



## USTA Undertakes Study for Retractable Roof at Arthur Ashe Stadium

Media release, 09.11.09

### **360 Architecture contact:**

Melanie Mendrys  
816.472.3360  
mmendrys@360architects.com

[Kansas City, Mo.] The United States Tennis Association (USTA) is undertaking a study to add a retractable roof over Arthur Ashe Stadium at the Billie Jean King USTA National Tennis Center.

In August 2009 the USTA retained the services of 360 Architecture, a renowned international sports facility design firm in Kansas City, Mo., to develop concepts and determine the feasibility of the project. The primary goal of adding a roof to Ashe Stadium is to guarantee uninterrupted play of the US Open due to rain delays.

Arthur Ashe Stadium is the site of the US Open, America's grand slam tennis tournament and one of the world's largest annual sporting events. The sport's other major tournaments either provide a covered court or have plans for one. By adding the roof, the US Open is taking proactive steps to avoid weather-related delays in the future.

"Providing rain protection is the basic need for the roof yet the real goal of the project is to preserve the special character and ambiance of Arthur Ashe Stadium," said Bill Johnson, a principal at 360 Architecture who is leading the design effort. "The design solution we are proposing will preserve the outdoor feel of the stadium and can be integrated seamlessly into the stadium's architecture."

### **About 360 Architecture**

360 Architecture is an innovative architectural practice widely recognized for excellence in planning, design and execution across a wide range of project types, including corporate and commercial office buildings, sports arenas and stadiums, mixed-use districts, recreation centers, residences, restaurants and municipal facilities. 360 Architecture is headquartered in Kansas City, Mo. and has offices in Dallas, San Francisco, and Columbus. [www.360architects.com](http://www.360architects.com)

###