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THORBURN ASSOCIATES COMPLETES WORK FOR INTERNATIONAL FAMILY ENTERTAINMENT CENTERS

(San Francisco, CA) October 6, 1995--Thorburn Associates Inc. (TA), a full service acoustical consulting and technical direction/project engineering firm, recently completed work on two international themed entertainment projects.

TA was commissioned by Battaglia Associates of Irvine, CA to review the overall acoustics for the Lotte Sky Park in Pusan, Korea. This three-story Family Entertainment Center houses a roller coaster, castle animation show, bumper cars, carousels, etc., as well as large format theatres and live stage theatres. TA conducted a Binauralization™ (or computer simulation) model for the park. The purpose of the Binauralization™ was to demonstrate two things: first, how the facility would sound as originally designed (with no acoustical treatments in place), and second, how the sound would improve with TA's recommended treatments implemented.

The second project is the Dinotropolis Family Entertainment Center in Caracas, Venezuela, for the White Hutchinson Leisure & Learning Group of Kansas City, MO. This 36,000 square foot facility, previously used as an exposition center, is located on top of an existing shopping center. Acoustics were especially a concern due to the center's arched roof and combination of glass and concrete walls. Working with the design team, TA developed and selected acoustical finishes which would promote natural acoustics and reduce the overall reverberant nature of the space.

Additionally, recommendations were provided to minimize the transfer of noise from adjacent spaces and to reduce the mechanical noise from the various attractions that will be housed within the center. Background music and a paging system were also designed for this facility.

TA continues to be actively involved in the themed entertainment industry and is currently working on several other projects, including 2 family entertainment centers, a large format theatre, and a riverboat.

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