



Herman Miller: Future Forum

>Herman Miller joined the Future Forum as a founding partner. Future Forum is a Slack-backed consortium that's helping executives at leading companies deliver on the transformation needed to thrive in the post-pandemic world. As part of this consortium, Herman Miller is collaborating on initiatives that help leaders rethink the way they design both the spaces and processes used to enable employee collaboration. Specific areas of focus will include the future of the office as well as creativity and innovation. "Designing the optimal employee experience is all about balancing diverse needs for individual focus with expectations for collaboration and communication," said Joseph White, the director of Workplace Futures and Insight for Herman Miller. "In the post-pandemic world, this redesign will be a critical competitive differentiator for companies. The best and brightest employees will seek out companies that help them cultivate balance, offering both support with home office setups and corporate office spaces that are optimized for choice."

Herman Miller joins other Future Forum partners, in-

cluding the Boston Consulting Group, Management Leadership for Tomorrow, Fortune magazine and Stanford professor Pamela Hinds. Current initiatives from the Future Forum include:

- The quarterly Remote Employee Experience Index, which provides the data and analysis that organizations need to navigate this new world of work. The most recent report found that flexible work is the overwhelming choice for knowledge workers: 63% want a hybrid remote-office model, 20% want to work remotely full-time, and only 17% want to return to full-time office work.

- Continued rollout of best practices and playbooks to make hybrid work successful through the Future Forum blog, including a breakdown of how companies can create flexibility in their office space.

- An ongoing event series bringing together leading

thinkers to debate big ideas about the future of work.

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>Keilhauer received four 2020 GOOD DESIGN® awards from the Chicago Athenaeum: Museum of Architecture and Design and the European Center for Architecture Art Design and Urban Studies. Keilhauer products Ellaby, a two-seater with an accompanying ottoman, and Swurve, a carbon neutral office chair, were selected as recipients of this prestigious award program. Division Twelve, a collection of bent metal furniture acquired by Keilhauer in 2019, was also recognized with two GOOD DESIGN® awards in the furniture and graphic design categories. "This is the sixth consecutive year we have received the esteem of GOOD DESIGN," said President Mike Keilhauer. "We are very proud to see our contract designs so well received."

The Ellaby collection was designed for Keilhauer by the celebrated design trio EOOS. The Ellaby two-seater's high, enveloping back provides privacy and a sense of cocooned protection, molded cushions provide comfort, while a slight forward posture provides multi-functionality. The Ellaby ottoman, easily mobile and complementary, can be paired with any lounge seating to create a soothing respite to kick your feet up and take a much-needed break.

Swurve, by renowned Canadian designer Andrew Jones, is Keilhauer's first Carbon Neutral office chair. It features flowing lines and contained proportions with distinctive, sculptural design details.

Division Twelve, a line of commercial, bent metal furniture acquired by Keilhauer in the summer of 2019, was recognized by GOOD DESIGN® in two categories: graphic design and furniture design. Designed by Geof Lilje, Samuel Pettersen and Scott Laughton, Division Twelve is an evolving collection of 10 bold pieces that are versatile, timeless and fully recyclable. Division Twelve partnered with the globally-recognized design firm Cossette to develop a brand identity and associated



Ellaby



Swurve



Division Twelve

Keilhauer: GOOD DESIGN awards

marketing collateral for this line of furniture. The resulting visuals incorporate subtle but effective design details (such as scaling and color blocking) to ensure a distinctive brand presence without ever feeling iterative. [Read More](#)

RE-SITED

>Casey Baxter joined HBF + HBF Textiles as Vice President, General Manager.

Based in New York City, Ms. Baxter has more than 16 years of sales and leadership experience in the commercial furniture industry with a focus on design-oriented brands. A consummate connector, she is recognized for her ability to create long lasting, meaningful relationships with designers, dealers and clients alike. She thrives on the strategic and collaborative aspects of the industry and is highly active within CoreNet Global, BeOriginal Americas, and the IIDA NY Chapter where she served on the Board of Directors as Co-Chair and Co-Founder of the Futurist Forum. On her new role, she commented, “HBF combines a history of design excellence and craftsmanship with a longheld commitment



Casey Baxter

to celebrating and promoting female talent. I’m honored to have the opportunity to add to this legacy of quality and representation. I look forward to collaborating with the HBF team to continue to evolve the brand and introduce HBF to the next generation of specifiers.” [Read More](#)

ENVIRONMENT

>Mohawk Group’s Relaxing Floors carpet line is featured in the Journal of Sustainability’s special issue, entitled “Architecture and Salutogenesis: Beyond Indoor Environmental Quality.”

The inclusion is a notable distinction, achieving scholarly recognition for the line’s strong scientific backing and sustainability-driven initiative. Relaxing Floors is a collaborative line developed by the transdisciplinary team of 13&9 Design, Fractals Research, and Mohawk Group. The line features the stress-reductive qualities of fractals, tapping into a human desire for patterns and a connection to nature. Among other features, the article notes the versatility of the design and its ability to preserve its striking visuals in any space, stating “cutting the pattern into tiles and randomly re-arranging them did not disrupt the fractal character [. . .] This has important consequences because many carpets in large spaces ranging from airports to hotels are installed as tiles rather than as continuous carpets.”

As the building blocks of na-



Mohawk Group: Relaxing Floors

ture’s patterns, fractals have been proven to reduce stress and provide physical health benefits. Integrating fractal patterns into carpet designs allows Relaxing Floors to bring those qualities to interior spaces, thereby taking its place as a culmination of art, science and human design. “At Mohawk Group, we’re extremely passionate about human health and the impact our products can have on people,” said Ramie Vagal, Mohawk Group’s senior manager of sustainability. “Through these innovations, we strive to create products that make us feel good about delivering to the market. By understanding the science behind biophilic design, we can understand how to create invigorating spaces that support wellness.” [Read More](#)

>Tarkett released its 2020 Corporate Social & Environmental Responsibility report.

Fully audited by an independent third-party organization, KPMG, this report showcases the company’s ongoing sustainability performance. “In the last ten years, we have

achieved strong progress in sustainability,” said Tarkett CEO Fabrice Barthélemy. “In many cases we have exceeded our 2020 objectives, developing circular economy initiatives, reducing our carbon footprint and eco-designing our products with healthy materials. Opening a second chapter in its sustainability strategy, Tarkett is leading the way in its industry. As part of our ‘Change to Win’ strategy, we invest in circular economy, and tackle our carbon footprint across the value chain. By building cohesive partnerships with customers, suppliers and leading players, we amplify our impact in making conscious choices for people and the planet. This approach will allow us to seize new opportunities of sustainable growth, and contribute to a global green recovery for present and future generations.”

“Following Cradle to Cradle® principles has been instrumental in keeping our focus for product development on health and wellness, social fairness and responsible manufacturing,” said Roxane