

# FURNITURE & ACCESSORIES<sup>TM</sup>

Jan-Feb 2017

EUROPE

Cover Story

## What's Cooking

Feature

## Iranian Furniture

Designers' Desk

Emma Olbers



Available on:





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Dear Readers,

Let me wish you all a very happy and prosperous new year. New year brings in new promises and I look forward to all those spectacular new designs in the upcoming shows.

Older style kitchens revisited and reinterpreted for modern day homes is another to watch for in 2017. This year, more earthy materials like wood, wicker, cork and clay are expected to be seen. Our cover story is thus all about the most loved section of the home, the kitchen.

Iran has experienced a variable situation in terms of import and export and the main reason of this circumstance was international sanctions. We have presented the current scenario of Iranian furniture industry in our Feature story.

We are thankful to the Swedish designer Emma Olbers for her time who has shared her design ideas and ideologies with us.

I hope you will like reading our magazine and I would love to hear from you.

I look forward to your comments and feedback.

**Chitrlekha Banerjee**



# What's cooking?

Over the years, kitchens have gotten larger to accommodate busy families who wanted to use the room for more than just prepping dinner. White cabinetry became en vogue. Restaurant-grade appliances became status symbols.







Islands are still popular in most cases. Big, sprawling spaces with large islands, double appliances, flexible furnishings, beautiful spaces – making kitchens feel like living rooms, family rooms, dining rooms, all-in-one are making a niche market for themselves.

Dining rooms have always been an opportunity to embellish and this can be done through contrasting elements of black and white, or with deep moody painted walls and textured wall coverings.

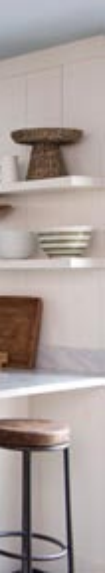
In search of more open space, many homeowners and designers are doing away with expanses of upper cabinets and pushing all that storage onto a single hardworking wall. This one-stop hub frees up the rest of the space to create a breezy look.

Older style kitchens revisited and reinterpreted for modern day homes is another trend to watch for. In 2017, more earthy materials like wood, wicker, cork and clay are expected to be seen.

Design preferences are trending towards clean lines, built-ins and simple door styles. Two-toned coloured kitchens are on the rise, with white and grey painted cabinets dominating the colour schemes. Blue and black toned cabinets are also popular. Designers are mixing and matching materials and metals across surfaces and accents.



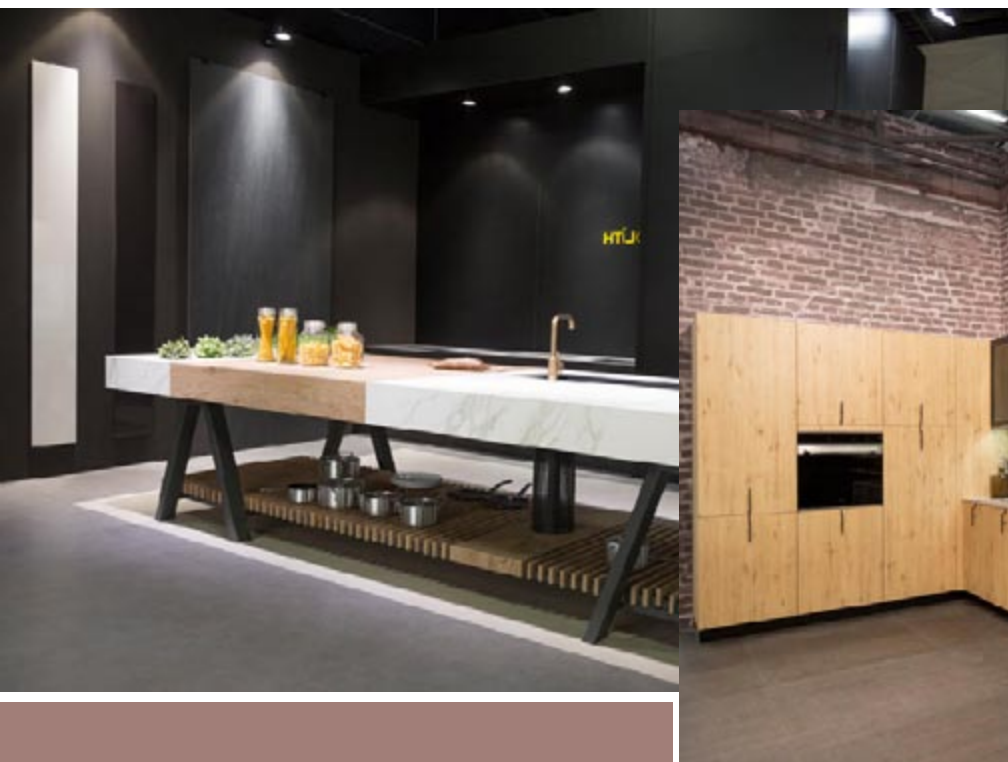




Quartz is one of the most popular countertop materials. Granite, while it is the second most popular countertop material, is trending down. Induction cooktops and convection ovens are trending higher, with microwave drawers gaining popularity over freestanding or build-in units.

Contemporary-styled kitchens have overtaken Traditional to become the second most popular North American kitchen design, according to the 2017 Kitchen & Bath Design Trends Report conducted by the National Kitchen & Bath Association (NKBA). It is nonetheless the same across the globe.





Furniture-look pieces, rollouts and pullouts and under cabinet lighting (LED) are among the most popular kitchen cabinet features. Use of crown molding is declining. Rustic and reclaimed woods were frequently mentioned.

Interior barn and pocket doors in kitchens are trending up.

From a materials standpoint, wood cabinets continue to dominate kitchen designs while metal, currently a small segment of the cabinet

market, appears to be emerging. Younger and male designers most frequently specify metal cabinets.

No matter what's in style and what not, one thing is for sure, kitchen is going to be more stylised and more tech-savvy in the upcoming days to meet the rocket fast pace of life. Again, people are going back to their tradition and are trying to minimise the rapidly growing rift between modernity and the base of the sojourned culture.





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# Iranian Furniture

## Industry Overview



Head of Iranian Furniture Exporters and Producers Union has announced the signing of a contract between Iranian and Italian furniture industry association recently.

Head of Iranian Furniture Exporters and Producers Union, Hassan Ahmadian announced the provision of necessary grounds to sign an agreement between the Iranian union and the Federation of Unions of Italy's wood and furniture industry.



“The presence of infrastructures in the country’s wood and furniture industry has brought about various cooperation capacities between Italian and Iranian furniture manufacturers,” reminded Ahmadian reiterating “the issue has provided the grounds for signing of an agreement between the two countries’ unions for the development of the cooperation in the forms of co-production of furniture, production under license as well as contract production.”

“Iran’s wood and furniture industry possesses the appropriate infrastructures, capabilities and national advantages as well as offering a significant contribution to employment and value-added production emerged from domestic investment and has been approved by foreign counterparts like Italy, Germany and

Turkey,” highlighted Ahmadian adding “but to what extent we are able to take advantage of the national infrastructures and capacities to the interest of the Iranian economy and to take part in foreign markets are yet other issues upon which the role of the government cannot be ignored.”

In response to a question about the reduction in the country’s furniture exports, Hassan Ahmadian said “the main reason has been the heavy reliance on Iraq’s market in exporting Iranian furniture and the emergence of security issues in Iraq has led to a decline in the amount of exports.”

He went on to assert that “undoubtedly, the country’s furniture industry like other small and medium industries enjoys the required competitive advantages for entering foreign markets; nevertheless, lack of long-term targeted programs on the part of the government has reduced the country’s export coverage solely to some countries in the region.”

Iran is not only bonding with Italy but it is also making a fast truce with the Chinese companies who has launched the Foshan Household Essentials (FHE) brand experience center in Tehran, Iran.



This China-Iran partnership in the furniture industry paves the way for leading Chinese industries to research the Iranian market.

It is reported that Iran experienced a variable situation in export and import in recent years due to the international economic sanctions; the value of import and export scrutinise in this report.

Based on the current situation of Iran's furniture industry, import should be in the service of production and production should be in the service of export. The main goal of Iran National



Council of Furniture, Decoration and Correlated Industries is producing high quality products and a strong and efficient presence in regional and international market.

Iran, Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Armenia, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Afghanistan and the Persian Gulf countries and Europe are the main export destinations of Iran. It can be said that furniture industry is an industry with different historical sections that has an important place in Iran's industry.

Iran has experienced a variable situation in terms of import and export and the main reason of this circumstance was international sanctions. Also Iran's limited presence in international market got stronger because of the competitive nature of the market and providers activity to earn the best deal; this situation tightened the restrictions for Iran furniture market more than ever.

Due to the ending of International sanctions against Iran it is expected that there would be a great market for export and import of many items that were not previously possible to import or export.



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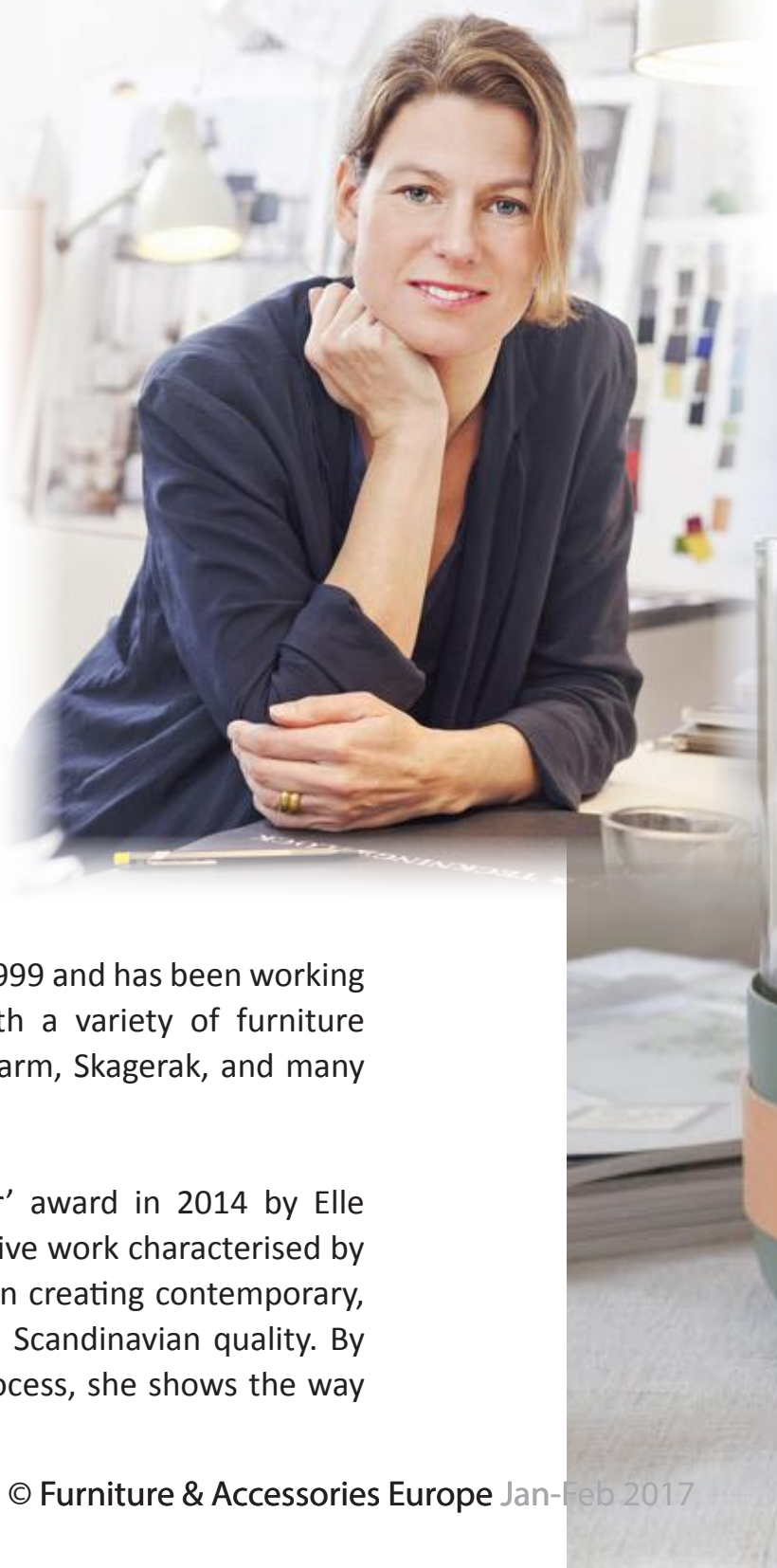
# Emma Olbers

## - Creating sustainable designs

“A furniture designer with an eco heart”, Emma Olbers is engaged in creative collaborations with several major Scandinavian design brands. She is a firm believer in sustainability and strives to incorporate recyclable and reusable components in her designs. Emma’s ultimate vision is to be able to create products and furniture that can go directly on the compost heap when they are scrapped.

Born in the west coast of Sweden in 1972, Emma moved to Stockholm at the age of 20 to start her education as a designer – first at Nyckelviksskolan and then at Beckmans School of Design. After graduating, she opened her own design studio in 1999 and has been working ever since. Over the years, she has worked with a variety of furniture producers such as Ikea, Ire Mobel, Tre Sekel, Eldvarm, Skagerak, and many other brands.

Emma received the ‘Young Designer of the Year’ award in 2014 by Elle Decoration Swedish Design Awards, for her extensive work characterised by a strong sense of sustainability. Her strength lies in creating contemporary, modern furniture with a clear and down-to-earth Scandinavian quality. By choosing the right materials in her production process, she shows the way towards sustainable furniture manufacturing.



Furniture & Accessories got the opportunity to speak to Emma Olbers, where she shared her designing journey with us – revealing some of her favourite designs, explaining her sustainable process and talking about her products! Read more.



**FAE: What inspired you to become a designer?**

**EO:** My dad has always been very interested in design products. He actually bought a Dieter Rams Stereo with his first salary. So I guess my home when I grew up, inspired me a lot.

**FAE: During your initial years at IKEA, what was the one design principle you learnt that you still follow today?**

**EO:** Probably if you can easily assemble the product at a lower cost, it saves value for both your wallet and the environment to transport.

**FAE: What was your motivation behind setting up your own design studio in 1999?**

**EO:** I grew up with parents that had their own company, so that was a natural way for me to do it. And also at that time, there were not that many places in Sweden where you could be employed as a designer.

**FAE: Please share with us a few of your favorite designs over the years.**

**EO:** Among designs by others, it would be: Poul Kjaerholm's sofa PK31, one of Börje Mogensen's lounge chairs, and Cesta lamp designed by Miguel Milá.

Some of my own favourite designs are: Rejoin sofa by Ire Mobel, Carpet Star by Asplund, Fire accessories by Eldvarm, Penholder by Skultuna, and Director's chair by Skagerak.

**FAE: How do you integrate sustainability into your designs?**

**EO:** I start with the end – recycling! What is going to happen with our furniture when we have used it? The choice of material is probably the most important issue if you want to care for our planet. As we all know, we need to lower our use of CO<sub>2</sub> to keep the temperature on our planet under two degrees. For furniture, the most important stage is the production stage, compared to clothing or cars (they use more CO<sub>2</sub> when they exist). So I try to work with materials that use less CO<sub>2</sub>. Or if I use leather that uses a lot CO<sub>2</sub>, I use it in small parts where it will help the furniture to last longer.

**FAE: How do you integrate sustainability into your designs?**

**EO:** Probably a lot of times. I don't remember an exact moment, but especially when you start thinking of separating your furniture for recycling, a lot of times you do have to rethink.

**FAE: Your "Rejoin" sofa was honoured with the 'Furniture of the Year' award. Can you give us some details about that project?**

**EO:** It is a modular sofa, what I would call an honest modular sofa, that you as a customer can always change the way you





place the parts. All parts have real fabric on all sides and all sides look good, so it's easy to change it afterwards many times. The sofa cover is changeable, so you can buy a new cover whenever you feel, which gives the sofa a longer life. The corners which get most wear and tear are covered with vegetable tanned leather that protects the corners. Vegetable tanned leather also ages very nicely.

**FAE: Tell us a bit about one of your recent works: the Landala Table.**

**EO:** The Landala Table just got Furniture of the Year by three Swedish magazines (Sköna Hem, Plaza Interior and Residence).



It is a table that can be knocked down and you are able to take it apart. So it comes as a flat pack with only four parts plus screws and wedges. It is made of Swedish pinewood. The coating is soap-washed. It's very easy to assemble after use. Then of course, if it is okay that I say it myself, it looks nice and welcoming. The corners that are soft make that look. It is only 75 centimeters wide which makes people sit close to each other and hopefully not talk so loud.



**FAE: Finally, what are your plans for the future?**

**EO:** I hope I can find more recycled materials. I am just now looking for recycled polyester, so if anyone out there knows anything about recycled polyester, they please contact me!



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# FIAM ITALIA

– The finest



FIAM ITALIA, established in 1973 by Vittorio Livi, is grounded in the manufacture of glass using traditional glass making techniques. The collection has reached its fifth generation of glass bending plants, with the master craftsmen now assisted by technologies and materials that allow designers the flexibility to create pieces that would have previously been impossible to realise. According to FIAM, glass may look simple, because of its transparency, but both its chemistry and its physics are really very complex. The history behind this tremendously successful organisation is state-of-the-art innovation, extraordinary capabilities of designers, constant research, hard work, skilled craftsmanship and obviously the deepest interest in glass and the extraordinary passion of Mr. Livi.

Fiam Italia has worked with a wide and varied range of designers, from Philippe Starck, to Ron Arad, Tord Boontje and Danny Lane, to produce an eclectic collection that includes tables, chairs, storage, and complements. Fiam Italia's innovative and artisan skills with glass are probably best demonstrated by the Ghost chair designed by Cini Boeri which is internationally regarded as design classic. A glassworking is always professional, capable of predicting, quantifying, controlling and finding the right alternatives in every single case. At FIAM, the master craftsman is considered just as important as the designer in the piece's creation.



FIAM always believes in challenges and that's why it sees a designer's ability to take risks with shapes as a welcome challenge to its technical expertise. Hand-in-hand with its innovation in design, Livi has always invested heavily in innovation in technology. Fiam has now reached its seventh generation of glass bending plants: the master glass craftsman is now assisted by ground-breaking technologies in terms of both instruments and materials, enabling the company to rise to the increasingly challenging demands of the designers who wish to work with this peerless material.

In 2016, FIAM surprised the audience of the design enthusiasts with the new 2016 collections, turning glass into pure creative material marked by cutting-edge processing technology and never-before-seen combination of different materials. The new creations, synonym of elegance and style, were born from a housing dream: an intimate yet sophisticated and exclusive place, where you can always find comfort and harmony.

### **PLIÉ COLLECTION – CUPBOARD (Studio Klass)**

Cupboard consisting of a back in curved 8 mm Nero95 black glass, top in 10 mm smoked glass, doors in 6 mm curved extralight glass, partially black painted, two shelves in 8 mm extralight glass, one of which back-painted; base in matt black lacquered wood, feet, uprights and profiles in matt black lacquered metal. Doors with push-pull closing mechanism. Optional LED lighting.

### **PLIÉ COLLECTION – CHAIR (Studio Klass)**

Leather-upholstered chair with internal structure in tubular metal and wood. Seat and back available in black, smoke or coffee leather upholstery. Structure available in black or dark brown.





## LLT WOOD - DANTE O. BENINI – LUCA GONZO

Table with top in 40 mm multilayered marine plywood veneered, canaletto walnut "old style" oak finish or heat-treated oak finish. Structure in 30 mm laminated transparent or extralight glass and legs in 19 mm transparent or extralight glass.

We had the opportunity to talk to Daniele Livi – CEO & Chief Product Manager, FIAM Italia. We share with you our conversation:

**FAE: Tell us about your preparation for imm Cologne. What products have you launched and who were the designers under the spotlight?**

**DL:** We presented our two collections FIAM and Veblén Luxury Edition by Fiam Italia.

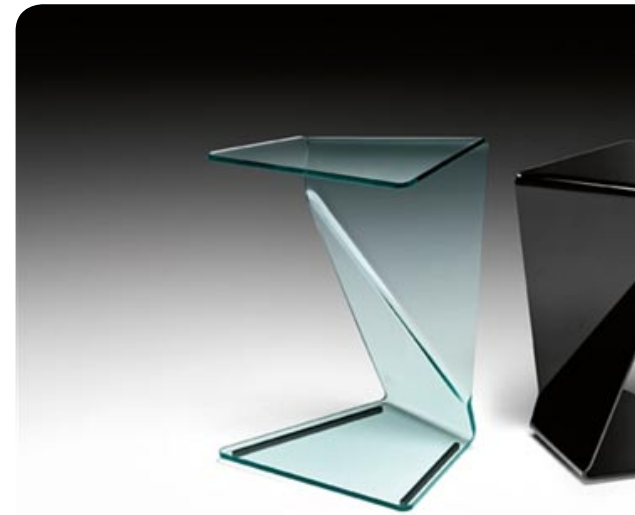
For FIAM, we focused on Dante O. Benini & Partners Architects firm with designers Dante Oscar Benini and Luca Gonzo, authors of the LLT Wood table. We also presented their mirror collection Phantom and Christine, which was designed with the collaboration of artist Helidon Xhixha.

For Veblén, we presented the mirror collection Pasha, designed by Marzia and Leo Dainelli of Dainelli studio. They are also the art directors of the brand Veblén.



**FAE: How would you describe the experience of the Imm Cologne fair? What was the response from the visitors?**

**DL:** The Fair has had less public than the previous edition but the people that visited our stand came with a higher purchase intent. This affected positively with our products at imm, where they were very much appreciated by visitors.







**F AE:** Glass is a very complicated and sensitive material to design a product. Can you share some thoughts about the most successful and spectacular FIAM's projects such as "Curved glass furniture" and "Mini Collection?"

**DL:** FIAM was born in 1973 and since then it took all the challenges as an opportunity to grow and develop itself. Glass is a material that managed to cross centuries remaining modern and innovative at the same time. Among the historical and most meaningful projects of FIAM it's fair to remember the Ragno table designed by my father Vittorio, founder of FIAM, and the Ghost chair, designed by architect Cini Boeri in 1987 (this year we will celebrate its 30th anniversary). Those products became design icons for their style and technology uniqueness: they are exhibited in the most important museums of modern art worldwide, because they were the first of their kind to be created with a unique curved glass sheet.

We are also pleased to mention, as successful project, Philippe Starck's Caadre mirror, another Italian product that became a truly design icon and marked the mirror style segment in the design scenario.

Moreover, more recently, the LLT table, with whom FIAM demonstrated to be the leader in the glass sector (not only the curved one). The Wood version of the LLT table also highlighted that glass can follow trends and current styles in a refined and unique way.

The Mini Collection is a brand reinforcement in the shops and museum book shops where FIAM is present with its products.



## FAE: Is 'FIAM' concentrating on emerging markets in Middle East and Asia?

**DL:** FIAM strongly believes in growth across these geographical areas: it was one of the first design companies to sell in the Far East in an organised way and to have the Chinese version on our website. In 2015 FIAM launched the Veblén Collection exactly to strengthen its presence in those areas, where my brother Francesco is in charge to run the company.

Veblén is a collection with more decorative lines that mixes different materials, such as wood, leather and velvet, with the intent to offer a 360° lifestyle furniture to decorate the whole living area. This let us to increase our sales and market share year by year.

Mindful of this growth, in 2017 we will activate a specific project for the East to strengthen and consolidate our commercial presence in this market. In the Middle East we have instead activated partnerships with local dealers; it's a market that cannot yet be defined consolidated but we're looking forward to best exploit its potentiality.





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## Elegant collection by OZZIO ITALIA

### Eclipse

At imm cologne, Ozzio is presenting their most innovative and extended dining table collection – The Eclipse. This extended dining table comes with metal central column, glass top and inside painted melamine extension.

Eclipse Dining Table is another refined and contemporary piece that bears the Italian touch.

This extending dining table can be used wherever and whenever.



### Blues



An elegant chair comes with tall backrest and ergonomic seat. A wooden structure that matches the brand's new wooden table tops. The Wood is the absolute protagonist of contemporary living.

Blues is a leather chair with wooden legs from Ozzio Italy. This chair is available with wooden legs and

upholstered in leather of different colours, from white to darker shades like mocha or black. The high, slightly curved back up to the lower back ensures comfortable seating together with the padding.

Clean lines and elegant, fits of important dining rooms and can find its natural place also around a conference table in a refined style.



## EARTH by RIVA Industria



Earth table is featured by a top made of resin and millenary Kauri wood from New Zealand, it wants to be a stylised representation of the earth, the wooden parts metaphorically representing the continents and the resin sections the oceans. The texture of wood and the transparency of the resin are capable of creating a fascinating interplay of light and shadow.

The special base, in dark iron with tubular section and visible welding, designed by Renzo Piano, that echoes the original design of table "Antico" for the initiative of "Ground Zero ... Ground Heroes" in 2001, symbolises the tangle of the reinforcement of buildings protruding from the rubble following the collapse of the Twin Towers.

The table becomes a silent witness so that the horror is not forgotten and an exemplary manifestation of the ability to express emotions through symbolic details.

# BALADA & CO. to premier Suspended Lamp Collection in imm

This year once again, the young design company will be revealing its new products at imm cologne. BALADA & CO. will be premiering a collection of suspended lamps. The manufacturer has been selected by Kölnmesse to exhibit as part of the new segment Pure Studios in 2017.

In 2017 they are adding new colours and materials on the lamps to the debut collection, Balada & Co. is presenting suspended light

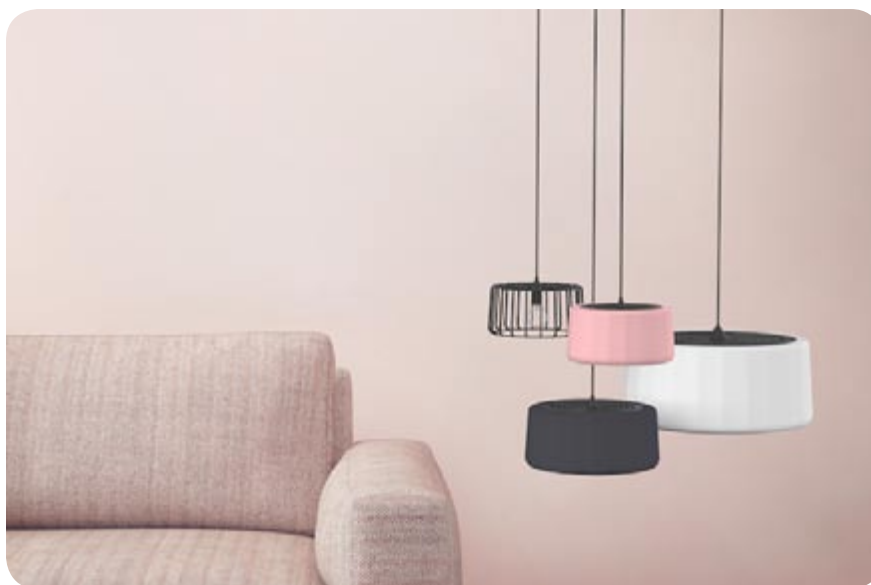


collection "Vintage Pendants" extending the design concept onto the ceiling. The lampshades on the suspended models - just like the standing and table models - come in various sizes in Classic and Vintage, thus creating a perfect ensemble in concert with the counterparts on the floor.

In the Vintage Collection, the lampshade body is comprised of manually-shaped square steel around which an elastic matt crepe tissue is stretched. The striking three-dimensionality and quality of the shades becomes particularly visible when the light is



turned on. The material becomes translucent and the square struts comprise an accented light contour. The versatility in materials means the collection can encompass fashion trends like the houndstooth pattern. Additionally, these materials can be removed and washed.



The Classic lampshades are created at a local workshop. Like their counterparts on the floor, they receive the characteristic BALADA & CO. diffuser made from powder-coated aluminum. Upon request, the diffuser can project onto the ceiling via a clear illuminant to show an interplay between light and shadow. The conjunction of high quality chintz fabric with matt or velvety shimmering texture and the gritty powder-coated aluminum diffuser provides for a touch of industrial loft charm of comfortable character.





# KIKO Family from bert plantagie to be at imm again

bert plantagie looks back on yet another very successful year. The winner of 2016 is all-round chair Kiko. New to the family is the Kiko armchair. And there will be even more additions to the Kiko family. On the International Interiors Show in Cologne both retailer and consumer will be introduced to the Kiko bench, bar stool, footstool, side table, and the extra comfortable Kiko PLUS models.

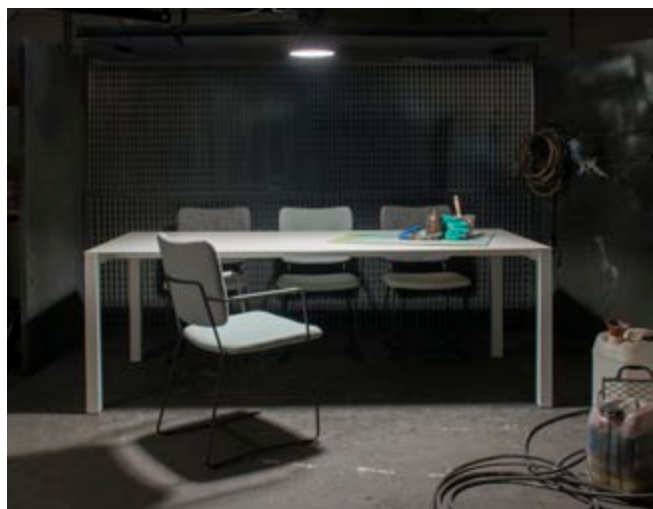


Chair Kiko

Kiko is a chair with endless possibilities. This open and friendly model fits both a modern and classic interior. The chair can be upholstered in fabric, leather, or a combination of both. With a choice of over 200 colours! This makes Kiko a real all-rounder. And if you wish to further customise your chair, you can choose contrasting stitching seams or a double button at the back. This wireframe chair can come with or without (open) armrests. Both seating and backrest provide excellent comfort.

**Armchair Kiko**

New in the collection: charming armchair Kiko. Again of course a Stefan Steenkist design. Especially striking is the coloured wire frame with playful forms. With its slightly curved backrest this armchair makes an inviting gesture. Both seating and backrest have a beautiful thick upholstery. Add to this the lovely broad armrests, and it becomes clear why the Kiko armchair offers unparalleled sitting comfort. Optionally, the armchair can be executed in a gorgeous bicolour upholstery in leather and/or fabric (with a choice of over 200 colours!). Moreover, the backrest can be equipped with extra details such as a double button at the rear of the back and/or decorative stitches.

**Table Pedro**

Thanks to the clever leg construction, the top of table Pedro appears to be floating. With its open design, Pedro is a perfect match for Kiko. The outstanding ceramic top is available in over 13 colours/designs; from cement grey to wood, and even marble. Ceramic is a 100% natural material, maintenance friendly, resistant to very high as well as very low temperatures, and impact and scratch free. The legs can come in stainless steel or in a varnish colour for a beautiful match with the table top. In 7 fixed sizes (from 140 to 260 x 100 x 77 cm.). Customisation possible.

## Familia Circulum by PIKKA DESIGN d.o.o

“Circulum, like life itself, takes us round in curious circles as we cycle through the day, through our life routines and desires – and everything in between. It’s the essentials we remember, that are most important and the ones we also tend to misplace. Which is why we include, embrace things that impose some order on the essentials. Keys, wallets, glasses are typical, but it’s entirely up to you. One man’s essential is another woman’s frivolity” – Familia Circulum

There’s no questions, no forgetting, no excuses. Just sublime clarity. Pure function dressed to thrill. Close attention to marvelous materiality in 3 lines, 4 materials and myriad finish combinations makes it part of one’s wardrobe, the decor scheme, sense and sensibilities. The same common underlying theme and tasteful, functional elegance leave it open entirely to personalisation. Familia suggests to not use as directed use as desired.





# Mesmerising collection from Brokis

This year at imm 2017, Brokis is going to present some timeless lighting collections.

## Balloons

At imm cologne, Balloons are being presented with new reflectors finished in black chrome and brushed chrome. Balloons, a collection of timeless lights embodying rudimental forms evoking images of hot air balloons, captivates with the beauty of large-format handblown glass and an elegant metal reflector hovering within.

The design's charm lies in the use of two independent glass sections to achieve the impression of an integral whole. Lavish proportions and an elegant hand-pressed metal reflector are the collection's defining traits. The size of the largest shade pushes the very boundaries of glassblowing technology and illustrates the exceptional skill and craftsmanship of Bohemian glassmakers. The Balloons collection is one of the pillars of the Brokis portfolio. The lights come in three sizes. Balloons also make an outstanding sculptural statement during the day when they are switched off.

Design: Lucie Koldova, Dan Yeffet



## Capsula

Brokis has introduced three new colour options for the inner glass shade of the Capsula collection: blue, orange, and red. Capsula is a sophisticated and exhilarating light bearing resemblance to a plant cell or seed. The nucleus of the piece is a tubular triplex-glass LED light source, developed by Brokis, that transects the inner shade and translucent external shell to form a notional axis. The layering and overlapping of these three distinct components give rise to dramatic 3D optical effects. The end caps fasten the components together and serve as anchor points for the creative dual suspension straps, which also conceal the power cable and allow for variation in the final positioning of the light. Capsula offers sets as well as individual lights that can be combined per customer requirements.



Design: Lucie Koldova

## Knot



KNOT is a collection of stately pendant lights that appose two dramatically dissimilar materials. The design combines coarse natural fibre with smooth, transparent blown glass to arouse a contrast as striking as it is dignified. Full-bodied globes of varying shapes and sizes are penetrated by robust cords that seemingly pull the bottom of the glass inward for a bemusing plastic effect. The LED light source is housed in a handsome top hood, which, like the cord end cap, is fashioned in refined metal. The collection currently comprises four pendant lights and several colour options.

Design: Studio Chiaramonte Marin

## Lightline

Lightline is being presented at imm cologne featuring three new glass colour options – red, light blue, and opaline as well as three new finishes for the metal component of the triplex-opal glass light source shroud: the transparent glass base now comes with a chrome shroud; the transparent matte base now comes with a white shroud; and the dark glass base now comes with a black shroud. In its every component, the Lightline collection is a celebration of glass as an artistic medium. The concept of a line of light is rooted in the varying characteristics of the material and its forms. The design employs the effect of light uniformly dispersed over a sandblasted surface, which in profile creates the impression of a luminous line.

Design: Lucie Koldova



## Mona Wall

As part of the new collection 2016/ 2017, Brokis introduced an innovated version of the Mona Wall. The light now comes equipped with a dimmer switch discreetly integrated into the mounting arm. The Mona collection is based on the concept of penetrating forms. The light source boldly traverses the ample volume of smooth handblown glass to reveal the thrilling tension inherent in the design. The collection's essence, however, lies in its unconventional construction and refined combination of materials. It also boasts dimmable tubular LED light sources, developed by Brokis, each with a different colour temperature. The Mona Small collection includes wall and table lights of the smallest proportions compared with the other Mona collections.

Design: Lucie Koldova



## Muffins

The timeless Muffins collection represents an extraordinary lighting experience. Since its market debut, it has taken on an iconic status and become a symbol of the Brokis brand. The sublimity of the design lies in the masterful combination of delicately contoured glass and solid wood. The lights, featuring a billowing glass shade set in a handcrafted wood base together with a naked filament bulb, breathe new life into any space and elicit a festive ambience. The collection oera multiple shape and size variants as well as a broad palette of glass colors and woods.

Design: Lucie Koldova, Dan Yeffet



## Puro

PURO is boldly minimalistic variation on atmospheric pendant lights. Inspiration for the collection and its name come from the Spanish word for “cigar”, which also means “pure” and is a reference to the composition’s clean lines. The design creates an intriguing interplay between horizontal and vertical luminous cigar tubes levitating in space above simple bell lights. The diffused glow of the tubes combines with that of the bells to elicit a dynamic ambience, while the alternating gloss and matte finishes provide a degree of provocation. PURO oera atmospheric room lighting as well as lighting for offices, hospitality interiors, and private dining areas. The collection comprises a single bell light suspended beneath a vertical tube and dual bell lights suspended beneath a horizontal tube.



Design: Lucie Koldova

## Shadows

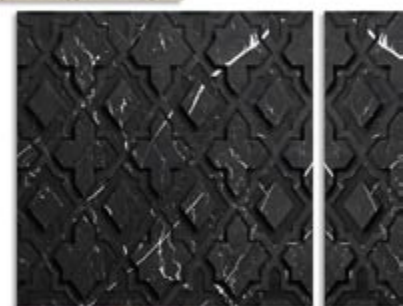
The Shadows collection is on show in Cologne featuring an all-new connector that allows for easier installation. It is housed in the wooden pear-shaped body of the light and makes for quick removal of the body and the glass shade. An improved ceiling canopy has also been designed for the Shadows set. Like the new connector, it will make installation much easier than before. The Shadows collection is a take on the famed, timeless lights found in French ateliers, and its typology pays tribute to that legacy. The combination of hand-blown glass, handcrafted wood, and classic shaping has given rise to a light of ageless elegance. The collection comprises four dievent suspension lights, as striking alone as they are in sets, characterised by a handblown glass shade set upon on a handcrafted wooden body. The clean contours and finish are accentuated by the concealed light source.

Design: Lucie Koldova, Dan Yeffet



# KREOO introduces innovative wall and floor coverings

KREOO is now focusing on innovative wall and floor coverings and its textures which are available in different colours and thickness.



## GRAFFITI Marbel Mix

Graffiti is the technique registered and patented by Kreoo, in which two different marbles are glued one above the other, and via machine the upper is dug up to find the underlying colour. Wall covering only.

## BAS RELIEF – Tone to Tone Marble

The classic basrelief technique, a sculptural technique where the shape of marble is sculpted carving the material. Wall covering only.

## INLAY – Flat Elegance

Inlay is the process that set marble shapes into a cavity that has been hollowed out of the surface. Endless colour possibilities. For wall and floor covering.

## Texo and Panama

New architectural solutions free from the static nature of the walls. An interlace effect where marble intertwined to itself, or to other materials.



# Palazzetti introduces new 'Oscar' wood stove

Palazzetti presents the new Oscar wood stove characterised by a vintage design and high performances. The unique and bold features of Oscar give the wood stove a perfect and elegant look. Apparently, Palazzetti has concentrated on the looks of the Oscar which is also attractive.

Available in the cast iron, ceramic or soapstone versions, Palazzetti Oscar has a cast iron firebox and a Magnofix baffle. Its large, deep combustion chamber burns medium and large logs. Cool-touch silicone rubber handles guarantee safety while opening and closing the stove.

## Specifications and standard fittings:

- vintage design
- available in the cast iron, ceramic or soapstone versions
- cast iron firebox and Magnofix baffle
- large, deep combustion chamber burns medium/large logs
- cool-touch silicone rubber handles

## Oscar is available in four different colours:

- OSCAR-CREAM CERAMIC
- OSCAR-CAST IRON
- OSCAR RED-CERAMIC
- OSCAR-SOAPSTONE



## Richard Hutten creates the Clover Stool for a Japanese brand

Dutch designer Richard Hutten designed the Clover stool series for Japanese startup company Taiyou&C. Inspired by the shape of the “lucky” four-leaf clover, the shape is both organic and geometric, where the top view is a circle.



The stools come in two editions – Clover 3 and Clover 4. The seat is divided up into petal-like shapes, and the legs bend into the gaps between the leaves. Clover 3 has three legs, while Clover 4 has four. There are also lower versions designed for children. The stools come in walnut and oak wood, making it light and easy to stack.

Hutten says, “I wanted to make a stool where East meets West without compromise, combining the best of both worlds.” The Clover Stool combines the contrasting qualities of two classics of design – Alvar Aalto’s Stool 60 and Sori Yanagi’s Butterfly stool – adding a playful touch.

Mikiya Kobayashi, the founder and creative director of Taiyou&C briefed Hutten to design a stackable wooden stool in two sizes, one for adults and one for children. The stool was crafted by the Fuji furniture factory in Japan renowned for its skilled craftsmen.



## VADO introduces Capsule



VADO's Capsule handsets are a convenient, simple, yet clever solution. They prevent the excess water from collecting under the bath. Water that trickles down the handset and hose is captured in the concealed Capsule box and sent straight to the bath waste via a non-return valve.

Available with either a round or square handset, Capsule is not only a stylish addition to any bath, it fits almost any bath too thanks to its ultra-slim design and extensive adjustability.

The unique, patent pending, design allows the highly flexible hose to easily slide into the Capsule box, while the robust construction ensures years of trouble free use and is, of course, backed up by VADO's 12 year guarantee.



## LaSelva Studio designs Faro table lamp

Spanish design house LaSelva Studio has launched their new creation – the Faro table lamp manufactured by Danish brand Bolia. It has been designed by David Galvañ & Manuel Bañó.

The lamp is positioned on a beautiful marble base and can be turned in any direction, to adjust the light in any direction as desired. It is divided in two parts, the base and the lampshade, without the use of any hardware.

The cylindrical marble base has a magnet at the top, surrounded with a thin felt, to allow the shade to stay in the desired position. The lamp shade can rotate 360 degrees in horizontal and 45 degrees in vertical keeping the base in the same spot. The spherical shape of the shade – closed with a translucent polypropylene – makes it possible for it to pivot from the base adopting various positions.





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# IFFS

Experience the  
'Best of Design'  
in Southeast Asia

The International Furniture Fair Singapore 2017 will make its return from March 9 to 12 at the Singapore EXPO. Along with co-located events – the 34th ASEAN Furniture Show (AFS) and the inaugural Nook Asia – the shows will continue to celebrate design, invoke inspiration, and facilitate business discussions, with the aim of promoting trade and growth for the industry.

At IFFS 2017, attendees can expect to see collections presented by a comprehensive portfolio of first-rate exhibitors from all over the world, and to be exposed to more design-centric elements across the show floor. Through various showcases, thematic installations, and more, IFFS' design-rich environment will inspire greater ideas and encourage more collaborations. In addition, visitors can discover up-and-coming



designers and new brands hailing from Singapore and beyond, alongside returning exhibitors and industry veterans. This is aligned with the organiser's aim to create a carefully-curated boutique show that focuses on the quality of brands on showcase and the content on offer.

Mr Ernie Koh, Chairman of IFFS Pte Ltd., commented: "A successful trade event entails more than just providing exhibitors and visitors with a common space to mingle. With that in mind, and taking into consideration feedback from the industry, we decided that a multi-faceted trade event with a more diverse exhibitor profile and design-rich environment would meet the business and creative needs of attendees at IFFS more adequately."

## New Pavilions

New for 2017, IFFS welcomes the EU Business Avenues in South East Asia Pavilion to the inaugural Nook Asia event. Organised in partnership with EU Business Avenues in South East Asia - a business support programme for Europe-based SMEs to establish business collaborations through business matchmaking and support services, the pavilion is expected to house 50 design & interior companies from across the European Union (EU) on the Contemporary European Design business mission. European companies are known for their excellent craftsmanship and innovative ideas, and are often recognised as top trendsetters within the global furniture industry. The inclusion of the EU Pavilion is expected to enhance the design quotient at Nook Asia.

Also new is the Brand Franchise Pavilion that is devoted to furniture & furnishing franchisors, and caters specially to brands that are exploring international franchise expansion. Yet another new feature area is the Upholstery Pavilion that houses a curated line-up of exhibitors with upholstery offerings. Participating companies include Alexander & James, Asiades, Bellagio Asia, Hugo by Yew Hoong, and NS Furniture.



## Design-centric Showcases

Returning to IFFS, the Outdoor Boulevard is a dedicated area for exhibitors with garden and/or outdoor offerings to showcase their best. Here, visitors get as close to experiencing the outdoors as possible within an indoor setting. The Design STARS Showcase is also slated to make a comeback next year, featuring product debuts by design talents from around the world.

In addition, IFFS 2017 will see the introduction of a unique experiential zone that is designed to titillate the senses of visitors by providing a visual extravaganza. This feature area will be curated by acclaimed local designer, Nathan Yong, and will bring together a group of exhibitors who will each present their best offerings under a collective theme. A central café and bar will also be incorporated to the zone to foster closer interactions amongst exhibitors and visitors.

## IFFS Elite Club


For the first time, IFFS will feature Elite Club, an exclusive invitation-only initiative that is designed for key decision makers representing the movers and shakers of the industry. Membership is extended only to a select group of buyers and exhibitors who are carefully evaluated against stringent criteria. Elite Club members will be offered a range of quality benefits and perks befitting this ultimate level of membership, such as access to Elite Club's Concierge and Lounge, refreshments, complimentary WiFi, and other premium services.



## “The Italian Hospitality” by Giulio Cappellini

IFFS 2017 has announced a special collaboration with renowned Italian designer, Giulio Cappellini. It aims to offer visitors a unique opportunity to experience a bit of Italy in Asia through this unique project.

“The Italian Hospitality” is a project created with the aim of encouraging European companies to leverage on IFFS as a platform for marketing and business expansion, to penetrate the ASEAN markets and to network with the furniture fraternity there. The feature area is expected to be popular with trade visitors, as Italian design is well-respected and appreciated in Singapore as well as across ASEAN countries.



It will feature a curated space and lounge that represents the best of Italy in IFFS, whether in furniture production, design, or gourmet. Involving a wide range of products, the curated space and lounge will feature interior design finishing, upholstery, lights, and furniture. All materials – including wood, glass, metal, and textile – will be used in the best way possible.

Curated and styled by Giulio Cappellini, it will present the contemporary trend of juxtaposing current and technological furniture with some pieces of tradition and rich history, emphasising the Italian savoir-faire. This curated space and lounge will be a neutral, welcoming, and elegant space with colours and textures that will inspire architects and interior decorators for their internal spaces.

Characterised by high quality objects and products, “The Italian Hospitality” will also involve the Italian atmosphere and charm, which is celebrated worldwide. Visitors can expect the full experience at the lounge, where they will have the opportunity to taste some distinctively Italian F&B items.



VIFA-EXPO is among the largest furniture fairs in Vietnam, and seen as a gateway to the Southeast Asian market. The 2017 edition will open its gates from March 8 to 11, at the Saigon Exhibition and Convention Center (SECC) in Ho Chi Minh City – the economic central of Southern Vietnam.

In 2015, Vietnam exported 6.9 billion USD worth of wooden furniture products, an increase of 10.7% over 2014, turning Vietnam into the 5th biggest wooden furniture exporter in the world after China, Germany, Italy and Poland.

Over the years, VIFA-EXPO has established strong relationships with the trusted furniture brands from around the world. The annual trade event connects the Vietnamese and international companies together, providing them with more opportunities to make profits. It enables businesses and end-consumers to see everything for furniture industry in one place – from machinery and equipment for furniture production, plus material and accessories, up to finished products.

VIFA-EXPO 2017 will be the platform of progress across the woodworking sector for the ASEAN region, showcasing the latest innovations and technologies. Trade visitors, professionals and serious buyers from all over the Asian continent will get an opportunity to strengthen ties with new customers, network and catch up on the latest technologies. Exhibitors at this event can connect with the rest of the wood industry worldwide.

Around 10,000 trade visitors are expected to be present at the 2017 fair where exhibitors from around the world will be displaying their products. Being a highly specialised show, VIFA-EXPO provides an excellent opportunity for local and international companies to showcase and learn about wood and to build new strategic relationships with buyers, traders and investors globally.



# VIFA-EXPO

Opening the gates to  
Southeast Asia



VIFA-EXPO 2017, the Vietnam International Furniture & Home Accessories Fair, will provide the platform for all furniture, handicraft, home decoration and supporting services to meet the need of buyers from all over the world. With the scheduled scale of over 1,500 booths in a total area of 23,000 square meters, the buyers will easily find expected products and establish business with about 300 exhibitors of the fair.





# EFE

Showcasing fine  
furniture

The 13th edition of the Export Furniture Exhibition, popularly known as EFE, is going to be held from March 8 to 17, 2017, at the Kuala Lumpur Convention Centre (KLCC) for the fourth consecutive year. Retailers, interior designers, contract buyers, architects, developers and more will get the perfect opportunity to launch new products, make sales, find new customers and re-engage with existing customers at the show.

EFE brings together under one roof all the quality exhibitors featuring a comprehensive range of furniture with extensive selections of modern and contemporary styles for dining, bedroom, living room, office, outdoor, and children, including furniture fittings and accessories.



The Malaysian Furniture Council is proud to present the EFE trade platform to the furniture industry players to expand their business, encourage export and provide opportunities to new players in the export market. Its main objective is to provide industry members with opportunity to do export, develop the industry and make Malaysia as the furniture hub in Southeast Asia region.

270 international and local companies are going to participate at EFE 2017 show. All the major Malaysian brands along with many international names will showcase the latest trends and designs available in the furniture and furnishings industry today. The four-day event is going to be spread over 30,000 square meters of display area that includes 8 Halls of indoor exhibition space. 10,000 trade visitors are expected to attend this year.



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## Furnidec Business

The 'Furnidec Business' exhibition will once again serve as the meeting point for all operators of the furniture and decoration sectors. One of the oldest exhibitions of the sectors, the 2017 edition will be held from March 17 to 19 at the Thessaloniki International Exhibition & Conference Center in Greece. All new furniture and interior design trends are presented, in the presence of hosted buyers from around the world.

Furnidec Business addresses the majority of professionals belonging to the furniture, design and decoration sectors, placing great emphasis on both domestic and professional furniture. All attendants will have the opportunity to be initiated in made in Greece furniture as well as to find complete solutions which meet any possible need.

During Furnidec Business, every participant will have the opportunity to become acquainted with 'Made in Greece' furniture and find comprehensive solutions to satisfy any potential need. The exhibition's "ace up the sleeve" is its diversity, varied character and important parallel events - colloquiums, workshops, conferences - that have become an institution. At the same time, its modern structure allows for convenient and unhindered browsing between companies and products.



Furnidec Business 2017 will utilise the significant legacy of the 2016 event which featured 80 exhibitors whose participation resulted in the conclusion of major deals and contacts. The 2,250 visitors to the exhibition came face-to-face with all the new products and services of the furniture, design and decoration sectors. Additionally, 160 hosted buyers from Greece, Cyprus, Turkey and Albania visited Furnidec Business.

Furnidec Business 2016 hosted all the new furniture and interior design trends. More dynamic than ever before, the exhibition exuded creativity, presenting a broad range of proposals and choices, from the most austere to the most luxurious furnishings. Essentially, the exhibition represented the best that the sector has to offer in terms of design and production, featuring products and solutions of high aesthetics, functionality, ergonomics and style.

Furnidec Business has two main categories - domestic and professional furniture. Yet, the interior and industrial design sectors play an equally important role, showcasing ideas which respond to the constantly increasing demands of daily life. The scope of visitors varies from furniture and decoration accessories traders to architects, decorators, designers and hoteliers. The exhibition will afford a prominent place to the sector of interior and industrial design, where ideas that meet the continuously increasing demands of everyday life will be presented.



# Mobila

Târg de mobilă cu vânzare expo

23 - 26 martie 2017

Centrul Expozitional ROMEXPO

[www.mobila-expo.ro](http://www.mobila-expo.ro)



Organizatori:



Co-organizatori:



ASOCIAȚIA PRODUCĂTORILOR  
DE MOBILĂ DIN ROMÂNIA - APMR





# MOBILA EXPO

Exploring designs  
from Romania



The Mobila Expo is an event dedicated to the Romanian market, offering a wide variety of house and office furniture – from living room to bedroom, bathroom to kitchen, from lounges to kids furniture. It will take place from March 23 to 26 at the Romexpo Exhibition Centre in Bucharest, in pavilions C4-C5.

Aimed towards furniture manufacturers and the general public, Mobila Expo is for everyone who wishes to find and purchase







home or office furniture, straight from the producing companies, at low prices. Visitors will have the opportunity to purchase the exhibited items, while benefiting at the same time, from special offers and discounts which are only available for orders and contract signed at the fair.

Modern and classic, traditional and contemporary designs will combine in decorative pieces of furniture that can be bought at Mobila Expo 2017. The visitors will get to choose between hundreds of offers and different furniture styles, according to their own budget. They will be able to speak directly with furniture designers

and producers who will provide professional advices on what pieces fit to different kind of living spaces.

Mobila Expo is organised by Romexpo in partnership with Romanian Furniture Manufacturers Association (APMR), Chambers of Commerce and Industry of Romania and Romanian Furniture Club Association (ACRM).

This show promises furniture at affordable prices, hundreds of colours, materials and finishing belonging to different styles such as: contemporary, classic, minimalist, rustic, industrial, retro-vintage, eclectic or the 50s, mid-century modern.

Mobila Expo will showcase:

- sofas, armchairs, chairs
- storage solutions (wardrobes, chests, drawers), libraries, bars or mini-bars
- kitchen and bath accessories, embedded furniture, circular standard, classical or modern, adaptable to any size space
- decorative objects: vases, lighting, paintings, etc.
- office furniture

# Salone del Mobile.Milano

A grand showcase of international design excellence



Salone  
del Mobile.

Milano is gearing up for its return to international limelight with the 56th edition, which will open from April 4 to 9, 2017 at the Fiera Milano Rho. With a display area exceeding 200,000 square meters, the event confirms its place as the benchmark for quality and innovation thanks to the broad and comprehensive range of products on offer – from furniture and furnishings to lighting and workspaces – and two concurrent events, as well as its place as a forum for ideas.

The Salone Internazionale del Mobile is subdivided into three sections: Classic, Design Design and xLux, a sector dedicated to timeless luxury reinterpreted with a contemporary touch, which launched successfully last time round. Biennial events taking place alongside the Salone offer enormous synergies: Euroluce in Pavilions 9 - 11

and 13-15, and Workplace3.0 in Pavilions 22-24, as well as the International Furnishing Accessories Exhibition and SaloneSatellite.

EuroLuce, which is being staged for the 29th time this year, showcases the best the world lighting market has to offer, from decorative products to technical lighting for application in industrial, street, entertainment and hospital system environments, home automation and lighting systems, sources and sustainability and light pollution.

Workplace3.0 – on for the 17th time – is a leading-edge concept-driven exhibition dedicated to workspace dedicated to workspace design and technology; an event that responds to rapid changes in the world of work and emerging market needs. The finest furnishings for offices, banks and insurance companies, post offices and public environments will be on show, along with seating for offices and communities, components for acoustics, internal partitions and coverings, furnishings for offices, audio/video technology, technical installations and security systems.

In its twentieth year, the SaloneSatellite will once again offer a place for young people selected from five continents to meet business people, architects, interior designers and the press in Pavilions 22 and 24.







Alongside the many products on show, two biennial fair events are dedicated to lighting and the workplace. The first, curated by Simone Ciarmoli is titled DeLightFuL (short for Design, Light, Future, and Living). The exhibition features the presentation of an independent fantasy-inspired short film inspired from multi-award winning director Matteo Garrone.

The other event, A Joyful Sense at Work, curated by Cristiana Cutrona, conveys a vision of the evolving future scenario of office environments, presenting innovative content and approaches to the design of office products and workspaces through four installations, each of which features the cultural specificities of the areas from which their international architect designers come: America, Asia and Europe.

space&interiors, the only event linked permanently with the Salone del Mobile.Milano and devoted to architectural finishes, will have its second edition this year. The venue is The Mall, Port Nuova, right in the heart of Milan's Brera Design District; and will take place from April 4 to 8. It will shine the spotlight on a sector that is attracting increasing attention from designers and architects.

The event will showcase surfaces, flooring, doors and internal finishings in an evocative setting curated by the Migliore+Servetto Architects practice.

space&interiors 2017 will again be staging meetings and workshops offering valuable cultural insights, while a special lounge area will host Archicocktails, the event where visitors discuss the latest trends in the building construction industry with some of the leading names in architecture and design. The visually stunning location will be divided into separate spaces, with a strong focus on computer graphics. The theme of the event is lightness. An exhibition entitled “Absolute Lightness” set against a cutting-edge digital and interactive backdrop will showcase the superb finishes used in modern architecture.

Salone del Mobile.Milano holds enormous value as an international showcase for creativity and a forum for industry professionals. Some 2,000 exhibitors will be showing their products, with more than 300,000 visitors expected to attend from over 165 different nations.

Chairman Roberto Snaidero had to say: “A showcase for Italian and international furnishing excellence, the Salone del Mobile is putting the finishing touches to its fifty-sixth edition, which once again offers a unique opportunity for world industry leaders to unveil their products. The wide, exclusive range of commercial offerings on show attracts more than 300,000 industry visitors from over 165 countries, as well as premium media outlets from around the globe and of course the general public. Our close partnership with the city of Milan is of vital importance, confirming the city and the event’s status as capitals of design.”



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# KiFF

# 2017

KIEV INTERNATIONAL FURNITURE FORUM

## KIEV INTERNATIONAL FURNITURE FORUM



**15-18**  
**MARCH**

Venue:  **KYIV EXPO PLAZA**



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**[www.kiff.kiev.ua](http://www.kiff.kiev.ua)**



# KIFF

Showing the splendour of Ukraine



Kiev International Furniture Forum (KIFF) is the most large-scale international exhibition of furniture and interior design in Ukraine. Industry leaders from different parts of the world gather together under one roof at the KIFF. These include people from all segments: furniture, lighting, interior design items, textiles, floor coverings, ceramics and sanitary ware.

The KIFF 2017 show is going to be held from March 15 to 18, at the KyivExpoPlaza exhibition center.

KIFF brings together manufacturers and distributors, architects and designers, decorators, wholesale and retail customers, the owners of furniture showrooms, the HoReCa sector operators and all connoisseurs of refined and sophisticated interior.



The coming edition of KIFF is going to be spread across 20,000 square meters of exhibition area, showcasing over 350 brands. It will also organise numerous events and design projects, lectures, presentations and workshops held by the world famous guru of design.

Buyer Program, organised within the frames of KIFF 2017, guarantees the presence of industry professionals not only from all over Ukraine, but also from near and far abroad (Kazakhstan, Moldova, Bulgaria and other countries), allowing the exhibitors to expand the geography of their activity.

KIFF European is the highlight of the exhibition – a separate exposition of exclusive European furniture, lighting and interior items. The third pavilion of the exhibition center will present the European quality, style and design. Italian exposition, promoted by Federlegno Arredo Eventi Spa, will demonstrate not only an elegant style, but also a way of life, an exquisite and welcoming atmosphere Made in Italy!

KitchenTrend Set will become the large-scale event of the exposition. It is a demonstrative and communication platform for the suppliers and manufacturers of kitchen furniture, kitchen space arrangement objects, designers and architects, developers and suppliers of household appliances.

This specialised event will highlight visual presentations for modern kitchen interior solutions. The central auditorium will feature presentations and discussions to identify the trends of modern kitchen space arrangement. The event is supported by leading manufacturers and suppliers of kitchen furniture and equipment from Italy, Germany and France.

Thanks to optimal organisation of the exhibition area, and collaboration with the leading associations and federations, KIFF is recognised as a unique launching platform for foreign companies, an ideal place for the development of their business in the territory of Ukraine.





# MALAYSIAN INTERNATIONAL FURNITURE FAIR 2017

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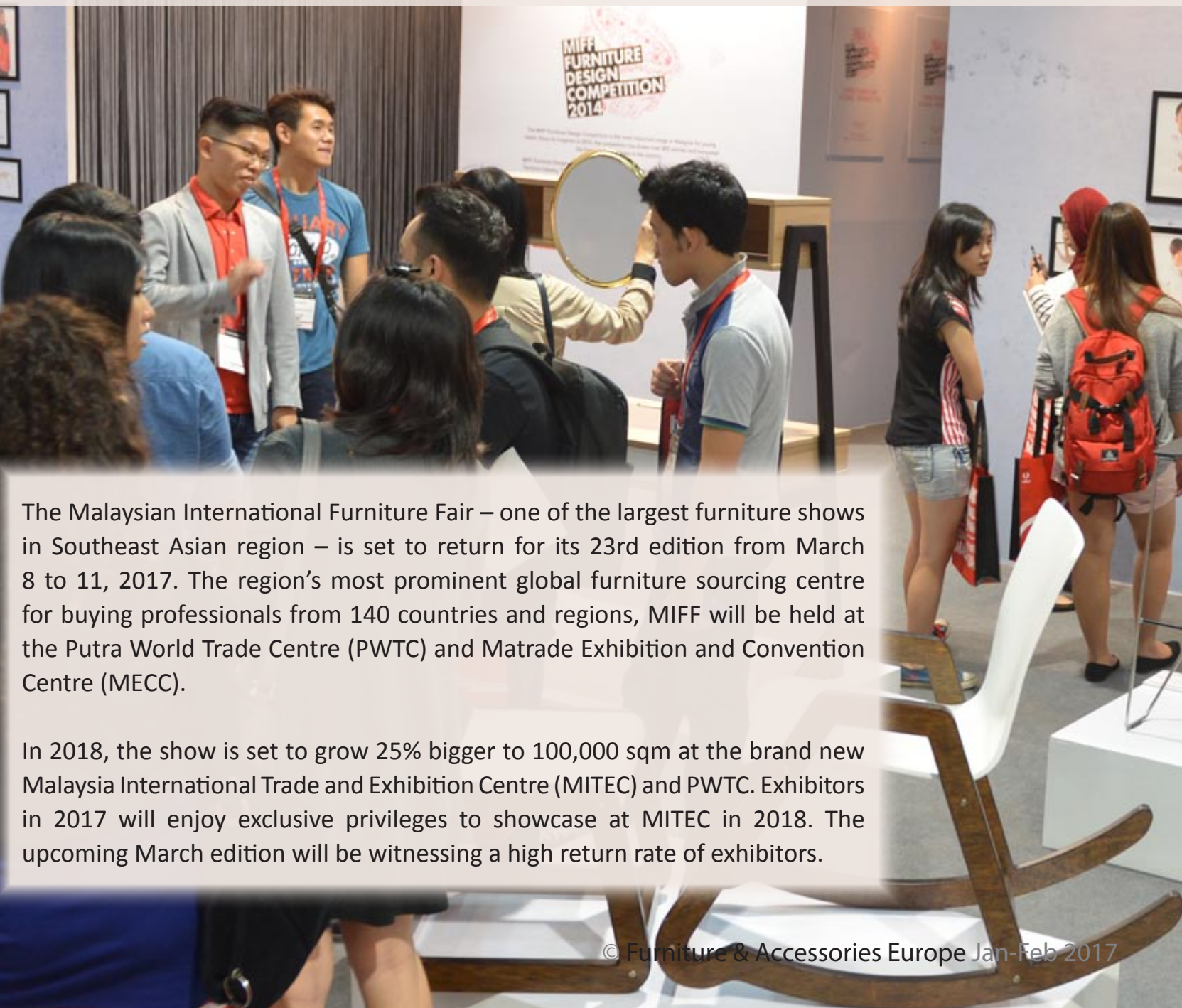
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# Malaysian International Furniture Fair

Putting Southeast Asia on the global furniture map



The Malaysian International Furniture Fair – one of the largest furniture shows in Southeast Asian region – is set to return for its 23rd edition from March 8 to 11, 2017. The region's most prominent global furniture sourcing centre for buying professionals from 140 countries and regions, MIFF will be held at the Putra World Trade Centre (PWTC) and Matrade Exhibition and Convention Centre (MECC).

In 2018, the show is set to grow 25% bigger to 100,000 sqm at the brand new Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre (MITEC) and PWTC. Exhibitors in 2017 will enjoy exclusive privileges to showcase at MITEC in 2018. The upcoming March edition will be witnessing a high return rate of exhibitors.



Ms Karen Goi, MIFF General Manager, happily remarked, "As a thank-you for their continued support, exhibitors taking part in 2017 stand to receive priority in selecting their location and special booth package in MITEC in 2018. Our hard work to make the show even better every year is rewarded by the high 80% rate of returning exhibitors and very good number of first time buyers."


Importers, exporters and wholesalers make up over half of trade visitors to MIFF, a show renowned among international buyers for quality, value and wide selection of all types of furniture including the much sought Malaysian wood dining sets, bedroom and dressing furniture.









A photograph of a modern office furniture showroom. In the foreground, a man in a white shirt and red lanyard sits on a red chair. In the background, several people are working at desks with computers. A large potted plant is visible on the left, and a white pillar is in the center. The ceiling has recessed lighting.

Besides home furniture, MIFF is the only trade show in Southeast Asia featuring the largest one-stop showroom for office furniture with the biggest collection of modern workspace solutions. In line with this, a designated area named “MIFF Office” has been created in 2017 to showcase an expected 130 companies including from Malaysia, Taiwan, China, South Korea and Indonesia, displaying executive office chairs, desks, workstations, conference/meeting room furniture, reception area furniture, partitions and storage.

Ms Goi added, “We are constantly looking for ways to benefit our customers. The global demand for office furniture is picking up again and the work place and work culture are also changing. With a designated area, MIFF Office will help generate more leads for exhibitors and for buyers to better access innovative products and suppliers. In short, they will have a more streamlined sourcing and productive experience at MIFF.”

An annual sell-out with 500 international companies from over 12 countries and thousands of new products, MIFF remains a benchmark in global furniture trade, drawing 20,000 visitors from as many as 140 countries and regions. It now has the added boost of an online trading platform with Alibaba.com that debuted last year.

The diverse international presence, including one in four buyers coming from a neighbouring ASEAN country, bolsters MIFF’s position as the ideal gateway to capture business opportunities in Southeast Asia and other emerging markets such as South Asia, Middle East, Africa and East Europe.

# DIFAC

## Supporting the furniture industry of UAE



The Dubai International Furniture Accessories & Components & Semi-Finished Products Show, better known as DIFAC, will take place from March 7 to 9, 2017, at the Dubai World Trade Centre. It is being held in conjunction with the Dubai WoodShow and is expected to attract 300 exhibitors from 100 countries around the world.

The furniture industry is a key element of the UAE economy, with more than 600 furniture factories operating in the country. The event will serve as a distinct platform for exhibitors to connect with investors and customers, thus broadening their brand.



Dawood Al Shezawi, CEO of Strategic Marketing & Exhibitions, organisers of the DIFAC Show, comments: "Our whole team is on their toes and are optimistic that having a dedicated event for furniture and fit-outs will work well and be a future success. Global suppliers and customers can expect to see the latest innovative technologies, top quality products and brands for the furniture industry under one roof. We aim to turn DIFAC as a key feature of the market-leading reputation of Dubai WoodShow as being the biggest wood exhibition in the Middle East."

According to figures revealed by Dubai Exports, an agency of the Department of Economic Development, the UAE ranks third on the list of countries that import furniture in the Middle East. This gives more scope for international brands to create brand awareness during the three-day event. Consumers will also be exposed to new design concepts.



The demand for better furniture and aesthetics has increased in UAE, which is now the leading regional hub for technology. The DIFAC show will help exhibitors stay updated with the latest trends doing the rounds in the furniture and accessories market. Decision-makers and high level management across the Middle East region and worldwide will gather together looking for the latest products in surfaces and fittings, elements and systems, semi-finished products and materials, furniture fabrics and upholstery materials.

Al Shezawi further remarked, "The regional brands will get a platform to market their products in a higher scale. Like an international benchmark, they will get an insight on the global market which will enable them to come up with modern ideas."



Exhibitors will display their selection of cutting-edge innovations in the furniture and accessories' market, thus opening a path for technology in furniture in the Middle East.

"DIFAC will grant exhibitors international exposure through interactions with top quality trade analysts and investors from the MENA region. They can tap on new business opportunities by connecting with vital visitors during the event," added Al Shezawi.



# MebelExpo Uzbekistan

Boosting the business in Central Asia market



MebelExpo is the unique platform for business communication for manufacturers and retailers of furniture, suppliers of equipment, components and materials, and interior design specialists from across the Central Asian region. and woodworking industries. Uzbekistan's furniture and woodworking industry is one of its most rapidly developing sectors. Previously foreign products made up 65-70% of the domestic market, whereas today around 90% of the total market is satisfied with high-quality domestic products. From 2003 - 2015 production in the industry has seen a 15-fold increase. There are currently around 1,500 businesses producing mainly furniture.

The 14th international exhibition of MebelExpo will be held from March 1 to 3, 2017, at the Uzexpocentre in Tashkent, Uzbekistan. It is the only international trade exhibition held in the country catering to the furniture

Thanks to the emergence of a large number of small businesses, tough competition has developed in the market stimulating the introduction of advanced technology for the further modernising the production process. The range of furniture produced has expanded, and the quality and design of goods in keeping with global trends have improved.

MebelExpo demonstrates woodworking tools and equipment from the leading manufacturers in action, allows to establish contacts with well-known manufacturers of components, raw materials as well as finished furniture.

The different sections of this exhibition include:

- Equipment for Furniture Production and Woodworking Tools
- Raw Materials and Materials for Furniture Production
- Furniture Accessories and Hardware
- Surfaces, Edges, Boards and Panels
- Furniture Chemicals: Glues, Varnishes and Paints
- Home and Office Furniture
- Home Furnishings



Well-known international companies such as Altendorf, Blum, Biesse, HOMAG, Leitz, Kleiberit, Hettich, Leuco, SCM Goup and many more brands participate in the show on a regular basis.

In 2016, the exhibition was attended by 94 companies from 15 countries, and visited by more than 8600 professional visitors.





## International Famous Furniture Fair (Dongguan)

Providing trade opportunities for the Chinese market

International Famous Furniture Fair (Dongguan), commonly known as “Dongguan 3F”, is a semi-annual event, held in every March and August, being held since 1999. More than 70% of the leading furniture manufacturers from mainland China, Hong Kong and Taiwan come together under the name of 3F.

The upcoming 37th International Famous Furniture Fair (Dongguan) will be held on March 16 to 20, 2017 at the Guangdong Modern International Exhibition Center. Dongguan is known as China’s furniture trade and exhibition capital. Dongguan city occupies the largest market share of furniture export in China. It is the most important base of furniture production, selling, logistics, and export with more than 2,500 furniture manufacturers.



With a scale of 760,000 square meters, Dongguan 3F collects more than 1,000 top furniture brands displaying the latest products, covering Export Pavilion, Branded Furniture Pavilion, Design & Furnishing Pavilion, Upholstery Furniture Pavilion, Youth & Children Furniture Pavilion, Custom-made Furniture Pavilion, Solid Wood Furniture Pavilion, Chinese Style Furniture Pavilion.



In 2016, Dongguan 3F attracted 125,922 professional visitors from 150 countries and region. These visitors varied from importers and exporters, to designers, buyers from hotels/real estate, manufacturers, agents, distributors and media around the world.

During the fair, Dongguan 3F also launched the 1st Chinese Furniture Dealers United Association Annual Meeting, gathering more than 1,000 dealers, retailers & distributors in Dongguan and explored further opportunities in 3F.

It is worth noting that in 2017 March, DG3F will launch a 3F Export Furniture Fair, which will be held on the same date, from March 16 to 20. Gathering all the export exhibitors in an exclusive fair makes a better displaying and sourcing environment for both exhibitors and buyers.

Pre-registered overseas visitors will enjoy prior benefits from the Overseas Buyer Hosted Program. Overseas Visitors Hosted Program includes:

- Exhibitor - Buyer Marching Program
- Complimentary Five-star Hotel Accommodation Program
- Free Catering Program
- Airport Pick-up Service
- Appointed Hotels - 3F Fair Free Shuttle Bus
- Free Use of Prayer Room





## FOR FURNITURE

One of the largest trade fairs in Czech Republic for furniture and design interiors, FOR FURNITURE is going to return from March 23 to 26, 2017. It is being simultaneously held with DESIGN SHAKER, another trade fair for house design and interiors.

Eminent experts from the field of architecture and design are expected to attend this contracted and selling oriented trade fair. Domestic and foreign traders and business partners are invited to make the fair more beneficial for the exhibitors.



LIGHT IN ARCHITECTURE, a specialised exhibition of lighting fixtures, design and accessories, will showcase the best and most prominent Czech and world brands in the field of lamps and lighting equipment. It is intended primarily for architects, designers, construction engineers and developers from all over the Czech Republic.

The 2016 edition saw a total of 585 exhibitors who participated in the fair, spread over a gross exhibition area of 29,500 square meters. A number of 34,384 visitors attended last time. This time around, more than 30,000 visitors are expected.



AZERBAIJAN

# DecorExpo

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## Azerbaijan DecorExpo



Azerbaijan DecorExpo is a unique exhibition for the international companies to present their products, innovations and new collections to the international and regional furniture and home textile sector representatives. It brings together global buyers and suppliers under one roof.

Azerbaijan DecorExpo 2017 will hold its third International Furniture, Home Textile and Houseware Exhibition from May 4 to 6 at the Baku Expo Center. Worldwide professionals will gather from furniture, home textile and houseware markets.



Azerbaijan proposes an attractive market which continues to grow due to the huge oil exports revenues. The DecorExpo is going to be held in the city of Baku which is a political and economic trade centre and moreover a favourable destination for global investors. Lately, it has seen a significant explosion in business volume and population of the region. Apart from this, efforts to improve architectural view of the city, restoration of old buildings, rise in number of new constructed luxury apartments and mass housing projects have caused the huge demand for furniture and decoration goods in the region.

The Azerbaijan DecorExpo 2016 show was attended by 3600 visitors. Total of 75 exhibitors participated from Azerbaijan, Turkey, Belgium, India, Spain, Switzerland, U.K, Iran, France and Poland.





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## Salone del Mobile.Shanghai

### - The Shanghai delight

Salone del Mobile. Milano Shanghai, the first edition of Salone del Mobile. Milano in China, was brought on the Shanghai Exhibition Center's (SEC) stage the best of furniture and Made in Italy interior design. The show which was held from November 19 to 21, has closed with 20,750 visitors from the first tier regions of China and the central regions with strong growth rate, as Sichuan, Hubei and Henan. An important number that has confirmed the expectations of a project well pondered and tailor-made in the last three years to understand the Chinese market and answer to the growing needs of the Chinese consumers.

On the Anteprima preview night, held on 18th evening and dedicated to the VIP community and the media, 2,000 visitors confirmed their presence onsite: a selected and profiled attendance of top guests, that joined the preview by invitation only to respond to the pursuit of quality and Italian products positioning.





An ascent which continued on the first day of the show, November 19 during the day, for the first time in history, the organisers of Salone del Mobile exhibition found themselves in the position of having to close the ticket office and entrances, due to the large crowd waiting to enter, in order to ensure the safety of the event. Only the first day, almost 9,000 visitors visited Salone del Mobile. Milano Shanghai. An organisation that worked perfectly thanks to the experience gained by Salone del Mobile. Milano organiser and the cooperation with VNU Exhibitions Asia, leader in the organisation of exhibitions in China and partner of the Salone del Mobile. Milano.

“We are satisfied with this first appointment. It has proved us right of the concept chosen and in which we have always believed in. This makes us look forward with optimism to the next edition” said Roberto Snaidero, President of Salone del Mobile. Milano. “The positive feedback we have received from the companies, the public and stakeholders, confirms that the strategy pursued by bringing the best of Italian production, represented by 56 premium brands and all the different furniture styles, together with having realised an exhibition-event full of content, images and Italian lifestyle values was the right choice to position ourselves in the market with a clear and strong identity. The identity of Italy is one of know-how, craftsmanship, excellence, beauty and innovation that coexist and renew incessantly”, he added further.

This Salone has laid the foundations to strengthen the cultural and commercial bridge between Milan





and Shanghai, Italy and China, and to continue to consolidate it by creating the best conditions for a dialogue that will bring benefits to both parties. It was also a strong and important signal from the Italian System that has succeeded in unifying the maximum synergy between all sectors of Italian excellence, from fashion, food and beverage to automotive.

“A personal thanks from my side to the institutions that have supported this project at all levels. I would like to thank the Under Secretary for Economic Development, Mr Ivan Scalvarotto, the President of ITA, Mr Michele Scannavini and his collaborators, the Ambassador of Italy in China, Mr Sequi and all the Italian Institution in China”, concluded Roberto Snaidero.

For the realisation of Salone del Mobile. Milano Shanghai, crucial since the very beginning was the full cooperation of the Italian Government, Minister of Economic Development, Mr. Carlo Calenda, the Italian Trade Agency ICE, the Italian Ambassador in Beijing and from the most important Italian institutions operating in China.

# Decofair

## The Arabian Furniture Hub



Held every year at Saudi Arabia, Decofair has proved itself as a suitable platform every year since the beginning, even again in 2016. This year also Decofair created environments based on creative spirit and hunger for design, new trends and of course new innovation. Decofair was held from November 7 to 10, 2016 at the Hilton Hotel in Jeddah, Saudi Arabia.

Decofair is Saudi Arabia's Exclusive International Design Trade Show. It is a platform for industry professionals and high net worth individuals looking to source products and do business. Also they get the opportunity to know about latest design trends from around the world. Decofair Design Awards is a platform for dynamic

professional architects and interior designers where they can find their niche and stand out in the crowd. The aim of Decofair Design Awards is to bring more exposure to exceptionally talented and creative designers and to provide them with the opportunity to meet and network with decision makers and project directors from the architecture and design industry. The Award is judged by industry experts including leading international architects, interior designers, and real estate developers.

Decofair 2016 presented 131 exhibition brands from 10 countries including Italy, Tunisia, Portugal, UK, Egypt, UAE, Kuwait and many others.

"This year's edition welcomed more than attendees and featured the first professional design awards in Saudi Arabia, Decofair Design Awards. The award was endorsed by the Architectural Committee"— Jeddah Chamber of Commerce.

"This is our 3rd time exhibiting at Decofair, and last year we managed to get a distributor in Jeddah. We came this year to strengthen our presence in the market and we can say that Decofair 2016 is way more luxurious than the last year that we've gathered so many potential buyers, and the visitors' reaction to our products is very good for us." EMOTIONAL BRANDS, Portugal - Pedro Lima, Brand Manager.

"We are a 2nd time exhibitor at Decofair. We came back as the response we received last year was really more than what we expected. Decofair has targeted a more particular segment of audience, composed of interior designers, architects, and construction companies which directly compliment the services we are offering in recent days. Decofair gives us a great chance to display our services and products. The show has a lot of potential and we'd love to come back next year." ART PLUS, UAE - Adnan Hakimuddin Vaid, Senior Graphic Designer.

The most positive side of this event was 95% of visitors returned to visit Decofair. 41% were among them either business owners, high net worth individuals or decision makers. 73% of trade visitors came to Decofair to make deals and meet with companies they were considering doing business with. The importance of interior design, support, encouragement was also the main theme of this year's Decofair. Visitors and exhibitors were delighted to get witnessed of eclectic variety of specialists.

The ideal platform for trade visitors, buyers and exhibitors got the opportunity to meet contacts face to face to better understand client needs. Decofair 2016 witnessed a committed and outstanding result.





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## DecorExpo

- Dedicated to International Furniture

The sole sectoral exhibition of furniture, home textile and houseware of Algeria, opened its gates to international and local visitors, Industry professionals and associations, with a great opening ceremony on November 23, 2016 at ALGERIA DECOREXPO. The show is the leading top trade show for Algeria fast growing furniture & decoration & housewares and electrical appliances markets. The event brought together the key players of the market, providing exhibitors valuable opportunities for face-to-face networking with both existing customers and potential partnerships. DECOREXPO has been serving furniture, decoration and houseware markets, offering

industry professionals a platform to explore cutting-edge tools and tips for success.

ALGERIA DECOREXPO is the leading trade show for Algeria fast growing furniture & decoration & housewares and electrical appliances markets. Over 300 B2B Meetings were performed during the exhibition between local companies and the exhibitors. DecorExpo was thankful to the MatchMaking system.

The fair has again proved itself this year by presenting most unique and innovative collections in furniture market. ALGERIA







DECOREXPO, an extraordinary platform has provided the visitors and along with all the exhibitors a different taste of decoration of furniture world. This professional show concluded their business with more than 90 participants and expectative number of visitors. 2016 ALGERIA DECOREXPO had been an incredible platform for the visitors and exhibitors worldwide. They got the opportunity to interact with the professionals and to connect with top brands and producers from around the world and discussed trending topics face-to-face. The business connections and signed agreements that were performed during the exhibition showed to all its participants that ALGERIA DECOREXPO is the most accurate platform to involve in.

Moreover, this year DecorExpo was the perfect way to enjoy unprecedented access to the marketplace and discover valuable market research, industry trends, and knowledge to give one's company a competitive edge. Both exhibitors and visitors got the opportunity to be a part of this unique event dedicated to the design, build, testing, and operation of furniture, decoration materials, housewares and electrical appliances. They also got benefit from a highly sophisticated route to market and engage with key clients and business partners in a highly professional environment.

Over all, the show witnessed a great success.



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## Salone del Mobile.Milano Shanghai sees a successful debut



The first edition of Salone del Mobile. Milano Shanghai closed with great success: 20,750 visitors came to

the show from the first tier regions of China and the central regions with strong growth rate, as Sichuan, Hubei and Henan. An important number that has confirmed the expectations of a project well pondered and tailor-made in the last 3 years to understand the Chinese market and answer to the growing needs of the Chinese consumers.

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This Salone has laid the foundations to strengthen the cultural and commercial bridge between Milan and Shanghai, Italy and China, and to continue to consolidate it by creating the best conditions for a dialogue that will

bring benefits to both parties. It was also a strong and important signal from the Italian System that has succeeded in unifying the maximum synergy between all sectors of Italian excellence, from fashion, food and beverage to automotive.

### **Pierre Charpin is Designer of the Year at MAISON&OBJET Paris**



Pierre Charpin has been named as Designer of the Year by MAISON&OBJET Paris for 2017 and will showcase his work in a self-designed hub at the fair in January.

The official statement by Maison & Objet reads as: “Whether he is designing a collection for Galerie Kréo, a line of vases for the Manufacture Nationale de Sèvres, a series of ottomans for Ligne Roset or lamps for Wrong. London, Pierre Charpin keeps his eye for plastic arts and stamps his unique style on every piece he designs: formal simplicity, softened by curved lines and often highlighted by distinctive chromatic choices. Clean and sensual, elegant and warm, his creations instantly elicit an emotional response.”

Referred to as “an explorer of heart”, Pierre Charpin was born in 1962 in the outskirts of Paris to a family of artists. He trained at the Bourges School of Fine Arts and developed his culture of design in Italy, working most notably alongside various figures from the Memphis Group.

Since the early 1990s, Pierre Charpin has dedicated his work to furniture and object design, all the while pursuing a variety of research projects on materials and taking design commissions for world-renowned brands – such as the likes of the likes of Alessi, Hermès, Ligne Roset and Hay.

### **Pantone reveals Greenery as 2017 Colour of the Year**



The Pantone Colour Institute has recently unveiled the 2017 Colour of the Year: Greenery. A refreshing and revitalising shade, Greenery

is symbolic of new beginnings.

Greenery – or Pantone 15-0343 – is a fresh and zesty yellow-green shade that evokes the first days of spring when nature’s greens revive, restore and renew. Illustrative of flourishing



foliage and the lushness of the great outdoors, the fortifying attributes of Greenery signals consumers to take a deep breath, oxygenate and reinvigorate.

The Pantone Colour Institute advises the fashion, product, interiors and packaging design industries on the use of colour in design. Since 2000, it has been choosing a colour of the year that reflects the current cultural climate. In the following year, the colour has historically influenced trends in all facets of design—architecture, interior décor, fashion, food, travel—the list goes on.

Leatrice Eiseman, Executive Director of the Pantone Colour Institute, says, “Greenery bursts forth in 2017 to provide us reassurance we yearn for amid a tumultuous social and political environment. Satisfying our growing desire to rejuvenate and revitalise, Greenery symbolises the reconnection we seek with nature, one another and a larger purpose.”

### **Greenery for Home Décor and Architecture:**

Open spaces in interior and exterior design and floor-to-ceiling windows allow the green outdoors to become part of a room’s backdrop and ambiance. Adding Greenery through living

walls, terrariums, botanically-themed wallpaper, paint, accent furniture and decor provides respite and breathing space. A Greenery-painted wall or piece of furniture delivers a pop of color, with the added benefit of creating the illusion of nature indoors.

Bringing the outside in, the shade – like the plant life it represents – can improve self-esteem, reduce anxiety and heighten awareness of one’s surroundings.

### **imm cologne accomplishes the Fourteenth Round of Pure Talents Contest**



The Pure Talents Contest at imm cologne is not a trend-based event but a platform for young talent to present their highly individual solutions. Original designs, intelligent solutions and sustainable products from young designers will be the main focus when the jury announces the winners. In the last 13 years, a total of 395 products from 494 designers from all over the world have been presented to the trade audience at imm cologne. Many of these products have found their way into the collections of well-known manufacturers following the fair.

The attempt to make economical use of resources, like materials and work, as well as formal elements, is especially current at the moment. Mobility and versatility are additional qualities that designers are seeking to realise in their product ideas. But they're even testing new approaches when working with natural structures, for example, when playing with wood grains or when a piece of cardboard furniture at once reveals its entirely unique material aesthetic and its natural origin, in the way the form of a stool reminds us of a tree stump.

The exhibition also features the fringe areas of design, in which the symbolic dimension of the object seems to supersede all other functions.

"The contest gave me a leg-up into the professional network in the furniture scene", comments designer Marco Dessí. "I got to know colleagues, people from the press and Richard Lampert – who saw my Prater chair and added it to his range. For me, everything began with this contest." Dessi added further.

The Pure Talents Contest is unrivalled in the world. Koelnmesse, the imm cologne organiser, offers the shortlisted participants help with the organisation of the special event, for which prototypes have to be produced and/

or transported. They also take on the costs of staging the talent show at imm cologne.

"Our aim is to support young designers as best as possible. For us, this support starts as soon as the shortlisting and the seven-days-long exhibition of their prototypes in Hall 3.1 at imm cologne", explains Arne Petersen, Vice President Trade Fair Management at Koelnmesse GmbH. "We invite the talented youngsters to present their designs at the event – and at no cost to them. The history of the Pure Talents Contest has shown that one or another product finds a producer and goes into serial production. Something which, of course, makes us very happy and, overall, underscores the importance of the contest for talented youngsters. Arne concluded.

The jurors' decision will be announced on January 16 at 2:00 p.m. at the prize-giving ceremony on "The Stage" (Hall 3.1). All of the shortlisted products can be seen at imm cologne from January 16 to 22 in Hall 3.1.

### **IKEA introduces 3D-knitted furniture**



The Swedish furniture company Ikea has revealed the PS 2017 armchair – their latest chair design that uses 3D knitting technology. It is a part of

the brand's PS collection which focuses on new techniques and experimentation with materials and sustainability.

The 3D-knitted chair features a mesh back and sides stretched across a powder-coated steel frame. Using a digital knitting process, that is more common in the footwear industry (most popularly used in Nike Flyknit shoes), the stretchy fabric mimics the comfort of a hammock and is designed to be semi-transparent and lightweight. The minimalist and compact design is meant to appeal to urban city-dwellers. It offers the sitter a very comfy, almost personalised sitting experience.

The 3D-knitting process is said to produce durable furniture that is able to withstand years of wear and tear as well as regular stretching.

Sarah Fager, one of Ikea's in-house designers, was responsible for the PS 2017 armchair's innovative design, and she credits 3D knitting technology as being an essential part of the chair's comfort and appearance. She says, "At IKEA we have been curious about this 3D knitting technique for some time. We have all seen it being used in those colorful sneakers and it's a really smart way to produce things, since it's fully automatised and this knitting machine

can be placed at any supplier to combine it with other materials in a product."

The 3D-knitting technology uses computer-controlled machines to knit fibres into complex, seamless shapes based on a digital design. Ikea's 3D knitting machines can reportedly work with wool, linen, cotton, and polyester.

The PS armchair comes in two different colours – pink or grey with a white or black frame. It will be available in the market from February 2017 onwards.

### **Kvadrat Soft Cells acquires Fabric Systems**



Kvadrat Soft Cells, one of the leading Danish producers of high performance acoustic solutions, has recently acquired the British acoustic manufacturer Fabric Systems.

The move will create a powerful textile acoustics entity, which will be able to offer full service in aesthetic, high quality acoustic solutions.

With the merger everything from design development, production, logistics and on-site installation will be controlled and serviced in-



house. Resulting in becoming more agile on the production side and combined with an extended dedicated team of acoustic professionals, it will guarantee a very high service level to both existing and new clients.

With the addition of the product lines of Fabric Systems, Kvadrat Soft Cells will have one of the most compelling offerings in textile acoustics in the market: ranging from complex custom-made solutions to standard post-fit panels. Both available in Kvadrat textiles, the solutions of Kvadrat Soft Cells and Fabric Systems, complement each other, both functionally and aesthetically.

Arne Molberg, CEO Kvadrat Soft Cells, states, “I am delighted that Kvadrat Soft Cells and Fabric Systems in the UK will now come together as one strong team for the textile acoustics market in the UK. With Fabric Systems’ proven track record and strong network in the British building industry, and Kvadrat Soft Cells’ strong presence in the A&D segment we expect our team to be able service current and new client with a full concept approach.”

Rob Berryman will stay on board for the longer term and reinvest a part of his shares in the new Kvadrat Soft Cells.

The acquisition of Fabric Systems reaffirms Kvadrat’s strong commitment to the UK market, next to the business entity Kvadrat Ltd, founded in 1987 in London and its majority stake of the British textile mill Wooltex, which is producing more than 85% of Kvadrat’s woolen textile offering.

Molberg adds, “The merger adds nicely to our ambitious growth plans for Kvadrat Soft Cells, where Fabric Systems will be a great asset to our global portfolio.”

### **German footwear brand to reveal new bedding range at imm**



One of Germany’s leading footwear manufacturers, Birkenstock is soon going to enter the beds and mattresses market, with their official launch set to happen at imm cologne from January 16 to 22, 2017.

Birkenstock will reveal beds, slatted frames and mattresses at the international show in Cologne, a result of its partnership with Austria’s largest upholstery manufacturer ADA to develop sleep systems that will be produced at the ADA headquarters in the eastern Austrian state of Styria.

“Beds are a logical next step from footbeds. Just like our feet, the spine is part of our musculoskeletal system. It therefore makes perfect sense for Birkenstock, the inventor of the footbed, to add feel-good sleep systems to its product portfolio,” the company said in a statement.

Birkenstock will market the products through retailers in Europe, Asia and the U.S. The first products will be delivered to retailers at the end of the second quarter of 2017. Birkenstock will look to attract distribution partners in Europe and abroad and offer partner programs to qualified furniture and bed retailers.

### January Furniture Show gets acquired by Clarion Events



Clarion Events has recently acquired January Furniture Shows Ltd, the organisation behind the successful furniture shows in the NEC and Manchester.

The partnership secures the long term future of the events by bringing together the deep market knowledge and relationships of the founders Laraine Janes & Theresa Raymond,

with Clarion’s resources and marketing expertise in delivering world class retail B2B events. Laraine & Theresa have been involved with furniture fairs for more than 30 years and will continue to run the events with the support of their highly regarded team.

Laraine Janes shared, “We are delighted to become part of Clarion and we see the partnership, with such a well-respected organiser, as a very positive step for the furniture industry. Clarion have a real understanding of the retail and furniture market and how our events work, their impressive series of B2B retail buying events play a crucial role in the retail supply chain, including Home & Gift, Harrogate and Top Drawer. Clarion’s forward-thinking leadership, proven experience and extensive resources will allow us to maximise the potential of both shows.”

Neil Gaisford, Managing Director – Retail Division, Clarion Events said “This is an exciting acquisition for Clarion, bringing together the market leading furniture events and Clarion’s resources, expertise and successful retail B2B shows. Laraine and Theresa have built up a strong business and we are looking forward to a successful collaboration to serve the UK’s furniture industry.”

## LivingKitchen 2017 to focus on contemporary kitchen trends



LivingKitchen has become the most important barometer of trends in the kitchen sector, presenting everything that's new in the field of holistic,

domestic kitchen design. From countertops to personal concert halls through to baking thermometers, an inspiring selection of current trends can be found in Cologne.

With its revolutionary material "Dekton", the Spanish company Cosentino has developed a landmark product for the world of architecture and design. Dekton presents unique properties, which suggest an almost infinite range of uses – for example, the composite material can be used in countertops, flooring, wall coverings or facade cladding. Cosentino works together with renowned designers, such as American architect Daniel Libeskind and product designer Steffen Kehrle from Munich, Germany.

The long-established company Neff puts people and their requirements at the heart of its designs. At LivingKitchen 2017, Neff will be presenting its so-called "creative" extractor

fan for the first time. Pictures and cookbooks can be rested on the new angled, flat or box-shaped wall-mounted extractor unit, postcards can be attached to it using magnets and personal notes can even be written on its surface. The cooking space is also personalised by three attractive colour options – the choices available are black, green and orange.

Furthermore, the creative extractor hood is a good example of the trend for integrating technical design, information and entertainment features into the actual kitchen furniture and appliances themselves. With the creative extractor unit's AmbientLight function, it is possible to select the ideal colour for every setting from 31 different shades. Consequently, the slender hood makes quite a visual impression. The fact that automatic adjustments to the operation of the extractor hood and hob can be made over WLAN is, conversely, a more practical benefit.

Hidden, built-in electronics are turning all conceivable kitchen furniture surfaces, such as stone, glass, wood or wood-based materials, into fantastic resonance speakers. The sound comes directly from wall units or floor units, countertop work surfaces or tables. In combination with customisable light settings



thanks to integrated LED components, the new audio options invite homeowners to enjoy the ambience when spending time at the stove and at the table. Both features are easy to control using a smartphone or tablet. There are no limits to the possibilities: radio, audio books, classical music, punk, pop or rock 'n' roll, with an appropriate choice of customised lighting to suit. This way, the kitchen finally becomes the centre of family life and the focus of any party.

It is the key requirement of modern kitchen design that the kitchen should be understood as a living space, which not only allows appliances, work surfaces and space to be used efficiently, but which is equally welcoming as a place to linger, to chat, and is somewhere social life can take place. LivingKitchen offers design enthusiasts and interested end consumers a variety of inspiring ways in which to achieve this objective.

### **Acrobat table lamp wins German Design Award 2017**



Created by French designer Marc Venot, Acrobat is an oblong-shaped table lamp from Normann Copenhagen

which has won the German Design Award 2017 for Excellent Product Design in Lighting.

Acrobat has a playful, friendly and futuristic feel. Venot has created an innovative lamp that can be placed both vertically and horizontally in a vast number of positions. The transparent front has a matte finish, enabling Acrobat to spread a soft, diffused light and making it ideal for creating a calm and cosy atmosphere in the room.

The award jury stated: "The Acrobat is distinguished by a surprisingly incisive design language that makes it very distinctive. The position of the luminaire can also be altered as desired, which not only provides variety but also gives the design a delightful touch of playfulness."

The German Design Award is a highly respected international design prize that discovers, presents and acknowledges unique design talents.

### **Newmor Wallcoverings celebrates 50th anniversary in 2017**

Newmor, the Welsh based manufacturing

group, marks their Golden Anniversary in 2017. Founded in 1967 by John Morris, the family run business is now operated in two divisions run by John's grandsons.

Newmor Wallcoverings, headed by Toby Morris has built a world-wide reputation in supplying high quality contract wallcoverings to the hospitality sector and Morland, established in 1972 headed by James Morris is the UK's largest manufacturer of prefinished fit out products.

Operating from multiple sites, both divisions use traditional manufacturing techniques alongside cutting-edge technology to ensure design integrity and quality.

Besides having their own sales offices in the UK, Poland, Germany, Dubai, Singapore and Hong Kong, Newmor also work with a well-established international distributor network. Currently operating in over 70 countries worldwide, Newmor has supplied to thousands of hotel groups, interior designers and architects all over the world.

The 50th year anniversary celebrations at Heimtextil, the international trade fair for

interior design and trends, that runs from January 10 to 13 at Messe Frankfurt. Newmor will be hosting their biggest product launch yet during the show. Further new products are planned for the spring, which includes the launch of a new residential textures collection under the John Morris brand.

In the summer of 2017, Newmor will take the opportunity to thank their loyal workforce by hosting a Garden Party at Powis Castle in Welshpool. Attended by customers and dignitaries including the Earl of Powis, the 24th June is sure to be the key social event in this picturesque Welsh town.

Known for their fundraising activity, this year Newmor has chosen The Prince's Trust as its main charity. "As a major employer in the town, we feel as well as supporting our long-established work force it is vital to support young talent and unlock their potential. We felt that supporting HRH The Prince Of Wales charity would be a fitting tribute to our Welsh heritage" explains Commercial Director, David Johnston.

The Golden Anniversary year of Newmor is set to be a landmark year for the business, in

terms of new product innovation and investment in their people and plants. The business is dedicated to cover the world with endless inspirational design possibilities.

### **Häcker Kitchens has a record turnover of 512 million euros in 2016**



The year 2016 was a record year for Häcker Kitchens. With a turnover of 512 million euros, the

Rödinghausen-based company has for the first time exceeded the sales mark of 500 million euros. This outstanding business performance is the result of a long-term growth strategy which the company intends to successfully continue in 2017.

With a 9.9% increase in sales to 512 million euros compared to last year (2015: 466 million euros), Häcker Kitchens has managed to exceed its forecasted sales. This record figure is due to an exceptionally good business performance both in Germany as well as on the international markets. Whilst the domestic growth figure of 6.7% lies considerably above the industry average, Häcker Kitchens even managed to achieve a double-digit growth figure with the

international export side of the business: the company's sales abroad went up by 16.3%. The international business is now worth more than 200 million euros – or 39.5% of the company's total sales.

To secure the growth strategy long-term, substantial investments will be made in 2017: around 36 million euros have been earmarked for the management side of the business and for machinery.

Dirk Krupka, Häcker Kitchens' technology manager, says, "The foundations of our new office building and showroom were laid in the summer of 2016, and the shell and core works are currently under way. The new Häcker Kitchens building at the company's headquarters in Rödinghausen will provide 7,500 square metres of floor space for new offices, training rooms and a showroom extension."

Häcker Kitchens is in an excellent position for 2017 and the future thereafter. This year's first important date is already on the agenda: Under the motto "Elements", Häcker Kitchens will present the company's new product highlights for 2017 at the international kitchen event LivingKitchen in Cologne.



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Jan 10-15, 2017

**ISMOB**

Istanbul, Turkey

Tuyap Fairs

<http://ismob.com.tr/>

Jan 12-15, 2017

**Bahrain International Modern House**

Bahrain, UAE

First Target

[www.ftbh.net/bahrain-international-expo-17](http://www.ftbh.net/bahrain-international-expo-17)



Jan 16-22, 2017

**imm Cologne**

Cologne, Germany

Koelnmesse

<http://www.imm-cologne.com>



Jan 22-25, 2017

**January Furniture Show**

Birmingham, United Kingdom  
The January Furniture Show Limited  
[www.januaryfurnitureshow.com](http://www.januaryfurnitureshow.com)

Jan 24-29, 2017

**Imob**

Istanbul, Turkey  
CNR Expo  
<http://cnrimob.com/>



Feb 07-11, 2017

**Stockholm Furniture Fair**

Stockholm, Sweden  
Stockholmsmässan  
[www.stockholmfurniturelightfair.se](http://www.stockholmfurniturelightfair.se)





Feb 13-15, 2017

**IDF Oman**

Muscat, Oman

Al Nimr Expo

[www.idfoman.com/](http://www.idfoman.com/)

Feb 21-24, 2017

**Habitat Valencia**

Valencia, Spain

Feria Hábitat Valencia

<http://www.feriahabitatvalencia.com/en/>



Mar 01-03, 2017

**Mebel Expo**

Tashkent, Uzbekistan

ITE

[www.mebelexpo.uz](http://www.mebelexpo.uz)



Mar 07-09, 2017

**DIFAC**

Dubai, UAE

Strategic Marketing & Exhibitions

<http://difac-me.com/>

Mar 08-11, 2017

**Malaysian International Furniture Fair**

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

UBM

<http://2017.miff.com.my/>



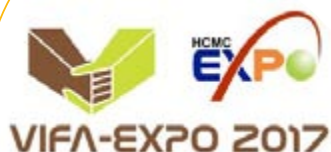
Mar 08-11, 2017

**Export Furniture Fair**

Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

EFE Expo Sdn Bhd

[www.efe.my](http://www.efe.my)



Mar 08-11, 2017

**VIFA**

HCMC, Vietnam

Hawa Corporation

<http://www.vifafair.com/>

Mar 08-11, 2017

**Design Shanghai**

Shanghai, China

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[www.designshanghai.com/](http://www.designshanghai.com/)

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SHANGHAI

设计上海

**PHILIPPINES**  
INTERNATIONAL FURNITURE SHOW

Mar 09-11, 2017

**PIFS**

Manila, Philippines

GLOBAL-LINK EXHIBITIONS

SPECIALIST INC.

<http://www.pifs.ph/#>





Mar 09-12, 2017

**IFFS Singapore**  
Singapore, Singapore  
IFFS  
[www.iffs.com.sg](http://www.iffs.com.sg)

Mar 14-17, 2017

**Meble Polska**  
Poznan, Poland  
MTP  
<http://meble.mtp.pl/>



Mar 15-18, 2017

**KIFF**  
Kiev, Ukraine  
Meridyen International Fair  
Organizer Co. Ltd.  
[www.kiff.kiev.ua](http://www.kiff.kiev.ua)



Mar 16-20, 2017

**IFM**

Donguan, China  
Famous Furniture  
Association

<http://www.gde3f.com/en/>

Mar 23-26, 2017

**For Furniture**

Prague, Czech Republic  
ABF

<http://forfurniture.cz/>



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