A BOLD Move in New York City

Crye Precision’s connection to the BOLD One desk didn’t follow the typical office furniture sales model, but is an interesting story about the growing power of the internet.
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10 UPFRONT: Workrite ‘Family’ Devastated by California Fires
Several Workrite employees lost their homes. Luckily, none of those employees lost their lives.

34 A BOLD Move in New York City
Crye Precision was looking for a height-adjustable desk for its offices but didn’t want one that would look the same as everyone else’s.

40 Inspired by an Illustrious Past, COCO Adapts to Serve a New Generation
Built in 1903 and spanning an entire city block, the Minneapolis Grain Exchange was a marketplace to promote fair trade of wheat, oats and corn.

< The kitchen at COCO
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The Business of Furniture

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Business of Furniture and Workplaces magazine are the go-to sources for keeping you informed about everything that is happening in the industry. From trends that affect your bottom line, to new products that will help your customers work better, to stories that will help you run a better, more informed company. ROB KIRKBRIDE, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

THIS TIME OF YEAR MAKES US ALL FEEL LIKE KIDS AGAIN!

LET’S PUT OUT A SPECIAL HALLOWEEN EDITION AND DO A FEATURE ON THE SCARIEST SHOWROOMS IN THE WORLD!

AFTER THANKSGIVING PERHAPS AN ARTICLE ON EXTRA WIDE SEATING?

AND IN DECEMBER HOW ABOUT A PIECE ON SANTA’S OFFICE FURNITURE? HE MUST HAVE AN AMAZING STUDIO!!

HUTCH
OMT-Veyhl, an ergonomic office furniture maker, invited three area schools to its plant in Holland, Michigan, for the 2017 West Michigan’s Manufacturing Week to inspire students to pursue a career in manufacturing.

According to The Manufacturing Institute, by 2030, 77 percent of skilled baby boomers will have left the (manufacturing) workforce, contributing to a hiring crisis the industry is already experiencing.

A major takeaway the company wanted for each student was to understand a main goal of Manufacturing Week: Inspire the next generation to consider and pursue manufacturing careers.

The visits showed students the type of manufacturing that occurs in the facility and how each of the many facets within manufacturing plays a role in the end product. They explained to students how a career in manufacturing is important for both local and global economies.

Three days were dedicated to hosting schools, including West Ottawa High School, Pioneer Tech High School and Careerline Tech’s auto body classes, all in Holland.

Manufacturing Day is a national day with a purpose of addressing common misconceptions about manufacturing. West Michigan makes it into a week-long event of open houses, public tours and other events. This year’s event occurred the first week of October. According to MFG.com, 77 hosts, 40 schools and 3,100 students participated.

Money raised by Workwell Partners at a recent charity event will benefit Hope for Warriors, a nonprofit which provides support programs for service members, veterans and military families.
that focus on transition, health and wellness.

The event raised $10,500 earlier this month at the Public House restaurant in New York City. It will be used in a number of ways, including meals for a spouse visiting a wounded service member in the hospital, childcare for a service member attending doctor appointments, travel and lodging to treatment facilities and handcycles for wounded service members.

Workwell Partners also supported the charity in 2017 with a school supply collection that gathered backpacks and school supplies for families in the North Carolina area and the Big Apple Run For The Warriors.

To learn more about the charity, visit www.hopeforthewarriors.org.

MANUFACTURER

National Office Furniture Donates Benches to Just Cause

National Office Furniture, a unit of Kimball International, Inc., donated two benches to Just Cause, a community organization whose mission is to assist families in planning and constructing safe and recreational environments. National employees at their Jasper, Indiana, manufacturing facility collected lids that were then recycled into these benches. These two benches were donated to the Maple Grove Trailer Park in Jasper as part of a continued effort by Just Cause to raise funds to build and maintain healthy and safe areas of play for children and families.

“These days are always my best days at work when we are able to give back to the communities in which we live and work,” said Angie Kleinhelter, National’s Director of Human Resources.
“Helping our future generation of tomorrow is what it is all about.”

In addition to the bench donation, Kimball International also made a monetary donation to help assist with the further development of the playground area and surrounding spaces. When complete, the Maple Grove Trailer Park location will have multiple recreation areas and a shelter house.

“When Kimball International learned of the mission of Just Cause, we wanted to help, said Lonnie Nicholson, Kimball International VP and Chief Administrative Officer. Our core values of family, safety, healthy active lifestyle, and environmental stewardship fit with a neighborhood playground.”

WALLCOVERING

Versa Wallcovering Taps Metro to Distribute in Canada

Versa Wallcovering is transferring Canadian distribution of its 2,000-plus product line to Metro Wallcoverings.

Metro, based in Concord, Ontario, will offer Versa’s complete line of sustainable vinyl wallcoverings and VersaGuard flexible wall protection throughout Canada.

The brand is known for its fresh aesthetics and usability that suits commercial, office, hospitality, health care, retail and institutional interiors. It is produced by LSI Wallcovering, a global design leader based in Louisville, Kentucky, that has innovated wall finishes for more than six decades.

LSI leadership has helped shape an ecological vision for the North American wallcoverings market, and in 2014, won the industry’s highest honor, the Allman Award. For 30-plus years, LSI has been involved at every level of industry action, from developing standards to improving materials to creating educational tools for specifiers. The company is helping create product category rules and environmental product declarations for the global wallcoverings market. LSI was one of the first companies to adopt water-based inks and to make its entire line low-VOC. In 2006, the global manufacturer invented Second-Look, the first recycling technology for post-consumer wallcovering.

CAREERS

Inscape Appoints Vice President of Marketing

Inscape has appointed David Gerson as vice president of marketing. He will lead Inscape’s product marketing, sales training and development and communications and market insights teams.

Before joining Inscape, Gerson held senior management roles in marketing, customer relations and sales development during his 15 years at Interface, most recently as vice president, marketing. “His proven leadership ability and extensive experience working with the architectural and design communities will be instrumental in growing awareness of Inscape’s workspace solutions,” says Brian Mirsky, CEO.
Gerson looks forward to building on the rich history of providing innovative products for the commercial interiors industry. “There is so much potential for growing the Inscape brand across North America,” he says.

**CAREERS**

**Spellman Brady Hires Samantha Golden**

Samantha Golden has joined Spellman Brady and Company as a designer. In this role, she will be developing interior design solutions for the senior living market sector.

Golden has five years of interior design experience in the hospitality industry, which is valuable in the changing environments she designs. She is a graduate of Southeast Missouri State University where she earned a Bachelor of Science degree in interior design and minor in architectural design.

**CAREERS**

**Richard M. Miller Joins Hoefer Wysocki as Partner**

Richard Munson Miller, has joined Hoefer Wysocki, as a partner. Based in the firm’s Dallas, Texas, office, he serves as the national leader for the firm’s higher education practice.

Throughout the course of his 30-year career, Miller has been responsible for the completion of more than 40 major university projects at more than 28 institutions totaling more than $1 billion in construction.

Prior to joining Hoefer Wysocki, Miller served as a founding principal and South-west Regional Practice Leader of Perkins+Will’s Texas Higher Education Practice, and principal and National Higher Education Market Sector Leader for Ellerbe Becket.

**CAREERS**

**IDSA executive Director to Retire**

Daniel Martinage plans to retire as the Industrial Designers Society of America executive director Feb. 28. “Serving as the Society’s staff lead has truly been an honor and, in some very important ways, life changing,” says Martinage, who assumed the post in 2013 and joined the board the year he was hired. “When I came on board as ED, my understanding and appreciation for the industrial design profession was limited, but I realized very early on that an industrial designer — to some degree — touches everything around me. I learned something new every day while at IDSA and have met literally hundreds of unique and creative people.”

Megan Neese, IDSA board of directors chair, says Martinage’s leadership and engagement with IDSA staff, members, sponsors and partners has helped shape the IDSA community of today. “I have had the fortune of watching his work over time,” Neese says. “When he joined IDSA we presented him with a fair number of challenges and some big goals. One thing in particular that I want to highlight is that he has been instrumental in helping us to build and protect an increasing financial reserve. This has helped position us for the future and enables us to take on new risks and challenges.”