

# BEST OF PRODUCTS 2022

AN  
Best of  
Products

The Architect's Newspaper  
[archpaper.com](http://archpaper.com)

It is with great excitement that we announce the winners of *The Architect's Newspaper's* 8th Annual Best of Products Awards. With our strongest pool of applicants to date, finalizing these winners, honorable mentions, and editors' picks was no easy task. Our esteemed jury (see right) arrived at the following lineup through careful conversations informed by their vast and varied experience in architecture and design practice, education, and publishing. From structural systems to design software to acoustic solutions to decorative lighting, *AN's* recognition represents the best in show across the broad spectrum of products that, when used well, work in harmony to construct our built environment.

A connecting theme that unites these products is sustainability—in particular, manufacturers have re-engineered their product lifecycles to ensure that their production lines consider waste, scarcity, and emissions. As a result of this initiative, we've seen the advent of new, innovative materials as well as several reissues of classic designs that have been improved to meet today's green standards. In the outdoor products space in particular, which saw a sharp increase in demand during the pandemic, we noticed a push to deliver unique designs that performed at high levels of sustainability and durability.

We were also excited by the resurgence of workplace-related products. Although a big question mark has loomed over the future of the office since the onset of the pandemic, the quantity and ingenuity of commercial and contract furnishings, surfaces, lighting, and technologies seen during this jurying process made it clear that architectural products manufacturers are making renewed efforts to revive the workplace.

Overall, it seems that the grip of the pandemic over the design industry has eased considerably. Compared to 2021, the tone of this year's submissions was confident and forward-thinking, far less focused on urgent responses and more so on moving forward to a new, improved, and more flexible normal. This desire for flexibility has also driven a wide expansion of product options and increased customization capabilities. Flip through the following pages and you'll find a treasure trove of new color palettes, textures, stains, and sizes.

Whether you're on the products hunt for your next project or perusing the state of the industry, pay attention to the forces driving these designs and the momentum they've created.

Congratulations to all the manufacturers lauded in this issue. We look forward to seeing what's next.

Sophie Aliece Hollis



**David Rockwell**  
Founder  
Rockwell Group



**Alison Von Glinow**  
Cofounder  
Kwong Von Glinow



**Melissa Brillhart**  
Principal  
Brillhart Architecture



**Igor Siddiqui**  
Architect/Associate Professor  
University of Texas at Austin



**Tal Schori**  
Cofounder  
GRT Architects



**Lauren Rottet**  
Principal  
Rottet Studio



**Aaron Seward**  
Editor in Chief  
*The Architect's Newspaper*



**Sophie Aliece Hollis**  
Market Editor  
*The Architect's Newspaper*

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**This spread:** BottleFloor by Shaw Contract. Courtesy Shaw Contract.

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Rethinking  
building skins



# Rieder

Vivid concrete facade  
made of öko skin slats.

*rieder.cc* made in the US



Courtesy Vibia

# Winners

## Introduction

Architects design buildings. But these constructions do not emerge into the world fully formed; rather, they're made up of hundreds or thousands of components, each of which must be manufactured, specified, detailed, ordered, shipped, delivered, installed, used, and maintained. AN's Best of Products awards program recognizes the makers who create the many constituent elements that become successful buildings and landscapes. From the inner layers of wall assemblies to the finishing touches of furniture or hardware, designers face a series of decisions about the items that constitute their work. For projects to succeed in both durability and appearance, finding the right specification makes all the difference. It can be a hard search, but the recognized products on the following pages make the task a bit easier.



## Interior Flooring



**Bottle Floor**  
Shaw Contract  
[shawcontract.com](http://shawcontract.com)

Bottle Floor is an innovative hybrid flooring product with a felted appearance that blends the best attributes of hard and soft surfaces. This unique platform solves many challenges found in the built environment—slip resistance, acoustic absorption, and comfort underfoot—while also having the durability to withstand heavy traffic and rolling loads like a traditional hard surface product. Every square yard of Bottle Floor contains an average of 61 recycled plastic bottles. This innovative construction is part of Shaw Contract’s commitment to circularity—practicing a regenerative, closed-loop approach to sustainability. The felted visual creates a clean, elegant, and understated aesthetic that performs.

**“Bottle Floor’s lifecycle story was hard to beat. Also, the performance characteristics of a hard surface with a softer look and feel was interesting.”**  
—Aaron Seward

## Interior Walls, Countertops & Surfaces



**Lagom Curvy**  
Stone Source  
[stonesource.com](http://stonesource.com)

Fluidity and balance are at the core of this ceramic tile collection. This extruded ceramic body tile named Curvy has a round appearance emulating the look and feel of the prestigious Venetian palaces of the 1970s, as well as the residential homes of the time. Simplistic in style, this matte tile is available in an inviting and elegant range of six neutrals from white to charcoal. Curvy creates a retro contemporary aesthetic, appealing for today’s modern interiors.

**“This product is well designed without having too much of a signature. It’s almost like a really beautifully interpreted, 3D Alvar Aalto tile.”**—Igor Siddiqui

## Commercial Furnishings



**Vaask**  
Vaask  
vaask.com

The pandemic exposed the design failure of traditional hand sanitizer—constant messes and drips, foul-smelling gels that dry out hands, a reliance on single-use plastics, and always-empty automatic dispensers. With so many issues, it's no surprise that many people avoid hand sanitizer, even though our hands transmit 80% of illnesses. Introducing Vaask, the hand sanitizing fixture that is the superior solution for hand hygiene. Vaask makes hand hygiene desirable thanks to its minimalist design and elegant, cast aluminum construction that looks at home in the most sophisticated spaces. Vaask also helps sustainably minded companies achieve their goals. The U.S.-manufactured fixture is built to last, replacing the endless array of single-use plastic hand sanitizer bottles. Vaask's sanitizer cartridges are also extra-large—more than twice the typical dispenser—because it is less resource intensive to manufacture one large plastic container than numerous small ones.

**“I think this is an elegantly designed solution to the new(ish) need for quick sanitation. It's far more architectural than a mess of squeeze bottles.”**—Aaron Seward

## Outdoor Furnishings



**Take-Out**  
Landscape Forms  
landscapeforms.com

Connected seat dining tables are beloved for their hallmark simplicity, but often lack the versatility to create dynamic, adaptable outdoor settings. This is where Take-Out comes in. Designed by Rodrigo Torres, Take-Out expands the scope of the connected seat concept, bringing modern refinement, simplified lines and—most importantly—adaptability to the category. Light enough to be picked up, arranged, and rearranged, Take-Out simplifies the creation of multifunctional outdoor settings, offering a multitude of ways for people to connect through a simple and elegant site furnishing—face-to-face or abreast, for an intimate chat or a large group gathering. Take-Out is comprised of five different yet compatible silhouettes: a single-seater, a double-seater, a triple-seater, and two triple-seaters with wheelchair access on either the left or right side. Take-Out modules are equally suited to stand alone or work together in myriad arrangements.

**“I like how these tables can read together like a traditional picnic table but evoke a completely different aesthetic when separate, an almost outdoor workstation”**

—Tal Schori

# Residential Furnishings



**Boa Pouf by Sabine Marcelis**  
Hem  
[us.hem.com](http://us.hem.com)

The donut-shaped Boa Pouf by Sabine Marcelis is perfectly sculptural; a bold graphic form that interrupts interior landscapes with its faultless chunky geometry. This piece of upholstered occasional furniture is rounded and soft, encased in a seamless outer layer that gives it an air-brushed finish: The smooth shape-knit textile that covers the Boa Pouf is a milestone in technologically innovative furniture making. Advancing sustainable design practice, the technique produces no scrap fabric, significantly reducing production waste. Boa Pouf is as perfect for perching on, propping up feet, and lounging against as it is for making a sculptural statement and is the ideal expression of designer Sabine Marcelis, whose work is characterized by resonating clear, single notes of absolute material, textile, and color.

**“The color offerings are really fun, which makes sense as Sabine Marcelis is known for that. The shape seems nice and inviting. It can go anywhere.”**—Sophie Aliece Hollis

## Textiles



**Chromalis by Bradley L Bowers**  
Wolf-Gordon  
[wolfgordon.com](http://wolfgordon.com)

Chromalis by Bradley L Bowers is an exploration of color, shape, and movement, imparting dimension on three upholstery textiles and one wallcovering. Chromalis is produced via digital modeling software and creatively influenced by a variety of Bowers' personal interests including art, gardening, and thermodynamics. The digitally printed wallcovering, Borealis, is a gradient pattern inspired by the spectacular color and light phenomenon, the Aurora Borealis, while Graffito, one of three upholstery textiles, takes references from impressionism and street art. The simplest, but no less striking is Phantom, the upholstery textile that creates a moiré effect through an algorithm that generates intersecting lines. And lastly Fauna—inspired by aerial shots of a landscape—where Bowers manipulated mediums to transform the pattern through perspective and geometry. The four patterns were accomplished through a series of conditions that Bowers was able to communicate and bring to life through his computer.

**“This was a strong example of the intersection between digital design and textile manufacturing, and the juxtaposition of this digital look against antique furniture is really choice.”**—Aaron Seward

# Bathroom Appliances & Plumbing



**Sailing**  
Fantini  
[fantini.it/en-us](http://fantini.it/en-us)

Sailing's subtly horn-shaped faucet handles and sleek spout are a poetic reinterpretation of the most classic form of boat cleats, necessary fixtures for securing watercrafts by rope. The designers drew inspiration from Fantini's native Lake Orta in Northern Italy. In the care of the design team, the transformative power of a day on the crystal-clear water became the story of Sailing, and a functional naval shape was transformed into a sleek bathroom accent. As the collection is observed, the understated design reveals its enticing edges and thoughtful carve-outs, design undercurrents which emphasize water as both the brand's birthplace and spirit of their craft.

**"I'm always a fan when somebody finds a timeless source of inspiration and makes it contemporary in a way that's not silly. This felt like a sophisticated interpretation of that source material. Also, sailing is a water activity, which is a nice reference point for a fixture collection."**—Tal Schori

# HVAC Appliances



**Inverter Heat Pump Water Heater**  
LG Electronics USA, Inc.  
[lg.com](http://lg.com)

The LG Inverter Heat Pump Water Heater packages innovative inverter and heat pump motor technology into a sleek, energy-efficient, ENERGY STAR certified water heating solution. This heat pump water heater minimizes the need for supplemental electric resistance heat, saving on electrical consumption across a wider operating range and bringing state-of-the-art innovation and out-of-the-box thinking to something as familiar as water heating. Integrated with LG inverter heat pump technology, the LG water heater achieves an ENERGY STAR certified efficiency of 3.75 UEF (Uniform Energy Factor), a significant improvement over conventional gas and electric resistance water heaters that operate at 0.65–0.95 UEF. Supporting a first-hour delivery rate of 66 gallons and a first-hour delivery of 80 gallons when in "Turbo Mode," this water heater demonstrates powerful performance compared to market alternatives with first-hour delivery rates below 70 gallons.

**"For residential projects, these are very visible products. It's nice to see the design so carefully considered."**—Alison Von Glinow

## Kitchen Appliances



### 36" XT Induction Built-in Cooktop with Integrated Hood

Bertazzoni

[us.bertazzoni.com](http://us.bertazzoni.com)

The new 36" XT Induction Built-in Cooktop with Integrated Hood is designed with precision touch controls and digital-timed cooking functions to efficiently manage the cooking process and offers seamless style with its integrated down-draft hood, perfect for island applications. As new regulations limit the use of gas appliances in states like California and New York and consumers across the U.S. become more informed about eco-friendly alternatives, there is a tremendous demand for induction appliances. The new 36" XT Induction Built-in Cooktop has been able to answer this demand in real time by developing high-quality, beautifully designed induction ranges that align with the rich history of the brand while offering more eco-conscious solutions. With precision heating capabilities that reduce energy, the 36" XT Induction Built-in Cooktop is a revolutionary solution providing homes with a safer and greener alternative, without sacrificing on performance or style.

**“Such a unique form factor for this sort of appliance, I was drawn to it. It feels like it is trying to solve the problem of kitchen ventilation in a way it hasn’t been solved aesthetically before.”**—Tal Schori

## Kitchen Fixtures



### Dometic DrawBar

Dometic

[dometic.com](http://dometic.com)

The Dometic DrawBar offers the functionality of a full-size wine cooler in a compact design that fits 5 bottles. For an effortless installation, DrawBar is easily installed above, below or adjacent to 24" wide standard cabinetry. Where dimensional constraints won't allow for a full-size wine cooler, DrawBar brings an expert solution that offers precision cooling technology and the option of a glass or custom paneling for integrated design freedom. This smart cooling drawer is also equipped with a humidity tray that works to reduce excess humidity. Dometic's DrawBar offers ingenuity in design and cooling technology, closing the gap in the market for compact wine storage solutions. Easily installed in kitchen and auxiliary entertaining spaces, DrawBar creates possibilities for a variety of spaces and lifestyles.

**“This product is so adaptable; it doesn’t require a whole freestanding unit to find a dedicated space for it. So, I think that versatility is nice, especially in a small space or apartment setting.”**

—Shunyi Wu (on behalf of David Rockwell)

# Architectural & Commercial Lighting



**The LittleOnes**  
USAI Lighting  
usailighting.com

What the iPhone was to the cell phone industry, the LittleOnes is to the home technology and lighting industry. Since LED lighting made its world-changing debut, the lighting industry has been working to minimize the size of fixtures, without sacrificing power, utility, and efficiency. In June 2021, USAI achieved an industry milestone and set the new standard for high-powered, tiny LED fixtures with the introduction of the LittleOnes—the first collection of barely noticeable, 1-inch-wide, architectural-grade, recessed light fixtures that can deliver over 1,000 lumens without glare. High levels of light are needed for circadian lighting and lots of light usually means lots of glare, but not so with the LittleOnes. This technology is revolutionizing the at-home lighting experience.

**“This is the perfect product for projects where you’re not trying to draw so much attention to the fixture itself.”—Alison Von Glinow**



## Decorative Lighting



**Plusminus**  
Vibia  
vibia.com

Plusminus is a lighting system that provides architects and lighting designers the opportunity to customize light to illuminate all kinds of interior spaces. A specially developed fabric belt provides support and electrical conductivity, and the lights are attached in an intuitive way using a clip-and-connect system. Plusminus eliminates the differences between pendant, sconce, and floor lights because the various elements of the collection can be adjusted, attached, or removed as required. There are six different luminaires that give the lighting its specific aesthetic when attached to the fabric belt: sphere, semi-sphere, cone, spotlight, linear diffuser, and linear low UGR. A series of anchors and fixings maintain the desired configuration of the belt alongside the attached lights, which in themselves are an attractive addition to the overall installation. The common thread of the Plusminus collection can be easily adapted to create all sorts of lighting installations.

**“Plusminus’s strength is in its configurability: It can be a singular lamp, a pendant, or a chandelier. It is a beautiful object that has so many applications”**

—Shunyi Wu (on behalf of David Rockwell)



Winner



# the LittleOnes®

POWER + COMFORT

**M A X I M I Z E D**

→ SIZE MINIMIZED ←



**1"**

**TINY APERTURES**  
disappear into the ceiling.



**UP TO 1000**  
Delivered Lumens



**LOW GLARE OPTICS**



**ALWAYS SERVICEABLE**  
from Below

**LEARN MORE**



# Outdoor Lighting



**Profile**  
Landscape Forms  
landscapeforms.com

The Profile family of lights creates beautiful and intentional light emanating from a refined, minimalist design. Profile's palette of configurable options tailor Profile's aesthetic and performance to fit a variety of applications. The Profile line includes area, accent, and column lights and performance, wayfinding, and unlit perimeter bollards, making Profile a single family that effectively lights an array of spaces from large, open areas and narrow pathways to landscape beds and building entrances. Profile takes the familiar form of an I-beam column and reimagines the lighting category by introducing area lights, accent lights, column lights, foot lights, and a trio of bollards into its offering, giving Profile aesthetic and performance versatility. This versatility, along with Profile's modularity and scalability, addresses the range of public spaces, from concerts to playgrounds and fitness trails, and gives lighting designers and landscape architects a lighting family that appropriately illuminates for this variety of uses.



**“I like that this product is not so designed that it would clash with your architecture. It’s very subtle.”—Lauren Rottet**

BEST OF PRODUCTS

# Acoustics



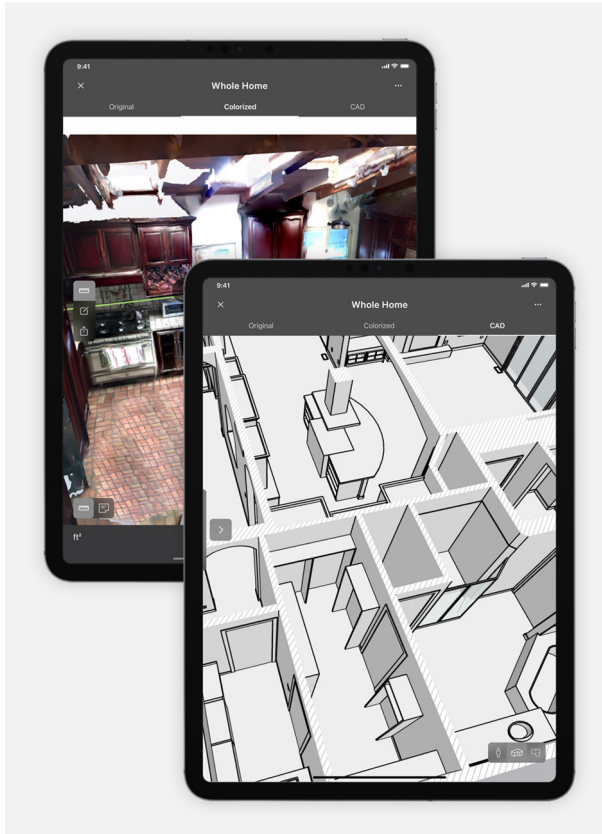
**Air Baffle**  
Kirei  
kireiusa.com

The Air Baffle by Kirei is an innovative acoustic ceiling baffle inspired by the clean, modern lines of the Nike Air Max. Made from recycled shoes and water bottles, the Air Baffle combines the acoustic performance of its exterior PET felt and its interior recycled textile fluff to absorb and break down sound waves for a highly effective acoustic solution. The Air Baffle's exterior is made from over 60% recycled PET. The window in the baffle is inspired by the Air Max's signature window and is made of recycled acrylic. Each Air Baffle recycles over 100 shoes and 100 plastic water bottles. The Air Baffle is made in partnership with Nike Grind, a global sustainability program that recycles end-of-life shoes into new products.

**“This product rises to the top because it tells the story of a lifecycle in relation to another industry. It’s holistic—I like that that it has a story that goes beyond architecture.”—Igor Siddiqui**



# Design & Build Software



**Canvas**  
Canvas  
canvas.io

Canvas is an iPhone and iPad app that saves architects hours on measuring and drafting as-builts. Instead of spending hours taking measurements with a tape measure or laser distance measure, architects can scan rooms with the Canvas app in about a minute and the average American home in about 20 minutes. Once they've scanned, they'll have an accurate 3D model they can reference and measure from anywhere. Never miss a measurement again! The real time savings come from the Canvas Scan To CAD service, which generates detailed 2D floor plans and editable 3D CAD as-builts in formats like AutoCAD, SketchUp, Revit, Chief Architect, and 2020 in as little as one business day.

**“This product seems like a big industry disruptor. It’ll be interesting to see how the process of surveying changes as it becomes more accessible with tech like this.”**

—Alison Von Glinow

# Smart Building, Smart Home & Automation Systems



**H2Wise & H2Wise +**  
Kohler Co.  
kohlercompany.com

Plumbing expertise and Phyn's industry-leading smart water monitoring technology come together to deliver two smart, home water consumption solutions: H2Wise and H2Wise+. Conscious to both the environment and homeowner spending, these water monitors both monitor water usage and detect leaks, the awareness of which can lead to cost savings and water conservation for homeowners. H2Wise and H2Wise+ are accompanied by a smartphone app, where users can seamlessly view the details of their water consumption and receive real-time alerts. The technology of H2Wise and H2Wise+ bring forward a solution to understanding your water consumption. Both smart home water monitors allow for complete home protection under a single device, allowing you to see and control your water like never before.

**“Water conservation is just so important and it’s going to become a bigger issue as we go along, so well-designed, intuitive products like this one are going to become all the more necessary.”**—Aaron Seward

## Architectural Hardware



**PD97 Electrified Mortise Lock with Monitoring Switches**  
INOX  
[inoxproducts.com](http://inoxproducts.com)

INOX reveals the PD97ES, a sensor-controlled electrified mortise lock for sliding doors equipped with built-in monitoring sensors that interact with any access control system on the market. The PD97ES is the only sliding door hardware solution for healthcare, institutional, and other commercial facilities that provides enhanced privacy and security while also supporting touchless opening. The PD97ES has an installation-friendly power transfer unit built directly inside the lock and strike. This feature provides builders and door manufacturers with the ability to install the PD97ES as an individual component within any access control system rather than replacing the entire configuration. The built-in power transfer eliminates the complicated door preparation required by electrified locks that are powered with wire chases installed through the door frame.

**“Outfitting such a heavy-duty locking mechanism with touchless capabilities is no small feat. The ease of application is also a huge plus for large commercial projects.”**—Sophie Aliece Hollis

## Decorative Hardware



**Custom Hardware Collaboration Door, Lever, Rose, and Pull**  
ASSA ABLOY in collaboration with Centerbrook Architects and Planners and Yale University  
[assaabloy.com](http://assaabloy.com)

Designed by Charles Z. Kaulder in 1917, the Peabody Museum of Natural History is a three-story, French Gothic brick and sandstone building on Yale University’s campus. In 2020, construction began on a 172,355-square-foot renovation with a 57,630-square-foot, four-story infill addition that will transform the institution and support scientific advancement. Inside, large fossils will be remounted in dynamic poses in new anthropological galleries; state-of-the-art, research/restoration labs and storage systems will improve lower-level collections; and new classrooms and labs will support the institution’s mission to engage students. “Osteo-Architecture” inspired and informed the designs for the coordinating Door Lever, Rosette, and Door Pull that will trim the Museum’s 200+ door openings. Organic in form, reflective of the Museum’s collections, the Door Levers and Pulls have a sculptural quality, with a subtle “thumb-print” detail, that conforms perfectly to the hand.

**“This is a nice reinterpretation of somewhat zoomorphic or skeletal inspirations, without totally hitting you over the head with it.”**

—Tal Schori

## Doors



### MFU1200 Flush Sliding Door System Sugatsune America, Inc. [sugatsune.com](http://sugatsune.com)

Sugatsune's all new MFU1200 Flush Sliding Door System opens by pushing the door inwards with a sideways motion. To close, simply pull the door and watch it quietly disappear into the surrounding walls. The two-way soft closing feature creates an elegant experience that clients desire and, because it has been tested for 100,000 cycles, the product is guaranteed to last. The MFU1200 is designed to operate doors up to 106-5/16" (2700 mm) tall, 47-1/4" (1200 mm) wide weighing up to 154 lbs (70 kg) making it a perfect solution for wine cellars, walk-in closets or hidden rooms that are unique to every project. It's also a great solution for situations where space won't allow for a traditional swinging door.



**"This sliding door system truly disappears into the wall. Very clean and very quiet, thanks to the soft-close mechanism."**

—Sophie Aliece Hollis

## Windows



### Hidden Screen Pella Corporation [pella.com](http://pella.com)

The Hidden Screen is a hassle-free window screen that appears when you want it and folds away when you don't, giving homeowners a crystal-clear view and improved curb appeal. Drawing on decades of screen design and innovation, the Hidden Screen is the industry's first and only hidden screen for vinyl windows among leading national window brands. Intuitively designed, the easy-to-use Hidden Screen allows 44 percent more natural light into your home when the window is closed than a standard screen. When the window is opened the screen engages effortlessly, keeping bugs out of the home and enabling airflow. The Hidden Screen is based on Universal Design Principles pairing function with design and delivering simplicity and ease of use.

**"This screen solution is not like any I've seen before—it lets in plenty of light and conceals away so creatively."**

—Melissa Brillhart

## Composites



**ACRE**  
Modern Mill  
[modern-mill.com](http://modern-mill.com)

ACRE by Modern Mill, is a revolutionary building material offering the look and feel of wood. It is specified to replace ipe, cedar, or teak in a myriad of applications. ACRE is a sustainable, low-maintenance alternative to wood made from up-cycled rice hulls in a zero-waste manufacturing facility. It is also 100% recyclable. ACRE is a pleasure to work with on the jobsite. It's lightweight and easy to carry yet strong, rigid, and straight. ACRE works with ordinary woodworking tools—requiring no special equipment or training—and waste is minimal. It can be cut, curved, shaped, and molded to fit countless applications, both exterior and interior. ACRE takes paint and stain just like real wood. It's easy to care for and guaranteed to last. Once your project is complete, you can be confident ACRE will stand up to water, weather, and pests for years to come, backed by an industry-leading materials guarantee.

**“I think it’s remarkable that this product can be handled just like wood on a jobsite—same tools, same construction methods, no additional work or installation methods to learn.”**—Sophie Aliece Hollis

## Glass



**Saflex FlySafe 3D PVB Interlayer**  
Eastman Chemical Company  
[eastman.com](http://eastman.com)

Worldwide, countless birds are killed annual by colliding with glass windows and building facades. Many cities and countries require bird-friendly glazing in new buildings. Eastman, in partnership with SEEN AG, introduces Saflex FlySafe 3D polyvinyl butyral (PVB) interlayer for laminated glass, a highly effective solution to avoid bird collisions without compromising on the view or beauty of glass facades.

**“Saflex stood out because the bird-deterring element is integrated into the glass assembly, rather simply etched on the outside.”**

—Sophie Aliece Hollis

# Timber



**Accoya Color**  
Accsys  
accsys.com

Accoya Color, the next generation of high-performance wood, combines the beauty of natural, real wood with advanced performance. Accoya Color is a natural product from FSC-certified softwood and is modified through acetylation, transformed into a building material with characteristics that match or exceed other man-made, intensely resource-depleting, and heavy carbon-polluting alternatives.

**“The expanded color palette available with this product gives users the option to get that aged wood aesthetic right off the shelf.”**—Sophie Aliece Hollis

# Weather, Air Barriers & Insulation



**BLD723 Louver**  
Ruskin  
ruskin.com

The new BLD723 from Ruskin is an architectural louver that protects against wind-driven rain in a stylish design. The AMCA-certified BLD723 provides exceptional protection against water, air and wind penetration for projects that require extra aesthetic appeal. The BLD723 is a bold line, drainable louver designed with a 7-inch wind-driven rain accent blade and a 5-inch-deep wind-driven rain resistant blade for superior protection and architectural appeal. AMCA-certified for air-, water-, and wind-driven rain performance, the BLD723 is ideal for architects who want to make a statement without sacrificing function.

**“This is an example of a product that is honest in its expression of form and purpose but demonstrates the additional design consideration that so many louvers lack.”**—Sophie Aliece Hollis

# Facade Structural Systems

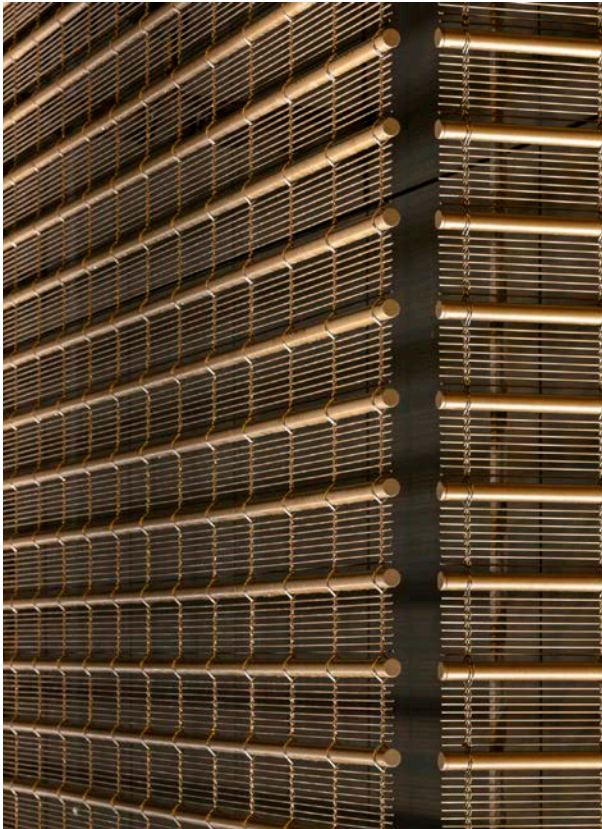


**HITCH Cladding Attachment System**  
Longboard Architectural Products  
longboardproducts.com

The HITCH Cladding Attachment System is a patented modular device for rain screen and exterior wall assemblies offering a thermally broken and intermittent structural solution. HITCH is unparalleled when it comes to structural capacity, flexibility, and thermal performance. Building codes and high-performance energy standards like Passive House and Net-Zero are evolving to meet multiple objectives, including reducing energy consumption and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. The most efficient methods of insulating a building's exterior walls are those that incorporate the principals of continuous exterior insulation with no or minimal thermal bridging to limit thermal loss. HITCH can achieve effective R-values exceeding R60 for various types of wall assemblies while supporting heavy cladding loads in high wind load and seismic conditions. The HITCH system can accommodate continuous exterior insulation thicknesses between 1" and 16" and is therefore suitable for use in all Passive House and ASHRAE climate zones across North America.

**“Implementing exterior insulation seems to always be an uphill battle and finding smart easy ways to attach the cladding through three inches of exterior insulation like this is rare. I also appreciate the Passive House certification.”**—Tal Schori

## Cladding



**Oasis Metal Mesh**  
GKD-USA  
gkd-group.com

This anodized aluminum metal fabric is meticulously engineered to ensure a consistent appearance of texture and tone throughout the entire panel, even under different lighting conditions. Most metal fabric weaves are made entirely out of stainless-steel wire. Oasis is set apart with a combination of stainless-steel multifilament cables and large-diameter anodized aluminum tubes designed to reflect specific colors. Architects and designers can achieve enhanced aesthetics without sacrificing the durability and performance qualities proven with GKD metal fabric. This concept, originally a custom solution, is now offered as a standard product in the North American market through GKD-USA.

**“I appreciate that the product leverages different lighting conditions by using aluminum tubes instead of solely wire.”**

—Lauren Rottet

# HITCH™

Cladding Attachment System

## A revolutionary system for rear ventilated facades

An award-winning combination of

- **Performance**
- **Ease of installation**
- **Cost Savings**



**Winner**



Patent Pending - U.S. 17/463,442; U.S. 29/806,153; U.S. 29/806,151



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## Hygienic Finishes & Surfaces



### Copper Armor PPG Industries, Inc. [ppg.com](http://ppg.com)

Meet the first-ever, virus-killing paint, Copper Armor. Copper Armor eliminates 99.9% of viruses and bacteria, such as Staph, MRSA, E Coli, and SARS-CoV-2 on surfaces within two hours of exposure and for five years. It leverages copper, a naturally occurring element, to help keep interior surfaces (walls, doors, and trims) clean from pathogens. The novel coating solution contributes to customer demands for healthier and safer buildings, especially for high-traffic and high-touch areas. The product integrates the proven antimicrobial properties of copper for surface protection against disease-causing microbes and is a toxin-free additive to paint. The product uses a reputable organization's GUARDIANT copper technology. The mold- and mildew-resistant coating has low odor, zero VOCs, excellent hide, durability, and premium application properties in 600+ colors. The product received national EPA registration in 2021 and secured registration for most U.S. states.

**“The way that this paint is able to harness the virus-killing properties of copper using such small quantities of the natural material is really impressive. It’s a perfect product for this post COVID era.”**

—Sophie Aliece Hollis

BEST OF PRODUCTS

## Outdoor Finishes & Surfaces



### ALUCOBOND PLUS 3A Composites [3acompositesusa.com](http://3acompositesusa.com)

Enhancing a 97-year symbol of football tradition in Central Texas required a visually innovative design using durable materials capable of producing a one-of-a-kind branded look that seamlessly the University of Texas school colors. For this south end zone project, designers selected ALUCOBOND PLUS metal panels customized in a Pantone-specific color to create the signature UT burnt orange branded Longhorn icon that helps to motivate the crowd and is unmistakable from any distance. The adaptability of the ALUCOBOND PLUS cladding enabled its use for interior and exterior applications. Custom UT Burnt Orange clads the complex Longhorn silhouette seating bowl design — measuring 215 feet wide by 72 feet deep; ALUCOBOND PLUS in the Rusted Metal finish with Pure White accents clad the angled twin towers and Pure White panels clad the walls of the players' football tunnel. The customization of the ALUCOBOND panels enabled true craftsmanship that produced stunning results.

**“Combining durability and performance with ultra-customizability is important for these high-traffic branded environments.”**

—Sophie Aliece Hollis



# ALUCOBOND®

GIVING SHAPE TO GREAT IDEAS



**A'N  
Best of  
Products**

**Winner**

- ALUCOBOND PLUS (FR Core) 4mm ACM
- ALUCOBOND AXCENT .040" flat aluminum sheet
- Large range of trend-forward color options
- Custom color expertise

## Bold Thinking, Beautiful Results.

**PROJECT DETAILS**  
The University of Texas Darrell K Royal-Texas Memorial Stadium  
**ALUCOBOND PLUS** and **AXCENT**: Custom UT Burnt Orange, Rusted Metal, Pure White  
**Architect**: Populous  
**Fabricator and Installer**: Byrne Metals Corp.



Read Full Case Study

"We chose Western Window Systems because we just have a comfort level that they have the competency to figure out some of the technical specifics in a complicated home like this. They have everything we need to execute and actually bring something at this level together and make it look beautiful like it does today."

– Tyler Jones, CEO and founder, Blue Heron



Design Better

[westernwindowssystems.com](http://westernwindowssystems.com)

**Honorable  
Mentions**

**Editors'  
Picks**

Courtesy Arteriors



Courtesy PARKLEX PRODEMA

**Acoustics**

TXTRsound Interior Metal Acoustical Ceiling Panels  
Rigidized Metals Corporation  
rigidized.com

**Composites**

STFE  
Serge Ferrari Group  
sergeferrari.com

**Timber**

Mojave Thermally Modified Wood Cladding  
Delta Millworks  
deltamilworks.com

**Kitchen Appliances**

Generation 7000 Artline Combi-Steam Oven  
Miele  
mieleusa.com

**Glass**

AviProtek Pattern 227  
Walker Glass  
walkerglass.com

**Cladding**

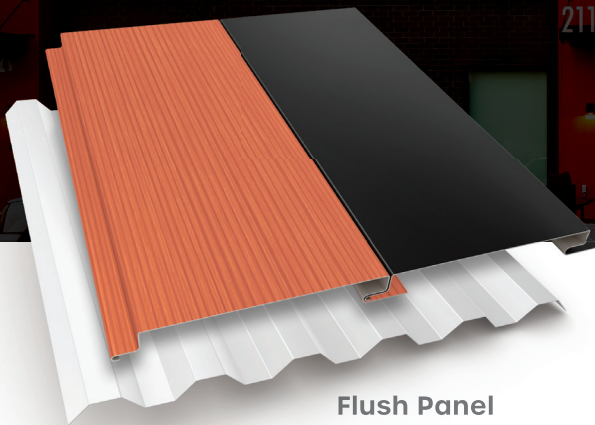
NATURCLAD-B  
PARKLEX PRODEMA  
parklexprodema.com

# Strength, Beauty, Heritage



**The façade features metal wall panels in a dramatic palette including a custom wood grain finish that ties the building to the tribe's historic home in a reservation in the woods of Northwest Minnesota.**

Mino-Bimaadiziwin Apartments, Minneapolis | Installing contractor: Progressive Building Systems  
Architect: Cuningham Group Architecture | GC: Loeffler Construction & Consulting | Photo: alanblakely.com



## Flush Panel

Metal Wall System

Custom Wood Grain, Matte Black

## 7.2 Panel

Metal Wall System

Bone White



View the  
case study  
and video



## Structural Systems

SLOTTED-Z FG  
Cladiator  
cladiator.com

## Commercial Furnishings

Morgan End Table  
Arteriors  
arteriorshome.com

## Textiles

In Your Skin by Erin Ruby  
HBF Textiles  
hbftextiles.com

## Interior Walls, Countertops & Surfaces

Luce Collection  
Iris Ceramica  
irisceramica.com

## Outdoor Furnishings

Urbane  
Denver Stainless Outdoor Kitchens  
denver.com

## Decorative Hardware

Select Hinge Tips  
Emtek Products, Inc.  
emtek.com

## Interior Walls, Countertops & Surfaces

Jewel-Tone Palette  
Móz Designs  
mozdesigns.com

## Residential Furnishings

Lunam Seating Collection  
by Patricia Urquiola  
Kartell  
kartell.com

## Architectural & Commercial Lighting

EVO/Incito 2" Tilt and Rotate Cylinders  
Gotham Lighting  
gothamlighting.acuitybrands.com

HONORABLE MENTIONS



Courtesy Iris Ceramica



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Improve the glass**

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historical restoration  
glass solutions

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GROUP

# HONORABLE MENTIONS



Courtesy Pablo Designs

## Decorative Lighting

Goodnight Battery Lamp  
by Philippe Starck  
Kartell  
kartell.com

## Doors

Fireframes Designer Guard  
Technical Glass Products  
fireglass.com

## Design & Build Software

analysis.tool  
cove.tool  
cove.tools

## Outdoor Lighting

Bola Lantern  
Pablo Designs  
pablo.pablodesigns.com

## Windows

8010 Series Single Blade  
Adjustable Sunshade  
CRL  
crlaurence.com

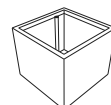
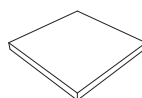
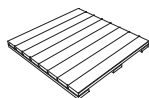
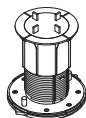


Interface Inc. Headquarters, Atlanta GA | architect: Perkins & Will | photographer: ©Nick Merrick



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**Acoustics**

**Hues**

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**Cladding**

**MetaMetal**

Pure + FreeForm

purefreeform.com

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& Surfaces**

(+) MODO Kitchen with

Rosso Lepanto countertops

Poggenpohl

poggenpohl.com

**Commercial Furnishings**

**Goldi**

Division Twelve

division12.com

**Residential Furnishings**

FH38 Windsor Chair

Carl Hansen & Søn

carlhansen.com

**Textiles**

Monster Rug by Siri Carlén

Hem

us.hem.com

**Decorative Hardware**

Chameleon Door Hardware

Caav Designs

caavdesigns.com

**Architectural & Commercial  
Lighting**

Static Links

LightArt

lightart.com

**Decorative Lighting**

Heretofore Hanging Light

Refractory

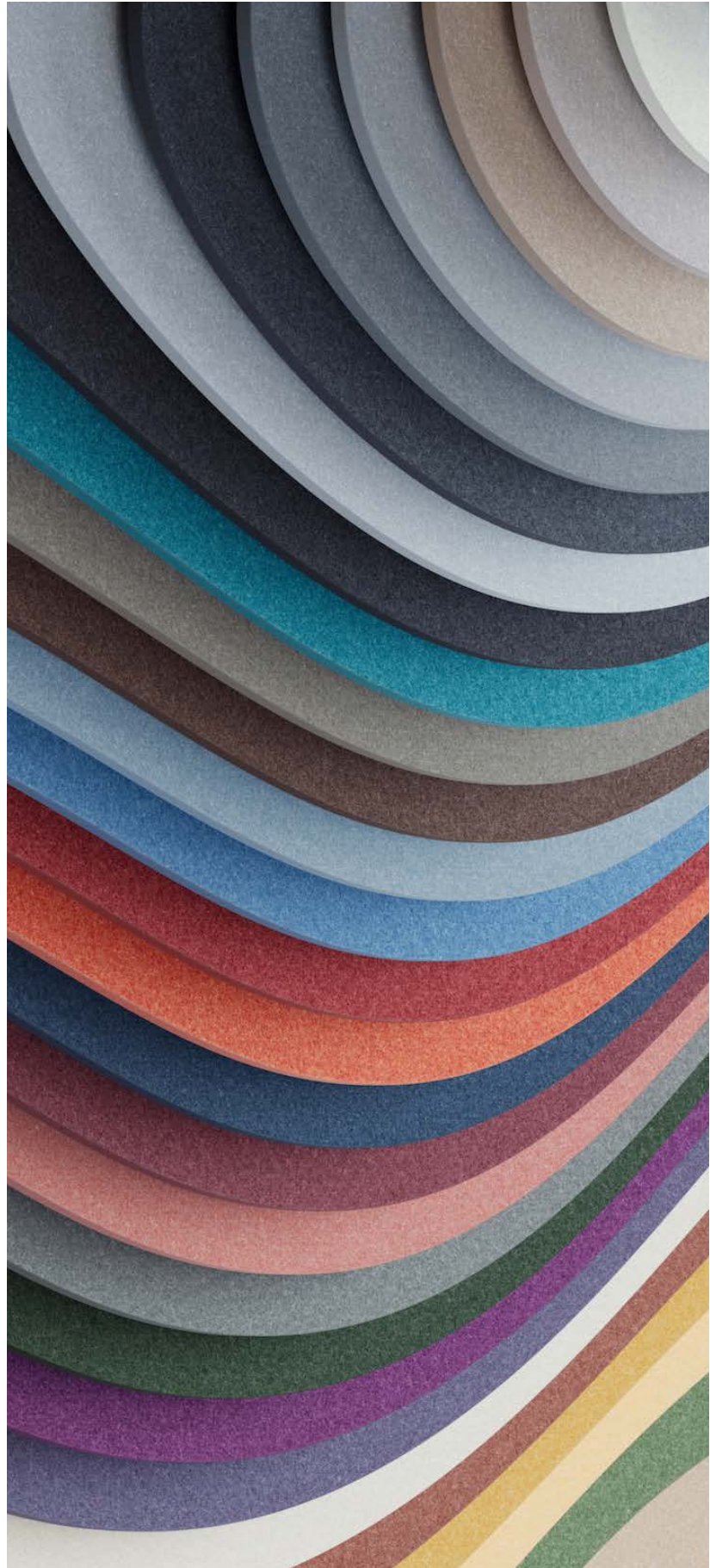
refractory.studio

**Decorative Lighting**

Moonsetter

Louis Poulsen

louispoulsen.com



Courtesy Turf

# Contextual Architectural Metal

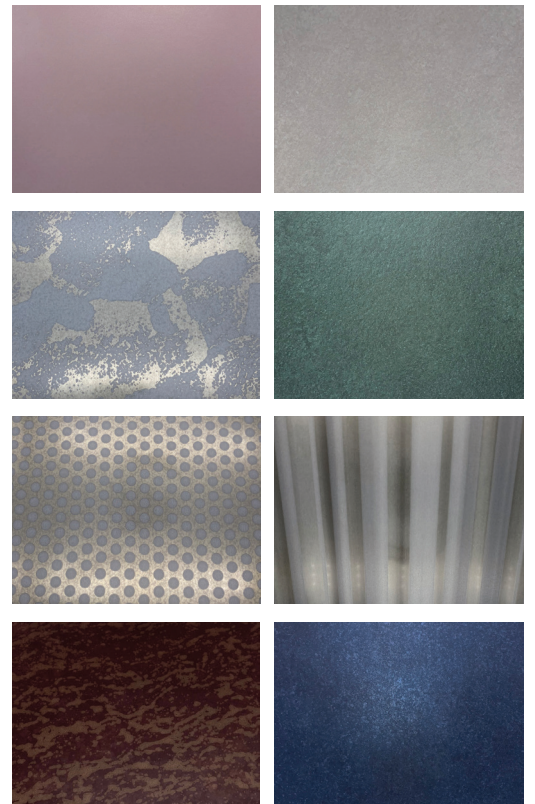


Editors'  
Pick



A foray into experiential design, MetaMetal seeks to instill inspiration, creativity, and imagination into interior and exterior spaces, breaking the boundaries of what was previously thought possible in metal architecture.

The MetaMetal collection offers 8 new metal skins for exterior metal cladding, acoustical ceilings, interior wall paneling and more. Available in panel systems or as flat sheets, MetaMetal's single skin aluminum composition is fully customizable in terms of design, pattern, color, gloss, texture, and scale. Highly formable and lightweight, MetaMetal brings out the transformative nature of modern metals. Backed by a 20-year warranty, MetaMetal provides up to a 60-year life cycle. In addition to MetaMetal's longevity, Pure + FreeForm's use of minimally processed aluminum and organic pigments and resins makes it a 100% recyclable collection.



## PURE+FREEFORM

[www.purefreeform.com](http://www.purefreeform.com) | [info@purefreeform.com](mailto:info@purefreeform.com) | 612.208.8347

**Thank you to everyone who submitted to AN's Best of Products Awards 2022.**

**THANK YOU**

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3form	DMF Lighting	Keilhauer	SFA Saniflo
Accsys	Dometic	Kirei	Shaw Contract
Accurate Lock & Hardware	Durasein	Knoll	Signature Kitchen Suite
AD Systems	Duravit	Kohler Co.	Signify
ADEY	Eastman Chemical Company	Lacava	Skyline Design
AGNORA	Elitis	Landscape Forms	Sloan
Allied Air Enterprises	Emtek	Lapitec	SONNEMAN - A Way of Light
Allsteel	Eureka Lighting	LG Electronics USA, Inc.	Springboard
Andersen Windows & Doors	Fantini	Liebherr	Sto Corp.
Arktura	Fiberon	LightArt	Stone Forest, Inc.
Art & Architecture	Fisher & Paykel	Loftwall	Stone Source
Arteriors	Formica Corporation	Loll Designs	Sugatsune
ASSA ABLOY in Collaboration with Centerbrook Architects and Planners	Fortress Building Products	Longboard Architectural Products	Tarkett
Atlas Concorde USA	Four Hands	Louis Poulsen	Technical Glass Products
Avery Dennison Graphics Solutions	Frameless Hardware Company	Mannington Commercial	The Overhead Door Brand
Beko Home Appliances	Gaggenau	MARK Architectural Lighting	The Wine Square
Belgard	Garden on the Wall	Marvin	Therma-HEXX Corporation
Bertazzoni	GKD-USA	Meteor Lighting	TownSteel Inc.
Bradley Corp.	Gotham Lighting	Miele	True Residential
Branch Technology	Grad Concept & Kebony USA	Mikrofill Systems by Stuart Turner	Turf
Broan-NuTone	GRAFF	Mitsubishi Electric Trane HVAC US (METUS)	Tuuci
Caav	Graphisoft	mnmMOD	Unika Vaev
Caesarstone	Graypants	Model No.	USAI Lighting
Carl Hansen & Søn	greenscreen	Modern Mill	Vaask
Carlisle SynTec Systems	Griven	Móz Designs	Vectorworks
Carnegie Fabrics	Guardian Glass	MTI Baths	Vibia
CENTRIA	Häfele	Nero Cucine	Vitraform
CLADIATOR	HAT Collective	NVIDIA	Vitro Architectural Glass
Cliff Garten Studio & QCP-Corp	Hauslane	Oatey Co.	VS America
Clopay Corporation	Hawa Sliding Solutions	Occipital	Walker Glass
Connate Home	HBF	Pablo Designs	Wila
Construction Specialties	HBF Textiles	PARKLEX PRODEMA	Wolf-Gordon
Cosentino	HelioScape Inc.	Pella Corporation	YKK AP America, Inc.
cove.tool	Hem	Peter Pepper Products	
CP Lighting	Hess	Poggenpohl	
CRL	Hollman	PPG	
Crypton	HON	Pure + FreeForm	
Crypton/Celliant/Kravet	Huber Engineered Woods	Ralph Pucci	
Dacor	Hydro Systems	Refractory	
Danver Stainless Outdoor Kitchens	IMETCO	REGUPOL	
Delta Faucet	Infinity Drain	Rigidized Metals Corporation	
Delta Millworks	INOX	ROBAM	
Dextall Studio	Interface	Room & Board	
	Iris Ceramica	Rottet Collection	
	Ironwood Industries	Ruskin	
	Jaye Design		
	Kartell		

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## E V E N T S

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**New York City**  
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