



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Shigemura, Lau, Sakanashi, Higuchi and Associates, Inc. (SLSH) Is Now Coffman Engineers

Hawaii-based structural engineering company augments Coffman's multidiscipline services

HONOLULU, Hawaii, November 1, 2022 -- Multidiscipline consulting engineering firm Coffman Engineers, Inc. (Coffman) announced today they have finalized an asset purchase agreement with structural engineering firm Shigemura, Lau, Sakanashi, Higuchi and Associates, Inc. (SLSH). Coffman welcomes SLSH's four owners and all six staff members to the company. Representatives from both firms finalized the agreement in a signing ceremony on October 31st.

The decision to join Coffman is part of SLSH's ownership transition plan to provide continued support to their staff and established clients while the ownership plans for retirement. SLSH owners Howard Lau, PE, Craig Sakanashi, PE, Wayne Higuchi, PE, and Beverly Ishii-Nakayama, PE, join Coffman as principal advisors. In addition, all six employees become Coffman employees and move a short distance into Coffman's Honolulu office. The addition of SLSH expands Coffman's Honolulu structural group from three to thirteen.

"We were selective and committed to finding the right firm to partner with that would benefit our clients and staff. We were motivated by Coffman's drive for the same level of client care and attention to detail that our clients have become accustomed to. Our work and values are also complementary. We look forward to bringing our teams together to start a new chapter and to serve our clients with increased resources," said Howard Lau, PE, Shigemura, Lau, Sakanashi, Higuchi and Associates' President.

SLSH has provided consulting structural engineering services to private and public clients throughout the Pacific Region for more than 52 years. SLSH's experience augments Coffman's structural engineering capabilities and complements the company's other engineering disciplines.

SLSH and Coffman have an ongoing working relationship and share many of the same clients. The two companies' markets and clients align, particularly in military/DoD, healthcare, housing, and education.

"We are honored and humbled that SLSH has chosen Coffman as part of their leadership transition. We have a lot to learn from their 52 years of doing business in Hawaii. We welcome them to our office 'ohana and are prepared to continue the level of service they have



established with their clients,” said John Thielst, Coffman’s Senior Vice President, Managing Principal, Pacific Region.

SLSH, as Coffman Engineers, will continue to support clients and honor their project commitments with the same staff and quality.

For more information, see the attached Fact Sheet and visit the announcement page at: <https://www.coffman.com/news/SLSH-joins-coffman-engineers/>.

About Shigemura, Lau, Sakanashi, Higuchi and Associates, Inc. (SLSH)

SLSH is a Hawaii-based full-service consulting structural engineering firm providing services to clients in both the private and public sectors. The firm was started in 1970 by Stanley Shigemura and has provided engineering services for the past 52+ years for various types of projects utilizing all available construction materials, including light wood framing, light gauge steel framing, heavy timber, structural steel, pre-engineered prefabricated metal building components, masonry, reinforced concrete, post-tensioned concrete, pre-tensioned pre-stressed concrete, pre-cast concrete, and tilt-up concrete construction.

SLSH specializes in designs for corrosive marine and tropical environments and utilizes the latest computer software to solve complex structural engineering challenges. SLSH uses the latest technology and software to arrive at solutions more rapidly, investigate more structural options, and results in cost-effective solutions for clients.

About Coffman Engineers, Inc.

Coffman Engineers is a multidiscipline engineering consulting firm that integrates many disciplines including civil, structural, mechanical, electrical, fire protection, and other specialties to offer clients local, high-touch services. Coffman has 685 employees in 20 offices across the U.S. committed to building a better world. Coffman’s Pacific Region has 68 employees and includes offices in Honolulu and Guam. Their multidiscipline services support clients and projects throughout the Pacific and Asia. Visit coffman.com or connect with us on LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

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If you would like more information about this topic, please call Beth Shimogawa at 808-687-8884 or email beth.shimogawa@coffman.com

FACT SHEET: Shigemura, Lau, Sakanashi, Higuchi and Associates, Inc. (SLSH) Is Now Coffman Engineers

Hawaii-based structural engineering company augments Coffman's multidiscipline services

- Hawaii-based, full-service consulting structural engineering firm Shigemura, Lau, Sakanashi, Higuchi and Associates, Inc. (SLSH) has finalized an asset purchase agreement on October 31, 2022, to join [Coffman Engineers, Inc.](#) (Coffman).
- SLSH expressed interest in joining Coffman as their preferred transition plan as company ownership prepares for future retirement. The four owners of SLSH proposed a streamlined transaction to provide continuity for their clients and employees.
- The agreement between SLSH and Coffman comes after due diligence by both firms and meetings to discuss the benefits and impacts.
- SLSH owners Howard K.C. Lau, PE, Craig H. Sakanashi, PE, Wayne K. Higuchi, PE, and Beverly Ishii-Nakayama, PE, join Coffman as principal advisors.
- In addition to SLSH's four (4) owners, Coffman hired all six (6) SLSH employees.
- The addition of SLSH expands Coffman's Honolulu structural engineering group from three to thirteen.
- John Thielst is the Managing Principal of Coffman's Pacific Region, which includes offices in Honolulu and Guam.
- SLSH has provided consulting structural engineering services to private and public clients throughout the Pacific Region for more than 52 years. SLSH's experience strengthens Coffman's structural capabilities and complements the other established engineering disciplines.
- SLSH and Coffman's markets and clients align, particularly in military/DoD, healthcare, housing, and education.
- SLSH (as Coffman Engineers) will continue to support clients and honor commitments with the same staff and level of quality clients expect. Clients will also have access to increased structural engineering capacity and additional multidiscipline services at Coffman.

Deal Milestones

- September 28, 2022 – Letter of Intent (LOI) signed.
- October 10, 2022 – LOI Announcement.
- October 31, 2022 – Deal Closes.
- November 1, 2022 – SLSH employees become Coffman employees.
- Post-Closing – Formal communication sent to SLSH clients about the deal completion, project assignment letters, and other business.

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SLSH is a Hawaii-based full-service consulting structural engineering firm providing services to clients in both the private and public sectors. The firm was started in 1970 by Stanley Shigemura and has provided engineering services for the past 52+ years for various types of projects utilizing all available construction materials, including light wood framing, light gauge steel framing, heavy timber, structural steel, pre-engineered prefabricated metal building components, masonry, reinforced concrete, post-tensioned concrete, pre-tensioned pre-stressed concrete, pre-cast concrete, and tilt-up concrete construction.

SLSH specializes in designs for corrosive marine and tropical environments and utilizes the latest computer software to solve complex structural engineering challenges. SLSH uses the latest technology and software to arrive at solutions more rapidly, investigate more structural options, and results in cost-effective solutions for clients.

- Years in Business: 52
- Owners: 4
- Employees: 6

About Coffman Engineers, Inc. (Coffman)

Coffman Engineers integrates many engineering disciplines and specialty services, offering clients the local, high-touch service of a small firm backed by the capabilities typically found with large engineering consultants.

Coffman began as a seven-person structural firm in 1979 and has grown in geographic presence, markets, and engineering services. Today, Coffman is proud to be an *Engineering News Record* Top 500 engineering firm while remaining true to founding values and focusing on the success of clients and employees.

Coffman's Pacific Region was established in 2010 and includes the Honolulu and Guam offices. Since that time, the combined offices have grown to 68 employees offering multidiscipline services, including civil, structural, electrical, mechanical, and fire protection engineering for projects throughout the Pacific Rim, Guam, and Asia.

- Years in Business: 43
- Employees in Honolulu and Guam: 68
- Employees Companywide: 685
- Office Locations: 20