

# INTERIORS



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## Top 40

### Canadian Interiors presents our 40 top picks for new and innovative office furnishings.

The preview for most new North American contract furnishings is NeoCon, staged at the massive Merchandise Mart in Chicago in June. For Canadian architects and designers, IIDEX/NeoCon Canada in Toronto in September is a second chance to view a selection of new, and sometimes refined over the summer, products aimed at the contract market.

Then every second year in October, European manufacturers target product launches for Orgatec, held in sprawling exhibition halls in Cologne, Germany.

Our intrepid editors visited these three shows to view new products and report on trends including: a residential look for office furnishings, as people spend longer hours at work, their environments will take on domestic sensibilities; along the same line, multi-functional seating where hand rests

turn into head rests; multi-functional storage/room partitioning with acoustic, lighting and image projection potential; more intelligent seating responding to body movements rather than adjusted by levers; extendable table/work surfaces as well as occasional tables that fit together for communal tasking; dark wood and aluminum as well as pastels and translucency; slick lacquered surfaces teamed with soft upholstery for seating; smart carpeting with semi conductors; metallic threads in textiles and carpeting; carpet tiles that are woven and require little or no glue; continued emphasis on green manufacturing and more products produced from recycled material or products that can be partially or fully recycled.

The following are some of the new products selected by our editorial team that best exemplify the innovative trends seen. □