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To Whom It May Concern

I have known Ermias Ephrem for almost twenty years. In the first seven years he was a fellow student and the next 12 years a professional in the field of architecture. When we studied for our tertiary studies together at one of the most renowned local universities in East Africa, namely Addis Ababa University, located in Ethiopia, he was the top student in his class and graduated number one from his department. He is very much sociable and very helpful in sharing knowledge and resources. He is not 'all work and no play' but rather he has a candid personality that makes him very approachable and personable.

He started his career as an intern working for one of the top architectural firms in Ethiopia, Sileshi Consult. Upon receiving his license to practice architecture in Ethiopia, he resigned from this post to explore more opportunities as a freelance architect. This move offered him the chance to work on various project types for which I was a structural design engineer. He was very easy to work with and his designs were popular not only with clients but also with senior architects and construction administrators which oversaw the implementation of his projects.

Since Ermias had the drive to excel in his career, his dissatisfaction with the current architectural practice in the local Ethiopian market and his continuous search to better himself in the profession led him to the US where he studied for his master's degree in architecture. While visiting him in 2009, I was impressed by how fast he had adapted to the professional practices in the US. I was able to witness first hand his growth, maturity and depth of technical expertise in his field when he invited me to visit Ambia architecture, a Seattle based company he was working for.

For all the reasons I stated and for so much more, I am really proud to recommend Ermias Ephrem, to any challenging post commensurate with his qualification and experience. He is a quick learner, a hard worker, extremely intelligent, humble and most of all a person of character and integrity. He would be an invaluable asset not only as an employee but also as a partner in any venture that calls for creativity and perseverance. Partnering with him would be a very wise decision for anyone considering architecture and construction undertakings.

Best regards,

Dawit Kebede 

Dawit Kebede (MSc. + MBA)

CEO

