

# Regional Plan Association relocates to Rudin's C



One Whitehall Street

Regional Plan Association (RPA), one of the nation's most prominent urban planning and policy organizations, will soon relocate its New York headquarters to the Rudin Family's One Whitehall Street.

The new lease encompasses 9,135 s/f on a portion of the 16th floor at the 405,000 s/f building, which occupies the full blockfront on Whitehall Street between Stone and Bridge streets, near multiple subway lines, Battery Park, Fulton Center, the World Trade Center PATH hub and the Staten Island Ferry.

The new office will include space for gatherings and events.

The move comes as RPA develops "A Region Transformed," a long-range vision for the tri-state area's shared prosperity, resiliency, livability and good governance. The plan is due out in 2017.

The organization, which is currently situated in the Union Square area, is expected to move to the building during the first quarter of next year. A not-for-profit organization, RPA has been an influential civic voice in shaping the growth of the metropolitan area since the 1920s.

"RPA is an organization that is widely known for its leadership in the civic community regarding planning issues for the entire region

and has played a key role in the revitalization of the Lower Manhattan neighborhood. RPA said Bill Rudin, RPA's Chairman and CEO, is the Managing Director of the Rudin Family holding company. "They are very excited that the RPA will be able to locate their headquarters in the heart of the neighborhood on Whitehall Street."

"We are delighted to have found such a vibrant and exciting neighborhood in a vibrant area of the city," said President Tom Rudin.

"It's exciting to be part of the Low Manhattan community, which is attracting such a diverse mix of businesses and professionals every year. And we are looking forward to holding regular meetings in the new space. We couldn't be more excited to be working next year in the Fourth Region."

"We're thrilled to have RPA to the neighborhood," said Jessica LaRocca, CEO of the Alliance for the New York City.

## *Yotpo platform takes 12,000 /sf on W19th*

ABS Partners recently signed an 11,666 s/f full-floor lease for Yotpo's U.S. headquarters at 33 West 19th Street in the Flatiron District.

The Tel Aviv-based company creates a user-generated content marketing platform.

After recently securing \$22 million in Series C funding, Yotpo experienced tremendous growth and needed a turn-key space triple the size of its previous office.

To aid the company, ABS arranged an off-market deal, while simultaneously subleasing the company's former space on 14th Street, eliminating any vacancy costs.

Jeff Sharon and Alex Kaskel of ABS Partners Real Estate represented the tenant in the transaction, while the landlord, Panasia, was repped in house.

Asking rent in the deal was \$70 per square foot, above the area's overall average ask of \$66.

## *Lewis Baach expands in Chrysler Building*

Lewis Baach PLLC, an international law firm, is renewing and expanding the size of its first New York City office in the Chrysler Building, at 405 Lexington Avenue.

The firm operates in New York as Lewis Baach Kaufmann Middlemiss pllc.

Handler Real Estate Organization represented Lewis Baach PLLC in the transaction. Tishman Speyer, the landlord, was represented in-house.

In the new transaction, Lewis Baach signed a renewal for its existing space — the entire 7,348 s/f 62nd floor — while also taking the entire 7,348 s/f 64th floor as expansion space, for a total of 14,696 s/f in the building.

Based in Washington, DC, and New York and with additional offices in London and Buenos Aires, Lewis Baach serves leading corporations, insurers, financial institutions, family conglomerates, and public officials on legal issues.

The tenant will occupy its expansion space in the fourth

quarter of 2016.

"Lewis Baach appreciates the iconic nature of the Chrysler Building and the property's first-class management," said Handler Principal and CEO Scott Galin, who along with Darell Handler represented the tenant in the transaction.

"The law firm is in expansion mode, and wanted to take larger space in one of the most recognizable office properties in the world, while continuing its relationship with Tishman Speyer, one of New York's most well-regarded owners."

The Chrysler Building is a 1.2 million-square-foot art deco masterpiece and part of the two-building Chrysler Center complex on 42nd Street between Lexington and Third Avenues. The landmarked, LEED-Gold® certified office tower offers expansive base floors, various-sized tower floors, and unparalleled 360-degree views of Manhattan and the outlying area, overlooking the East River, Central Park, Times Square and Grand Central Terminal.

## *Metic Associates relocates to 55 Broad Street*

