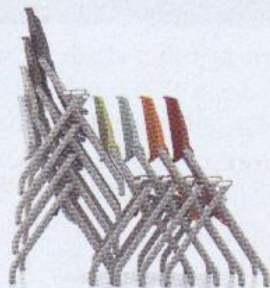


# LOOKING AHEAD TO NEOCON '10



◆ Allsteel's Seek (above and at right) is a lightweight but durable chair for multi-purpose spaces that stacks to a height of four, can be nested, and can also be simultaneously stacked and nested. It does even more to save space by eliminating the need for the cart-stacks of caster-mounted Seeks can be easily wheeled from one place to another. Designed with a comfortable, flexing back, the chair is available with or without arms.



◆ WoodWorks Grille, the newest addition to Armstrong Ceilings' WoodWorks collection, combines aesthetic appeal with acoustic benefits: when backed with a 1"-thick acoustical infill, it absorbs 90 per cent of the sound that strikes it. There are two standard blade heights (1 3/8" and 2 1/4") and a choice of four finishes. It can also be specified in 1' x 8' panels with six or eight blades per foot. Applications include office, higher education, hospitality and retail.

NeoCon, the main North American event in the world of contract furniture and interior design materials and finishes, will take place at Chicago's Merchandise Mart June 14 to 16. Here's a preview of some of the new products that will be on display in the showrooms. Versatile furniture intended for informal meeting rooms and multi-purpose areas is clearly something that many manufacturers are targeting, and the words "collaborative spaces" seem to figure prominently in virtually every media release this year. Extensive information about NeoCon 2010's exhibitors, seminars, tours and educational programs can be found at [www.neocon.com](http://www.neocon.com).



◆ Teknion is officially launching dna, a collection of modular lounge seating and tables that it previewed last year. Created by Denmark's Acer Design in partnership with Teknion's in-house team, dna is well suited to informal, collaborative spaces that are becoming increasingly important alternatives to designated desks in this post-cubicle era. Optional bolsters may be positioned left, right or centre on the separate benches; integrated or freestanding tables can be part of the configuration to provide support for laptops and access to power and data.



◆ Shaw Contract Group will be highlighting additions to its Mix It Up broadloom and carpet tile collections. New tile designs include Catalyst and Hybrid, shown installed together above. Tiles incorporate EcoWorx backing with pre- and post-consumer content.

◆ Textile manufacturer Carnegie has introduced X-Protect Barrier Backing for its anti-microbial Xorel line of textiles, which are suitable for settings that include healthcare facilities. The new protective backing prevents stains from penetrating through to the foam and also blocks the passage of dust mites and microscopic allergenic matter.

◆ Michael Vanderbyl has a long history of handling graphic and booth design projects for Teknion, and this year the company is introducing his Vignette seating and tables. Pieces include the Cube lounge chair, two- and three-seat sofas, and the Swivel lounge chair. Contemporary and rather residential in character, Vignette is suitable for corporate spaces such as private offices, reception areas and informal meeting areas.



◆ An enduring industry leader in wood contract furniture, Gunlocke pays tribute to its own heritage with Mara Seating. Mid-20th-century modernism in general and a popular 1960s Gunlocke chair in particular inspired this upholstered wood side chair. Combining steambent maple craftsmanship with an attractive price point, Mara is available in nine cherry finishes, three walnut finishes and three maple finishes.



◆ New from Coalesse is the Enea Lottus Collection of chairs, tables and stools. Designed by Barcelona-based design trio Lievore Altherr Molina for Enea of Spain, the line is suitable for spaces ranging from meeting spaces to cafeterias. Stools are available in cafe, counter and bar-height options. Painted metal bases can match the neutral colour options for the plastic seat shells or contrast with the vivid ones.