

Press release

New Wilkhahn products at A+A: Connecting and collaborating in motion

Bad Münden, October 2017. The way offices are designed is becoming increasingly important, especially where digitalised offices are concerned. Alongside people and software, designing and modernising office environments has now been recognised as the third form of intelligence. It's an approach that's considered key to challenging existing concepts and thinking up new ones. Wilkhahn's stand at A+A will showcase a number of new products that meet three core challenges connected with furnishing contemporary workspaces. How can we sustainably combat the chronic lack of physical activity in digitalised environments and keep office workers consistently fit and productive? How can we encourage people to interact so that a sense of community is reinforced, experience is shared and new ideas are developed? And how can we ensure that employees are actively involved in the changes and therefore support the transformation of the working environment?

Making sitting like walking – even over a 24-hour period

In order to combat backache and metabolic complaints associated with sedentary jobs, Wilkhahn developed its patented 3D Trimension® kinematics with the German Sport University Cologne's Centre for Health. The technology mobilises the hips as the body's powerhouse and motion centre, stimulates muscles deep in the back and activates large muscle loops from the joints in the feet to the shoulders. The pivotal mechanisms in the chair activate similar muscles and joints while people are sitting as they do when they're walking: the range of motion includes flexing, extending, bending sideways and rotating the pelvis. Scientific studies show that this combination makes people feel and concentrate better. Wilkhahn's ON and IN create new benchmarks for dynamic sitting and have already proved themselves 500,000 times the world over. The A+A has new models to test that are designed for 24-hour use in control centres for example – in other words where concentration and comfort are a must.



Keeping people fit and alert: the office chairs with Trimension are now available for 24-hour use too. IN range, design: wiege, photos: Wilkhahn

Designing attractive meeting and recreational areas

With digital processes and specialised skill sets increasing, interacting with others face to face is all the more important. The attractiveness of the design can prompt people to get together while the functional quality and ergonomics decide how efficient these meetings are.

- Anyone switching from sitting-down to standing-up meetings kills two birds with one stone. The change in posture encourages better health and efficiency because people participate more and the length of meetings decreases. The classic Stitz perching stool combines movement with relaxation so that changing posture can become a whole new way of holding meetings.
- Curiosity is something that has always grabbed people and got them to talk to one another. As colourful and attractive eye-catchers, Wilkhahn's new Occo, Metrik and Aula multipurpose chair ranges offer first-class ergonomics with a vast choice of design options that are a perfect fit for seminars to canteens to co-working spaces.
- And current health research findings have revealed that relaxation is fine, but only if we've been physically active beforehand and vice versa. Which is why rethinking the way we take breaks in today's office environments is vital. Wilkhahn's Stand-up rocking stool shows how activity-based breaks can be incorporated into everyday office life in a fun way.

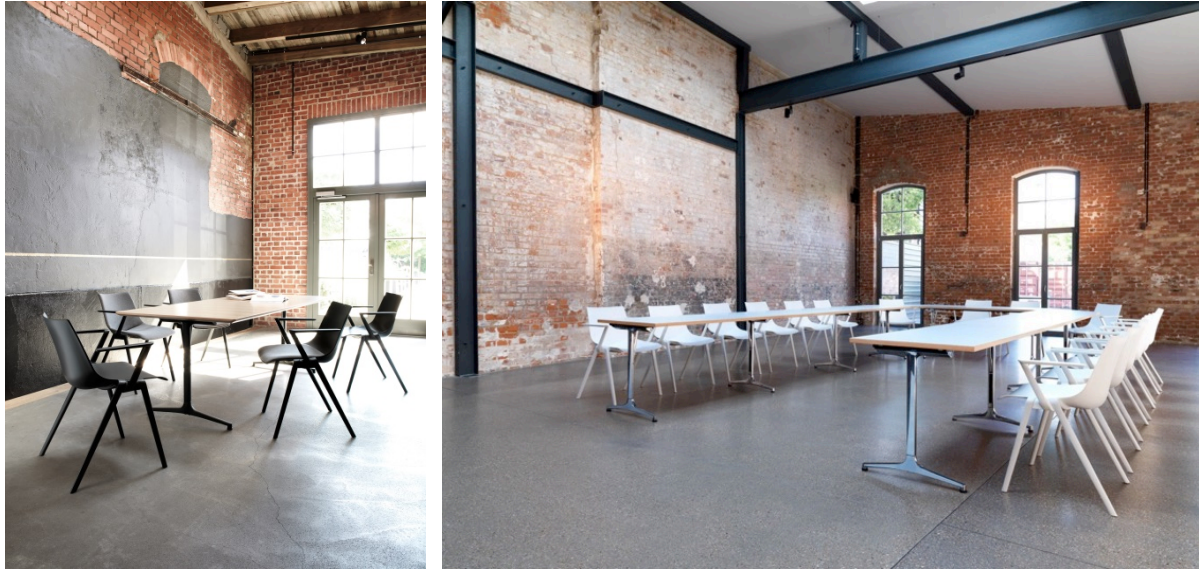


Photo left: Colourful eye-catcher that could become a cool must-have: Metrik cantilever chair, design: WhiteID. Photo right: A variety of options for all eventualities: Occo meeting range, design: Jehs & Laub. Photos: Wilkhahn

New mAx folding table range: inherent flexibility

"Re-shape the environment, don't try to re-shape men," was the call of the once famous architect, designer and philosopher Buckminster Fuller. Nowadays, the change of furnishings in new office environments is deliberate in order to encourage employees to see things from different perspectives and adopt new routes. Wilkhahn has developed a new and flexible piece of furniture for exactly this purpose that will premiere at A+A. The stylish mAx folding table and its ingenious functionality allows tables to be securely set up, linked, rearranged, dismantled, stacked and stored in no time. It's a people-friendly table to assemble and very attractive.

Wilkhahn



Its flexibility boosts people's ability to organise spaces themselves and participate in the proceedings: mAx table range, design: Andreas Störiko, with the Aula multipurpose chair range here, design: Wolfgang C.R. Mezger, photo: Wilkhahn

Seize the opportunity to experience an integrated office concept on the Wilkhahn stand. A concept that focuses on movement, interaction and active participation, combining physical requirements with social aspects. In a digitalised working environment, these aspects are two of the major challenges if we want to combat the mental and physical damage posed by digitalisation. A concept that echoes Wojciech Jastrzębowski, the founding father of ergonomics that is all about the welfare of the individual to the good of the company.

Wilkhahn at A+A 2017: Hall 10, stand A22.

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