



IA Interior Architects Builds Up Retail Practice

A leader in workplace design, the firm is seeking a greater market share in retail design.

By David Moin on July 27, 2018



Trunk Club, Boston, MA. ©Jared Kuzia Photography

IA Interior Architects, seeking to accelerate growth of its retail practice, has augmented its Seattle team with new leadership.

The group will be led by Mike Riggs, managing director of retail; and two design directors for retail, Ron Singler and Alex Shapleigh. All three formerly worked at Callison RTKL, an architecture, planning and design firm.

Riggs has more than 25 years of experience in environment design and retail strategy and is considered a strategic leader.

Singler has more than 30 years of experience, ranging from experiential graphics to projects focused on entertainment retail, designing themed environments for malls and large department stores.

Shapleigh has 25 years experience working with brands to create retail experiences.

IA is a global architectural company focused on interior architecture and strategies. It's considered a leader in workplace design, but is growing market share in retail design.

"As the lines become blurred between retail, workplace and other markets, IA will be able to offer even more unique integrated solutions to our clients, which is very exciting," said David Bourke, co-chief executive officer of IA.

"We could not be more excited to join IA given the many overlapping trends within both workplace and retail, foremost a desire for differentiated experiences that are connected to an organization's brand ethos, augmented through immersive storytelling and technology," said Riggs.

An IA spokeswoman added, "We are not strangers to working for influential retail brands such as Amazon, Jamba Juice, Bacardi, Asics, Sonos, Whirlpool, Ulta, Mercedes and many more." Some other clients have included Yo Sushi, Trunk Club, Capital One, David Yurman, Fendi, LaCoste, Perry Ellis, Tom Ford, Louis Vuitton, Leviton and FareStart, the spokeswoman said.



ASICS Studio, Boston, MA. ©Robert Benson Photography

The retail team is "equally balanced" between the firm's Seattle and New York offices. "By having team members on both coasts, we are able to maximize our expertise," the spokeswoman said. "Our combined team has experience in retail banking, consumer electronics/telecom, apparel and accessories, home goods, health and beauty, outdoors/sporting goods and more."