these rails could compromise the track and endanger commuters and underground work crews."

The firm is applying a similar focus to its bottom line, which, at \$49.1 million in revenue, propelled its rise on the Top 500 from No. 261 on last year's list. CEO Richard M. Maser expects revenue to grow to \$60 million this year, thanks to transportation capability acquired in 2012 and expansions in telecom and energy. Despite the firm's location in Superstorm Sandy's impact zone, Maser says hurricane restoration has not been a big revenue source. But the firm will redesign elements of New Jersey's largest brownfield redevelopment in Sayreville because of storm-generated flood-zone mapping changes.

Maser Consulting also is awaiting a finalized contract for an estimated \$600-million design-build flood-control project in Ghana, on which it is teamed with contractor Conti Group. The consultant will emphasize organic growth over acquisitions this year, with "a focus on strategic hires," Maser says. ■

