

## Ted Moudis: Creativity Within Restrictions

By Peter Carey



I don't have to tell anyone reading this article how bad our economy is or the condition of the architecture and design profession today. If designers do have a job at a design firm, they are working twice as hard as they were two years ago, and if designers don't have a job, they are picking up any scrap of work they can find and are grateful for it. Design firms across the country have been forced to cut back staff due to a lack of work. Granted, a slow uptick has recently been detected, but as many of my colleagues have told me, much of the work that began last year has been completed and whatever new work that is out there is slim picking.

With all that said, how has a firm like Ted Moudis Associates (TMA) weathered this economic storm so well? From all accounts, the firm curbed its layoffs early on during this recession and are now busier than ever, picking up two large interiors projects among others— the new Tiffany & Co. Headquarters and the new NFL Headquarters. With a staff of over 100 employees, TMA has even started hiring again. Since current economic conditions affect the entire industry, I assumed a particular management style was the reason for the firm's success. What secret ingredient do Principals Ted Moudis AIA, and Chris Savoglou have that is eluding other design principals?

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