



## **Architectural Record Honors The Ledge with its Good Design is Good Business Award**

*The Ledge recognized as a leader in innovative architecture*

**CHICAGO – March 7, 2011** – The Ledge at Skydeck Chicago has been selected as a winner of Architectural Record's 13th annual Good Design Is Good Business award. This prestigious award is bestowed to projects that have used innovative architectural strategies to help drive business.

"When working with Skidmore, Owings & Merrill, Halcrow Yolles and MTH Engineering on the design of The Ledge, we knew that we were developing a structure that would not only increase traffic, but also provide our visitors with a view of Chicago unlike any other," said Randy Stancik, Vice President of U.S. Equities Asset Management, which manages Skydeck Chicago. "We are honored to receive this award and can't thank our partners, employees and visitors enough for their continued enthusiasm for The Ledge."

Members of the editorial staff at Architectural Record choose the winners by using a series of quantitative and qualitative measurements including employee productivity, construction costs, and branding, among other criteria. The Ledge is among nine winning projects that will be published in the May 2011 issue of RECORD, which will also be featured on the publications' website and in its iPad edition.

Perched on the 103rd floor of the iconic Willis Tower, The Ledge offers visitors unobstructed views of the city, 1,350 feet straight down from a series of glass bays that extend from the west side of the building. Skydeck Chicago is open daily October – March from 10 a.m. – 8 p.m., and April – September from 9 a.m. – 10 p.m. For additional information on Skydeck Chicago, please visit [www.theskydeck.com](http://www.theskydeck.com) or follow us on Twitter @SkydeckChicago and [Facebook](#).

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### **About Willis Tower**

Willis Tower is the premier corporate office building in Chicago, offering more than 3.8 million square feet of office and retail space. Located in Chicago's West Loop at 233 S. Wacker Drive, the skyscraper is easily accessible from the commuter rail stations, highways and all forms of public transportation. Standing 1,450 feet and 110 stories tall, Willis Tower is the tallest building in the Western Hemisphere and an integral part of Chicago's culture. Originally opened in September 1973, it is home to more than 100 different companies, including prominent financial services firms, law firms and insurance companies. Willis Tower boasts spectacular vistas of Chicago, with views that can reach nearly 50 miles on a clear day. Willis Tower also boasts a tremendous infrastructure system, which includes enormous telecommunications capacity and unsurpassed electrical capacity and reliability. Skydeck Chicago on the Willis Tower's 103rd floor attracts more than one million visitors per year.

### **About U.S. Equities Asset Management, LLC**

U.S. Equities Asset Management, LLC, is a leading full-service commercial real estate firm headquartered in Chicago, with operations in Detroit, Philadelphia, Argentina, Chile, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia, and Colombia. The company serves as a strategic real estate advisor to clients throughout the United States and Latin America, providing development, program management, build-to-suit and construction oversight services; asset management and leasing; tenant representation, consulting and advisory services; and acquisition, disposition and financing of real estate assets. The asset management services group provides asset oversight, property and facility management, marketing and leasing and strategic planning to a diverse group of clients. Currently, the portfolio includes more than 400 properties totaling over 24 million square feet of office, retail, institutional, dormitory, facility and residential management services for approximately 50 clients, including 2.5 million square feet of management assignments along Chicago's famous Michigan Avenue.