

Leading Costa Rica Green Architectural Engineering Firm Announces First Sustainable Luxury Development in Manuel Antonio with Habitat Protection Alliance

Manuel Antonio, Costa Rica – August 5, 2010

Arqueco Ltda., one of Costa Rica's most respected and prolific ecologically-aware architectural firms, today announced approved plans for the Palazzo Park Hotel & Residences, the first luxury beachfront hotel and condominium resort in Costa Rica to be built with the latest green building techniques and the Country's largest green roof. In addition, the project team announced its alliance with the Eco Preservation Society, Palazzo Park Eco Action, to renew and preserve land adjacent to Manuel Antonio Park as habitat for the endangered Mono Titi squirrel monkey.

"Palazzo Park is the first truly green project of this size and scope in Costa Rica." Tony Quesada, President and Founder of Arqueco Ltda. said. Palazzo Park Hotel & Residences' construction plans incorporate LEED-certified materials, building techniques and technologies aimed at creating a human habitat with negative carbon footprint. A key component of Palazzo Park is Costa Rica's first large-scale green roof proposed by project developer KC Development Group. Eco or green roofs use vegetation to absorb rainwater, treat grey water, provide insulation to cool the structure, reduce energy consumption, and create habitat for wildlife. An open-air common area with vistas of the rainforest and the sea, Palazzo Park's green roof will provide over 40,000 square feet of native vegetation designed as habitat for indigenous species.

Manuel Antonio Park is the most popular tourist destination in Costa Rica. The areas surrounding the park have the highest occupancy rates and the highest average nightly hotel rates in Costa Rica. New development in the area is strictly controlled and restricted. The Eco Preservation Society recognizes Manuel Antonio as one of the world's premier eco tourism destinations, adding, "The march forward into a world-class tourist destination threatens the area's star attraction, the wonderful, peaceful and playful Mono Titi." Through the EPS Palazzo Park Eco Action Program owners will help restore more than 500 acres of land at Playa El Rey adjoining Manuel Antonio Park, thereby expanding and extending the habitat of the Mono Titi. The endangered Mono Titi population presently landlocked in Manuel Antonio has declined dramatically over recent decades for lack of habitat, based on research by the Eco Preservation Society and others.

Kevin Peterson of the [Eco Preservation Society](#) said, "Palazzo Park has made a truly revolutionary commitment to habitat restoration with the Palazzo Park Eco Action Program. We are unaware of any similar programs associated with major resort and residence developments anywhere in the world. This program integrates our efforts to save endangered species with guests and residents who will be continuously connected to the researchers, conservationists and other like-minded individuals. It's truly a groundbreaking effort."

Carlton Solle, of The Costa Rica Real Estate Company and Coldwell Banker says "A portion of each sale at Palazzo Park will fund the Eco Action Program. Each unit will sponsor a portion of land and oversee its reforestation and preservation. It is a great opportunity for owners to get involved in a way that they can actually see things happening for a great cause for years to come."

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Green Roof | Palazzo Park Hotel & Residences, Manuel Antonio Costa Rica

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Arqueco Ltda., founded in 1970, is one of Costa Rica's leading architectural engineering firms with a primary focus on sustainable and green construction. Arqueco has completed green projects in Costa, Rica, Latin America, Europe, the Middle East and the United States. www.arqueco.co.cr

The Eco Preservation Society is actively engaged in sustainably focused programming for the purpose of wildlife conservation and reforestation. The Society's mission is to promote research, travel and education programs that advance environmental consciousness and facilitate public awareness with a call to action. Central to the Society's vision is the understanding that incorporating local communities into the realization that the Eco Interactive experience is necessary for the long-term sustainability of the organization and the realization of its goals. www.ecopreservationsociety.org

KC Development Group is a Palazzo Park Hotel & Residences partner and internationally acclaimed real estate developer of residential, retail and commercial properties. Based in Toronto, Canada, with offices worldwide, KC Group manages projects in Canada, the United States, Thailand and Costa Rica. www.kcdevelopmentgrp.com

The Costa Rica Real Estate Company is dedicated to sales and marketing of real estate developments in Costa Rica, including the Palazzo Park Hotel & Residences. www.palazzopark.com