

# design news

FUTURE WORK | CENTRAL AREAS | OUTDOOR | HOSPITALITY

## 22 / 23

brunner ::





# Design needs dialogue – and new work needs good old interactions.



When we talk about the future of work with designers, architects, planners and users, one thing is always crystal clear: The future isn't somehow simply patiently waiting for us further down the line. The future is anytime, anywhere. And it is here and now.

We have developed our latest products precisely for the here and now. For a time when we are meeting in the office again to work together. Where the creativity that is so vital as the source of innovation in every company thrives.

Since the pandemic, we have come to realise that this source doesn't spring up at the kitchen table at home or on a video call online. It originates in the office.

Wherever identification takes place, because architecture and facilities, the space and the atmosphere always reflect a company's values.

As a result, the furniture we develop that satisfies these demands isn't developed alone at the drawing board. Instead, as a manufacturer, we enter into discussions with designers, suppliers, customers and our engineers. Future Brunner products will also always take form through dialogue – and the best discussions always take place in a real room full of real people.

We look forward to meeting with you!

*Rolf Brunner* *Helena Brunner* *Dr. Marc Brunner* *Philip Brunner*  
Rolf Brunner Helena Brunner Dr. Marc Brunner Philip Brunner

boards  
lift active  
nate s  
oval  
feel  
mudra  
ray soft lounge  
crona steel

06  
14  
16  
18  
24  
26  
30  
32



# boards

OSKO+DEICHMANN

DESIGN NEWS



BOARDS



# Mount. Connect. Get started.



Creative brainstorming? Concise strategy meeting?  
boards does it all – however and wherever you want.

Taking centre stage in every project – exceptionally light (white)boards  
and their agile easels: rolling stools with clever cut-outs plus work  
and standing tables with mounting options and pull-out edges.

What's more, boards offers you everything you need: a seat and work  
surface, storage space and a recreation area, electrification and additional  
tools. And, of course, a supply of whiteboards. So that ingenious ideas  
can stand on their own.





The space works with you! Individually mountable rails turn walls into creative surfaces – and we mustn't overlook boards shelving on casters. As agile room zoning, this provides storage space plus privacy and sound insulation all at the same time.



# team



# work

Oliver Deichmann and Blasius Osko are rethinking work and everything that comes along with a conventional workplace. They have been working together as a design duo since attending the Berlin University of the Arts. That was 25 years ago. “We weren’t looking, but we found each other during our studies”, remembers Blasius Osko. “It was a process of evolution, with sympathy leading to friendship.” And this friendship led to osko+deichmann. Right from the very start, they made a name for themselves with exceptional design and interior projects.



“The concept of parking ideas and taking them with you was the initial spark.”

OLIVER DEICHMANN

Their headquarter: ex-working district, ex-substation, now a creative cell pared down to the essentials. Because osko+deichmann are actually Mr Osko and Mr Deichmann: “We work best as a pair. We make an experienced team. Our design ping pong, the back and forth of ideas – it’s as though we have developed our own language,” explains Blasius Osko, hiding plywood for the latest prototypes behind him. After all, the pair are already working on the future of work here in Wedding in Berlin.

New Work is not only about new working methods for osko+deichmann. Rather, it is also a new opus, another creative phase – and even a fairly mature and contemporary way of working. “I believe that the series we have developed now would not have been possible 10 years ago,” reflects Oliver Deichmann. “Because the passing years take us on a journey in design until another level of understanding is reached regarding design – and also regarding the customers and users.”

boards is the result of this understanding. “A product that on one hand specifies things but on the other hand is open enough to inspire users to get creative. It invites users to use it differently. Playfully – and ideally in ways we could never have imagined as designers,” continues Deichmann.

Some of the development work on boards happened during lockdown. The question at the back of the designers’ minds: What will people want when they’re allowed to return to the office? Many osko+deichmann products begin with an observation. In the case of boards, this was almost an entire flip book of considerations: How do start-ups actually work? How do international companies operate if they’re agile?

Many observations and interviews later, a conclusion was reached: It’s a shame that you can’t take ideas away with you.

“Workshop spaces were fully equipped with whiteboards. All firmly installed on the walls,” remembers Blasius Osko. “The workshop has come to an end. The drawings, post-its, notes and scribbles are all looking good. But the room has to be cleared up ready for the next team now. And the ideas are taken off the table, or rather wiped from the board just like that.”

## The calm after the brainstorm.

The concept of parking ideas and taking them away – this was the initial spark that led to boards. A collection that the duo have designed around the whiteboard. It is now possible to mount whiteboards horizontally or vertically on all their furniture, “so that no ideas are lost”.

This is exactly the kind of thing that promotes the meeting culture but takes it a good step further – and then also has a knock-on effect on corporate culture. “The culture in a company must be defined somehow,” says Oliver Deichmann. “So that everyone knows the answers to these questions: What exactly are we doing? How do we talk about our themes? How do we brainstorm together? And how do we take brainstorming a step further?”

The duo also believe that this agility involves not defining what agile means. It emerges through the process. Through the eyes of the users. “At the end of the day, the physical reality we already have is still a fantastic interface,” says Oliver Deichmann. “You currently cannot beat standing together in front of an idea.”

Ad hoc creativity. Sketching out an idea rather than discussing it to death, communicating visually in mixed teams – all this is what osko+deichmann find most exciting. “So much can come from a quick sketch. From sticking close to the creation process. The boards collection is designed to be a tool box – precisely for this work,” says Blasius Osko. If it were up to him, he would happily expand this box in the near future: “boards is not a finished system. On the contrary, it is a starting point and we are looking to see where it might lead us.”



# lift active

JEHS+LAUB

DESIGN NEWS



LIFT ACTIVE



lift active plays an active role in your working life: as a table or optionally as a magnetic whiteboard, agile on casters and with the option to adjust the height at the touch of a button.

And to ensure that absolutely nothing is off limits, once swung up lift active can be stacked to save space.





# nate s

ATELIER STEFFEN KEHRLE





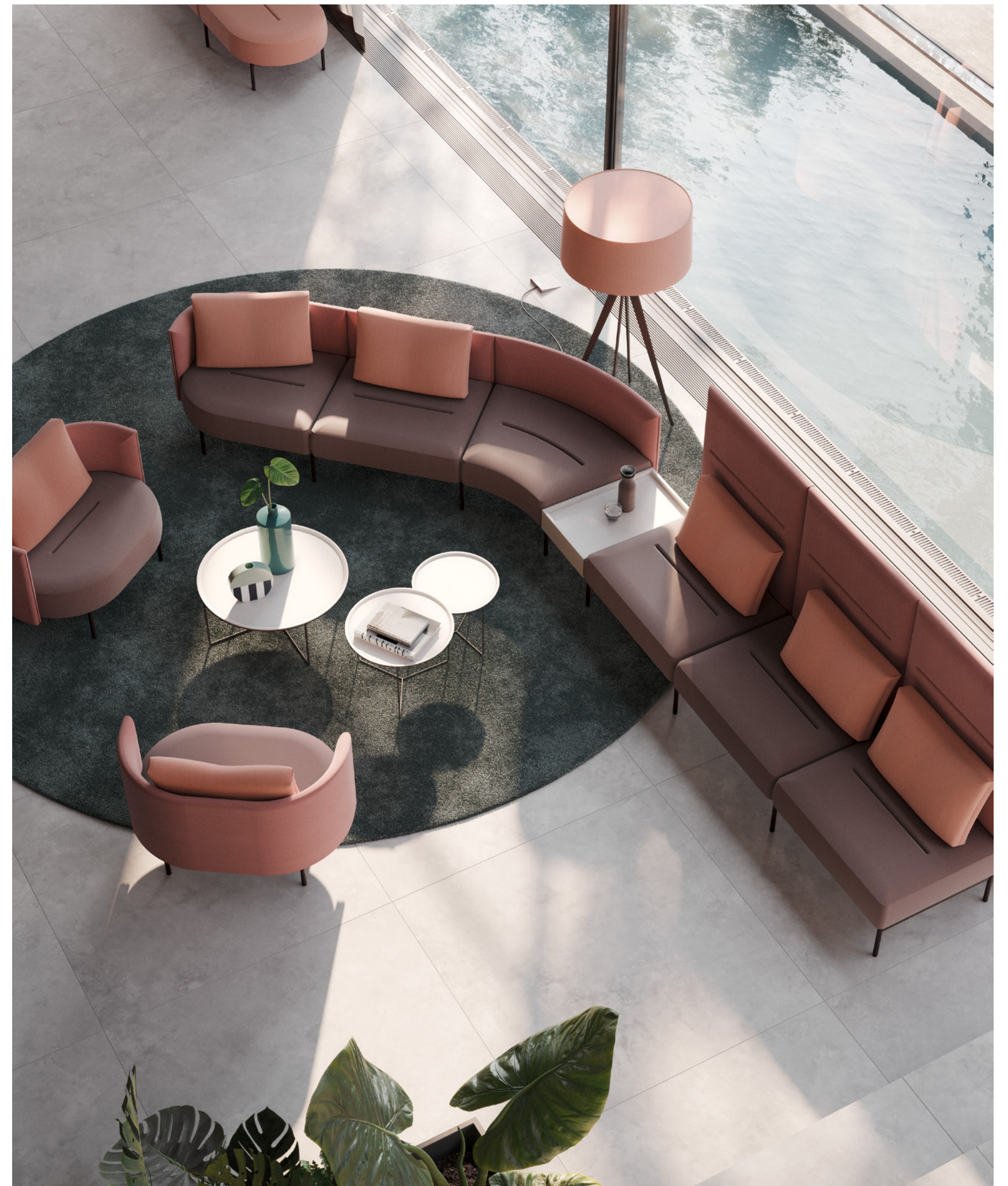


6 Foyer  
1.00 Creatives, Agency Fac  
2.00 Accounting, Facility Ma  
3.00 Human Resources  
4.00 Upper Management

oval  
JEHS+LAUB



# An all-round success.



oval in a nutshell? A modular and upholstered building set. With emphasis on the extraordinarily comfortable upholstery.

The incredible freedom of design and number of possible combinations with this modular lounge system are also impressive. Customised seating landscapes, zones and protected recreation areas are formed – exactly as required.



AN INTERVIEW WITH JEHS+LAUB

# Friendly business.

DESIGN NEWS



It should really be a perfectly normal interview. Questions and answers about the new product. But when you talk to design duo jehs+laub in oval about oval, the series works its magic and does exactly what it was designed to do – minds open up and the interaction becomes lively. A conversation – about more than just the new oval range from Brunner.

Markus Jehs laughs and thinks out loud: "New Work? What does that mean? It seems that we're always working in new ways around here. That's the way it's been for more than 30 years." The inseparable creative duo jehs+laub have known each other since university. Since then, they have designed, discarded, discussed and made things better together. "For example, in 2007 we decided that we would do away with the conference setting. We work differently now."

Question the status quo but also provide an answer for the future at the same time – this is how Markus Jehs and Jürgen Laub prefer to think and work. Their latest concept is called oval. "The initial spark of inspiration came from the request for lightweight furniture. Friendly and inviting," Jürgen Laub takes us along on the journey of its development. "As a shape, oval has two advantages. Firstly, you perceive the room differently when you sit within it. This is because when one person goes to a sofa, they always sit in one of the corners. Never in the middle. But you can't sit comfortably in the corners. You always need a foundation, a cushion." So the idea of no corners was born. "We found that this acts as a nice contrast to the often rectangular office architecture," says Markus Jehs. His partner adds: "The second advantage is that when several islands are set up, the walkways are much more pleasant. Like the streets in a city." Ovals create radii. And it is much easier to use spaces with radii. This includes conference rooms or, more accurately, ex-conference rooms.

"In principle, this system – like all the other upholstered furniture we have made – doubles up as a way of dividing up rooms," explains Laub. When the pair got started with oval, jehs+laub asked the question so many of their projects begin with: What can we do that nobody else has done yet? Not compelled to do it differently but committed to doing it better. "We wanted a contrast to the whole doll's house furniture. The answer to this, however, wasn't a masculine, angular form. It had to be a little more refined." As the oval took shape, it came down to measuring: "There is always a moment when we say that this is too much and that is too little. This is different for every project," says Jürgen Laub. "As a result, we have consciously not closed the oval, but kept it half open. This opens up entirely new possibilities."

After all, doing as much as possible with a piece of furniture is always a focus for the two designers from Stuttgart. And it is no different with oval. It is not intended to be nine-to-five furniture for the whole working day. It is also not a universal solution. "The furniture is always just one option available for organising part of my work differently. Depending on which team is talking with whom and about what," says Markus Jehs.



"oval feels a little like sitting in front of the fireplace at home."

JÜRGEN LAUB

OVAL

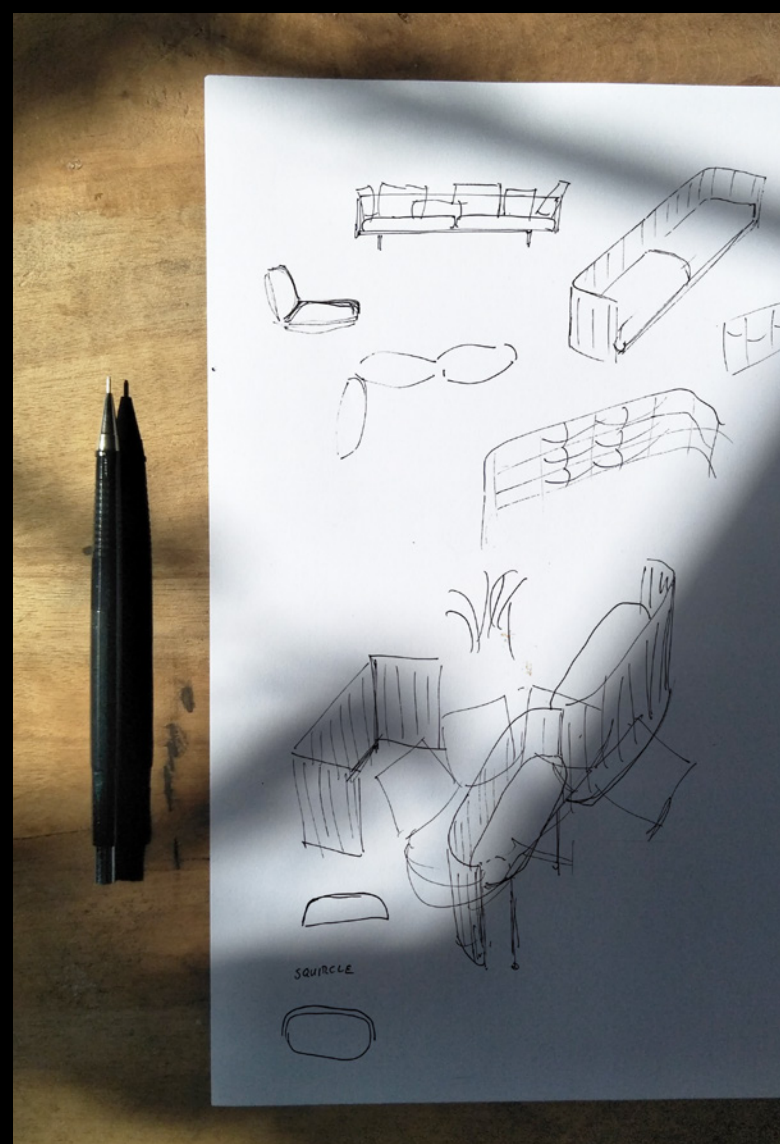
## Minimalists, not decorators.

As a product designer, is it necessary to take care not to make things too comfortable? Jürgen Laub says no. "Our limit is always that we are minimalists. There are often products that are overloaded with childish ideas. Simply just to make it feel homely. We prefer to go in the opposite direction." His design partner agrees: "We are simply not decorators. We don't think much of fashionable niceties that have to be replaced after two or three years. This is also not sustainable."

Despite oval, the pair love things that are unpopular. According to Markus Jehs, initial unease and fear of contact are sometimes even taken into account at jehs+laub. "This is always a good sign. This shows that it is somehow a new world."

And speaking of new worlds... Will we be returning to the office at all in the future? According to Jürgen Laub, absolutely. He says that he needs the change of location and scenery. The best prevention for a serious home office situation: cabin fever. "I also need to move through the town. Otherwise it is no town." And Markus Jehs agrees that new work doesn't take place at home, but in new work environments: "People are social creatures that need interaction. If people don't go into companies, company culture is also lost somewhere along the way. It is, after all, important that people come together. Relevant decisions and great innovations don't come about on Zoom calls. They take place on your way out the door, on the balcony and sometimes in the smoking area."

For this to happen, it is important that people feel happy when working, he says. As such, jehs+laub continue to design settings and tools for creating a feel-good atmosphere. Furniture like oval. "Where the really interesting things happen. Instead of in meetings from 2–3 pm around a conference table. Where everyone in attendance is happy when it's over," Markus Jehs describes a scenario that the two never want. "With oval, this is certainly not the case. It feels more like sitting in front of the fireplace at home."







feel  
AART DESIGNERS

The feel family welcomes you with a thoughtful embrace thanks to its enclosing back. Its homely cosiness with a natural Scandinavian design combines incredible texture with unrestricted comfort. Numerous carefully considered details make life easier – and more relaxing. feel – enjoy comfort.





# mudra

DIEZ OFFICE







mudra is taking the plywood chair to the next level. The result allows space for interpretations on the wide-angled seat. The beautifully curved back gently cushions every position, ensuring maximum freedom of movement and making the universal stackable chair effortless to handle and easy on the eye. This is how mudra makes a lasting impression – and so do the sustainable values. All materials can be replaced, separated and sorted.

# Iconic shape. Sustainable values.







# ray soft lounge

JEHS+LAUB



Look for comfort.  
The new ray soft lounge chair reduces the seat height and stress level. Lean back, relax and enjoy the moment – in the armchair or in the high-back version with ottoman.

RAY SOFT LOUNGE







crona steel

ARCHIRIVOLTO



# Flexibly designed.



crona steel makes field work even more flexible, with space-saving, all-weather folding tables ready in the blink of an eye. Stackable stools quickly complete the social gathering at perfectly casual lounge height. Their ergonomically formed seat slats made of rounded flat steel guarantee weatherproof comfort – even when sitting indoors. Selected colours complete the overall look both indoors and outdoors.





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