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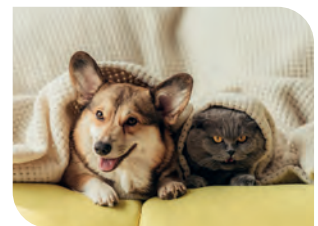
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Challenges and clarity

A common UK approach would be great thing if mattress recycling is to get the boost it really needs

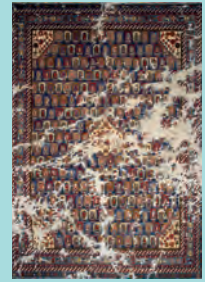
People, recyclers and the bed industry – give yourselves a round of applause for more than doubling (56%) the number of mattresses sent for recycling from 2021 to 2023, and the material recovery rate leaping from 14% in 2020 to 33%. But make it a small one.

While the headlines are positive, serious challenges remain: shoppers are reluctant to pay, despite professing to be all for recycling; the process needs to generate a suitably attractive profit margin for recyclers; the effective message to convince shoppers that reused materials doesn't mean a dirty or unhygienic mattress remains elusive; there are 'manufacturers' simply reskinning old springs in new covers; and for retailers, the recycling process can be too expensive or a step too far to fit into already complex sourcing operations.

The flooring sector has many of the same issues: for example, takeback schemes require waste to be sorted before it is picked up, including Amtico's newly expanded LVT scheme (although it wins kudos for taking non-Amtico product). Progress is, of course, great – but answers on a postcard for both sectors please (including having one policy for all parts of the UK, not four).

From the outside, Headlam's plan to streamline the business by significantly reducing overlap – one area rep for several brands, one combined wholesale operation – made a lot of sense (even if retailers didn't like the loss of multiple credit accounts). But it doesn't seem to have gone awfully well: the devil is always in the detail and very few people like change, let alone embrace it.

In its announcement, the departures of Payne and Wood were said to position the group 'to move forward with greater pace and focus... to deliver the transformation our business needs.' It is almost a month after the board felt compelled to defenestrate its ceo, and shareholders and customers are none the wiser about how it intends to get the plan done properly quicker. They need clarity on the why and what will be different.



INTERIORS MONTHLY NOVEMBER 2025

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

NEWS

- 4 Bird takes control at Headlam
- 6 Ikea sees sales pick up after dip
- 10 Recycling rises but 2028 targets in doubt

FEATURES

- 12 New products
- 16 Service
What is the mystery substance?
- 18 Retail
Immersion
- 24 Cabinet
Meet the Aaltos (again)
- 30 Upholstery
Join the anniversary club
- 33 Beds and bedroom
Keeping the show moving forward; innovation; Bed Show 2025
- 64 Rugs
Practicality, forgotten patterns, second collaboration, Chromatic II
- 74 Trends
Technocraftsman, style worlds of tomorrow
- 77 Preview
MIFF
- 80 Review
VIFA, CIFF, Decorex

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Payne, Wood ousted as Bird moves to accelerate turnaround

Headlam's ceo and chief customer officer have left after the group moved to accelerate its turnaround plan.

Chris Payne and Toni Wood's transformation plan – simplifying the customer offer, network and operations – has been deemed to be too slow, with Stephen Bird, Headlam non-executive chairman moving to become interim executive chairman. He will revert to his previous



From left: Chris Payne, Toni Wood and Stephen Bird

role when a new ceo is found.

'This leadership change positions us to move forward with greater pace and focus. The board is taking decisive action to deliver the transformation our business needs,' says Bird.

'We would like to thank Chris for his efforts and wish him well for the future.'

Headlam will also be making 'a number of changes to its sales and commercial teams to drive faster execution and better results for its customers'.

'I want to thank Chris and Toni for their contributions to Headlam and wish them well for the future. Our customers are the foundation of everything we do. I look forward to accelerating the change needed to ensure our partners have our complete focus and commitment,' says Bird.

Flooring inflation returns

Inflation returned to the flooring sector in September, after smooths saw another major price change.

Flooring saw deflation of 0.5% become deflation of 0.2%, according to ONS data. However, it was again a tale of two product types.

Carpets and rugs registered inflation of 0.8%, after 0.0% in August – neither inflation

nor deflation. This is the joint highest rate this year, equal with January.

Smooths continued a love affair with deflation, rising from 4.1% to 4.3%.

In the past 13 months, only September 2024 (0.2%) and November 2024 (0.0%) have not seen deflation, with September 2025 its highest during that period.

Deflation rules outdoor and lighting

Furniture saw no inflation in September, but furnishings price changes pushed the joint sector into deflation.

According to ONS data household furniture saw zero inflation during the month, compared with 0.9% in August – the first time since October 2023 that neither inflation nor deflation has occurred.

But deflation returned for furniture and furnishings, with an inflation rate of 0.6% becoming deflation of 0.2%. This is a wider ONS category comprising dining

furniture; bedroom furniture: wardrobe, bed, mattress and chest of drawers; living room furniture: armchair, sofa, bookcase and table lamp; kitchen units; home office desk; patio set and high chair.

Garden furniture again saw a major level of deflation: rising from 7.1% to 8.2%.

In the past 13 months just July and May have seen inflation, with many months continuing the pattern of double-digit deflation.

After slowing in August, lighting deflation rose in September from 1.5% to 1.9%.

Cheers for George II

Asda was due to reveal the second generation of its standalone George concept format as *Interiors Monthly* went to press.

The first store opened in May in Leeds, as the chain moves to replace its Asda Living network.

The second, in Hull, has an updated layout of the chain's home and clothing offer.

'Our pilot George store has been a tremendous success, thanks to the dedication and passion of our colleagues and the fantastic response from customers. It's shown us just how much love there is for the brand and our hero product categories,'

says Liz Evans, George md.

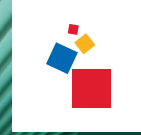
'Building on that momentum, we're excited to bring the standalone George store concept to Hull, giving even more customers the opportunity to enjoy an inspiring, easy-to-shop experience that celebrates everything they know and love about George.'

The Anlaby Retail Park branch's home department will 'showcase an inspiring selection of interiors, homewares and lifestyle must-haves, complemented by the brand's much-loved celebrity collaborations,' alongside its own-label clothing offer.

High street move

Independent flooring retailer Country Wood Floors has opened its second store: on Winslow High Street, Buckinghamshire. The opening comes eight years after James Hagon opened in Buckingham in a unit on the town's industrial estate.

'As part of the expansion, we have partnered with leading brands, including Amtico, Whiteriver Flooring, ITC, Victoria Carpets and J2Flooring, bringing premium flooring options and expert advice to homeowners across Buckinghamshire and beyond,' says Hagon.



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Ikea sees UK sales recover after 2024/2025 drop

Ikea has seen UK sales rise in recent months, but this was not enough to stop a full year sales drop.

Turnover fell by 2.1% to £2.25bn (£2.3bn) in the year to the end of August. Sales volumes grew by 4%. Bedrooms and kitchens saw growth of 2.7% and 1.8% respectively.

Sales in the final quarter rose by 3.3% and the group says growth continued in September. Profits were not disclosed.

Following a £117m investment in price reductions during FY24, the company accelerated its expansion in FY25 with four new store openings in the final quarter and the addition of 101 Collect Near You points.

Its Oxford Street, London store generated 1.34million visits in its first four months.

Where stores have opened, online sales have risen. Online



Ikea opened its Brighton store in August

sales grew by 2% in FY25, accounting for 43% of total sales compared with 41% in FY24. Enhanced delivery capabilities through its distribution centre in Dartford and in-store fulfilment; the expansion of collection points for online orders; and investments in lowering delivery prices for loyalty scheme members helped drive the increase.

'In a challenging environment marked by economic and trade uncertainties, rising cost-of-living pressures and weakened consumer confidence, I am proud that we continued our programme of strategic investments in the UK. We saw these investments begin to pay off in the final months of FY25 and now into FY26, which gives us confidence for the year ahead,' says Peter Jelkeby, Ikea UK ceo.



Recycled LVT can be returned to the production line

Amtico rolls out take-back

Amtico has rolled out its LVT take-back scheme, which accepts offcuts and uplifted LVT of any brand.

After a three-month pilot which saw 42.9tonnes of post-installation material recovered, the free scheme has been extended, with the target of recovering at least 100tonnes a year.

Retailers, installers and contractors order heavy-duty sacks, segregate clean and contaminated material, then book a collection through Amtico's DDS logistics network. Clean waste can be granulated

and returned to the company's Coventry production line; contaminated waste is recycled offsite into traffic-management products such as speed bumps.

'Closing the loop on material flows is central to our Net Zero 2040 pathway,' says Barry Large, Amtico head of sustainability, learning and development. 'By combining dedicated collection with in-house recycling, we are offering our customers, and the wider industry, a straightforward route to reduce project waste and support circularity.'

GSA win for Parador

Parador has won the prestigious German Sustainability Award 2026 in the Wood Processing category.

Regarded as Europe's top accolade for sustainable business, the GSA celebrates companies that embrace sustainability as a guiding principle. It recognises those who prove progress, innovation and environmental stewardship can thrive together.

'Sustainability is our benchmark. From the responsible use of renewable raw materials to resource-saving processes and durable products, we ensure that every detail counts,' says Neel Bradham, Parador ceo.

'This award is not only a validation for us, but above all an incentive to continue our path with passion and consistency.'



Parador topped the Wood Processing category



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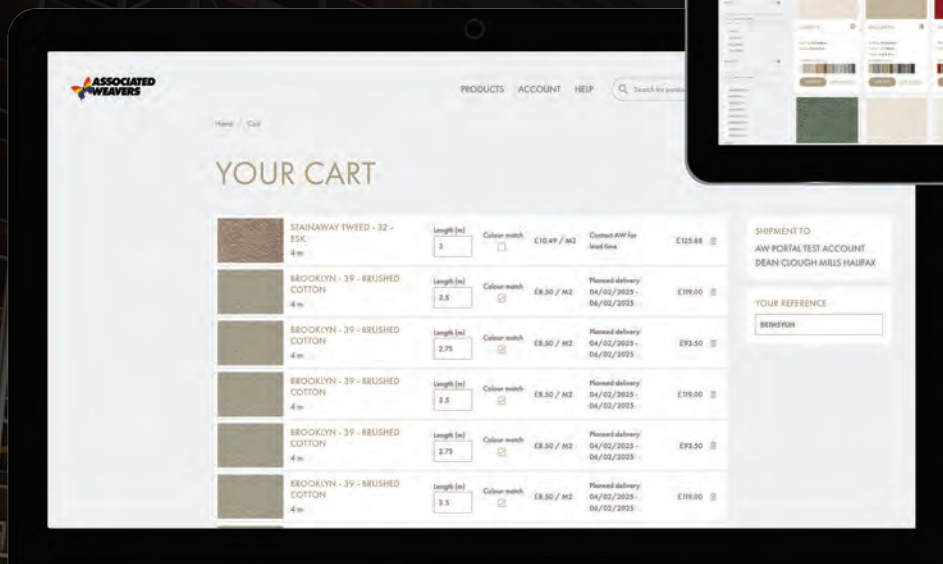
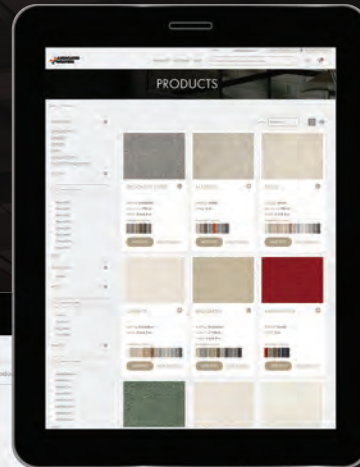
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Barnes Flooring, Bishop's Stortford ★★★★★

"Using the portal has made my ordering process faster and more convenient, I also find it very easy to navigate".

Hasmukh Halai, Euroken Furnishing ★★★★★

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Mattress recycling rises but 2028 targets in doubt

There has been a marked improvement in UK mattress recycling rates, but the bed industry is still far short of its 2028 targets and greater investment and regulation are required if these are to be achieved.

56% of mattresses were sent for recycling in 2023 – more than double the estimated 25% figure in 2021, according to the National Bed Federation's latest End of Life Mattress Report, the fifth. The rate of actual material recovery – 'real recycling' – has jumped from 14% in 2020 to 33%.

The improvement is encouraging and shows real progress: particularly mattresses being diverted from landfill, Tristine Hargreaves, NBF executive director says, but she warns that inconsistent practices, limited infrastructure and financial barriers remain.

The report, produced on behalf of the NBF by environmental consultant Resource Futures, found that

reuse remains a small part of the end-of-life picture in the face of hygiene concerns, cost, logistics and changing consumer perceptions. Recyclers continue to encounter challenges sourcing clean, quality mattresses. Financially, success relies on finding value in recovered materials such as polyester, springs and some foams, while recyclers warn that some manufacturers are reusing components without proper disclosure, damaging industry integrity.

There is currently no legal obligation for local authorities, manufacturers or retailers to recycle mattresses, leading to inconsistent collection, processing and recycling practices.

Hargreaves reiterated the association's call for an extended producer responsibility (EPR) scheme that includes mandatory take-back, funding for infrastructure and consistent nationwide standards if the NBF target of 75% of mattresses diverted from landfill by 2028 is to be met.

UK distribution centre for Natura

Wood flooring brand Natura Flooring has opened a UK distribution centre. Italian



Natura: 'The UK is a fantastic market'

manufacturer Florian Group is building a showroom at the site off Junction 7 of the A1, near Harrogate. This is due to open in 2026. Natura already has a showroom in Northampton.

'We started this new distribution because the UK is a fantastic market that deserves to understand what true wood flooring really means,' says Silvia Florian, Natura Flooring director and a member of the company's founding family. 'Too often, people buy based on price alone, unaware of the poor quality and lack of regulation behind many cheaper imports.'

The Harrogate facility holds more than 1,000sqm metres of each flooring range, allowing for next-day delivery and standard delivery within two business days. It operates by appointment only and employs seven staff.



Pillow talk

Upholstery retailer Sofa Club has debuted The Fashion Edit, a content series that merges fashion and interiors through the eyes of three inspiring women. Visitors to its website and Instagram and TikTok social media channels saw masterclasses, style guides and advice from (l-r) Eni Ilori, fashion stylist and creator behind Eni's Wardrobe; Georgina Blaskey, interiors editor and Monika Puccio, Sofa Club design director.



Cool runnings

George Joyce, Wolf Components sales director, was presented with the second Graham Kirkham Award by Lord Kirkham at The Furniture Makers' Company Royal Charter Dinner, after raising almost £5,000 running his debut marathon. The award, named after the president, recognises those who have made an exceptional contribution to the charity.

people



Former Sofology and Loom Loft store manager Victoria Blott has become Whitemeadow area sales manager for the north of England and Scotland, succeeding Jim Fraser.

Fiona Gaughan has become cco at The White Company.



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NEW PRODUCTS



1 The updated Impressive collection from **Quick-Step** brings larger patterns, two new structures and the world's first 100% creak-free, waterproof herringbone laminate floor. Eight new designs extend the bestselling collection to 18 natural wood designs that welcome nature indoors, and for the first time, Impressive now also comes in six herringbone styles.

Visit: www.quick-step.co.uk

2 Gervasoni's Brick table is available with two top options: timeless Carrara marble or polished lava stone, which conveys a bold, contemporary character. The legs, its true distinguishing element, are available in celadon green stoneware with a crackled effect – fresh and

luminous, or in white porcelain and volcanic sand (pictured), with a rawer and more tactile tone.

Visit: www.gervasoni1882.com

3 Innovation in the new-generation **Moduleo** LayRed begins with a 100% waterproof construction and enhanced sustainability. With the addition of Hydroseal technology and the precision fit of Uniclic, water simply can't penetrate the joints, stopping moisture reaching the floor below and preventing damage. Moduleo LayRed can now be enjoyed in kitchens and bathrooms, with no worries about standing water for up to 72 hours. It now also comes with 22% pre-consumer recycled content.

Visit: www.moduleo.co.uk

4 Two decades after Neuland Industriedesign designed Random for **MDF Italia**, the modular bookcase with 6mm thick shelves has new colours: English Green, Burgundy Red and Ivory White.

Visit: www.mdfitalia.com

5 Louis De Poortere's Richelieu Family collection represents the gains in efficiency that have come from its commitment to traditional craft. Diverse, beautiful and with an enduring quality that sets it apart, the woven broadloom collection is a luxurious choice for the discerning homeowner and offers 144 standard colours in six qualities.

Visit: www.louisdepoortere.com





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NEW PRODUCTS

6



6 Actiu's Wing chair is now manufactured using eco-derived polypropylene with 30% fibreglass, significantly reducing its environmental impact and ensuring product strength, longevity and 100% recyclability.

Visit: www.actiu.com

7 If your customers want the latest looks without breaking the bank, **LeoLine's** Novus is for them. With luxurious marble, chevron and herringbone wood and weathered metal tiles, the collection captures the latest natural and material looks in a trending warm and rich palette. Whether creating a blissful bathroom, cool kitchen or an amazing entrance, Novus has a look to suit every mood.

Visit: www.leoline.co.uk

8 ADP Distribution specialises in managing the distribution of new product store rollouts within tight deadlines. Its complete distribution service offers an affordable and professional option to get projects implemented on time and on-brand to hundreds of locations nationwide, and covers sectors including shop-fitting manufacturers, carpet and flooring specialists, IT companies, clothing and furniture stores and many more.

Visit: www.adp-distribution.co.uk

9 Inspired by the armchair and bench of the same name, **Saba's** Pan Flute headboard draws on the wall like a musical score. Conceived as a boiserie, its rounded volumes invite you to customise with original textures. Available in two sizes, it embraces small and large beds.

Visit: www.sabaitalia.com

10 Floorwise has launched Lumiere, a premium quality underlay created using only premium memory foam along with hand-sorted white recycled pre-consumer polyurethane foam. Lumiere is free from the hard lumps often found in foam underlays and comes with an entirely different feel, making this unmistakably premium underlay stand out from the crowd.

Visit: www.floorwise.co.uk

7



8



9



10



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EasiCare Natural Impressions

Introducing Natural Impressions, a 100% polypropylene carpet featuring a new Flexi-Fit fleece backing and a beautiful tactile tweed-style texture. Available in a curated palette of 10 timeless tonal shades, this collection offers both resilience and elegance.



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Richard Renouf

On tour

High expectations and a mystery substance

Wouldn't it be great if someone could create a fabric that doesn't crease on a sofa, a completely unscratchable lacquer, or flooring that can be laid on any subfloor with no surface preparation? Until that day comes, we will need to continue to provide suitable products for our customers' needs, and to manage their expectations.

The last few weeks have been very busy, and amongst the complaints I have been out to look at have been several suites which the customers felt were faulty because they expected them to continue to look brand new and unused, in one case after two-and-a-half years, and in another, they were comparing Dad's chair in front of the television to the unused sofa at the far end of the room which, frankly, they hadn't needed to buy.

I've just returned from a high-mileage 'tour' to carry out inspections between Bristol and Truro which included another creased suite. As I was driving down to the furthest appointment, I received an email asking me to look at a kitchen in a place I would be passing on my way back the following day. I called the customer as soon as I took a break and she told me she wouldn't be home at the time I could visit, but when she realised how long it would be before I came back that way she trusted me with her key-safe number so I could let myself in, negotiate with her dog, and inspect her kitchen doors.

The kitchen had base and wall units with a high-gloss lacquer, and an island arrangement of units in a different coloured lacquer. These were marked with splashes where the gloss surface had become matt and so the marks could not be wiped away. All the marks were on the lower doors, and mainly but not exclusively towards the oven, and



The trip started with another creased suite...

they were on both shades of the lacquer. There was no doubt they were from splashes of an unidentifiable substance that had eaten into the high-gloss finish. The customer's complaint was that she didn't know the cause and felt the kitchen was clearly not fit for purpose.

I tested the lacquer in an area where the customer would never see it. It was unaffected by a whole series of liquids that might be used in a normal kitchen, including acids and alkalis, some of which were far more concentrated than would be in everyday use. Only one of the liquids affected the finish, and it

produced exactly the same effect on the surface as had happened on the customer's doors: acetone. As this is a solvent used in some lacquers, this was to be expected. What's more, it's not a normal substance used in a kitchen.

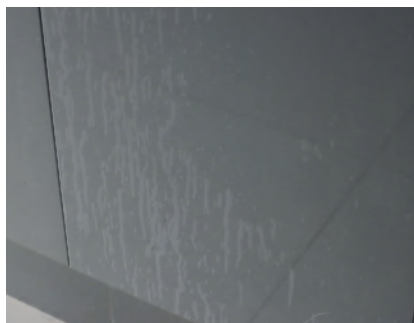
My conclusion? My report had to be carefully worded. A lacquer cannot be expected to resist everything, and in a kitchen it only needs to be resistant to normal substances used in a kitchen, and with normal care and maintenance.

In this case I could not identify the mystery substance that had been splashed onto the doors, but it was clearly out of the ordinary and could have been left on the surface for some time without being cleaned off. As the worst areas were near the oven and the air fryer, the splashes could also have been hot – well above boiling point perhaps.

I'm waiting for the reactions to my reports.

Visit: www.richard-renouf.com

Richard Renouf is an independent furnishings consultant



What could have caused the splash marks?



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Caroline Lindsell and Dylan O'Shea with two designs from the Lithics collection (left and second left)

Immersion

A Rum Fellow's store design reflects its owners

In the heart of London's Notting Hill, A Rum Fellow is offering visitors the chance to be immersed in its signature world of colourful bespoke handcrafted rugs, artisanal textiles and contemporary heritage design.

This isn't a run-of-the-mill store or showroom, where the POS doesn't quite match and the lighting needs more watts. Designed as a tactile and all-encompassing experience, it is calm, light-filled and layered with natural textures that complement the boldness of Caroline Lindsell and Dylan O'Shea's personal aesthetic.

The space also reflects the couple's deep commitment to craftsmanship, with custom joinery, tonal walls and exposed materials providing a soft backdrop for its statement rugs, fabrics, wall-hangings and brocades.

'It is a crafted space, soft and considered, created to reflect the artistry behind our collections. We wanted it to have the warmth of a lived-in space whilst creating the perfect backdrop for our designs to shine,' says O'Shea. →→→



ETON WHITE NEW FOR 2026

The Eton collection, known for its timeless craftsmanship and contemporary charm, is expanding with the elegant introduction of a new white finish. This fresh colourway joins the existing solid oak, bringing a lighter, more modern aesthetic to the range. Each piece continues the collection's signature style - refined detailing, clean lines, and a perfectly balanced finish - now reimagined in a soft, versatile palette that complements both classic and contemporary interiors.

The addition of white introduces a new dimension to the Eton collection, offering fresh possibilities for living, dining, and bedroom spaces while maintaining the cohesive elegance and quality craftsmanship the range is celebrated for.


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RETAIL



Centre stage is A Rum Fellow's most recent award-winning rug collection, Lithics, made in India and Nepal. This draws inspiration from Britain's wild geological landscapes, from untamed rock formations to sea-battered coastlines, reflecting Lindsell's childhood on the Cornish coast. These influences are captured in tone, texture and mood. The five rug designs explore a sense of

grounding and connection, evoking a feeling of contented isolation amid elementally sculptured terrains.

When not at the Kensington Park Road, London store (open weekdays only), they travel in search of the wonderful and unique. With Lindsell's roots in fashion, her creative direction brings together expressive colour and bold pattern with a refined sense of

balance, while O'Shea's background in international development and artisan partnerships has shaped the studio's mission-led approach.

'Our collections are rooted in a belief that design can be a force for positive change. We champion ethical production and fair-trade principles, working with family-run workshops, all-female weaving cooperatives →→→



The west London store provides a calm, light-filled venue for bespoke handcrafted rugs, artisanal textiles and contemporary heritage design






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and artisan partners around the world. The rugs are certified by both Label STEP and GoodWeave, reflecting our commitment to social responsibility and craft preservation,' says O'Shea.

Further reflecting its individuality, Lindsell and O'Shea worked with a number of makers and craftspeople in shaping the store's look, with furniture by Rupert Bevan, tiles by Balineum, lighting by Curiousa and flooring by Chaunceys.

Are either of the pair the rum fellow in question? Lindsell laughs and you get the impression it's not an original query.

'It's the old English word rum, meaning something odd, curious or unusual. This spirit defines our approach, embracing original thinking, uncommon craft traditions and a distinctive use of design and colour. It is a celebration of what is rare, peculiar and beautifully refined,' she says.

Visit: www.arumfellow.com



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REFINEMENT

Two limited editions of Stool X602 showcase one of Alvar Aalto's most refined innovations: the fan-shaped X-leg, a sculptural evolution of his iconic L-leg. The hexagonal seat top features a curly birch veneer, applied using marquetry. Curly birch is a rare variant of Finnish silver birch, with wavy, irregular rings forming a fiery pattern. The stool is available in two models: one honey-stained, the other with natural lacquered legs that highlight the X-leg structure.

Meet the Aaltos (again)

Artek's 90th anniversary has returned the spotlight to two of its founders

Designs that have been out of Artek's standard production for decades are now available, some as limited editions, to mark the company's 90th anniversary. Screen 100 gains a wider range of heights to accommodate the needs of modern living, while Cabinet 250 returns to the standard collection. There are also two anniversary editions of Stool X602.

When Artek's founders Alvar and Aino Aalto, Maire Gullichsen and Nils-Gustav Hahl set about creating a new kind of furniture company in 1935, they were seeking to achieve a synthesis of art and technology to improve everyday living, to bring modern art and design to Finland, and to showcase the best that Finland had to offer to the world.

The Gems from the Archive collection

turns the spotlight back to the Aaltos. Recognised as one of the great masters of modern architecture, Alvar (1898-1976) was born in Kuortane, Finland. During a prolific career, he designed buildings for almost all key public institutions, as well as standardised housing and private homes.

He began designing furnishings as a natural extension of his architectural thinking. His first modern piece of furniture was created in 1931-32 for the tuberculosis sanatorium in Paimio, and he first achieved fame in Europe as a furniture designer and only later as an architect. His furniture and lighting form the heart of the Artek range.

Aino (1894-1949) was an architect and designer. Graduating in 1920, her

second professional position, in 1924, was in Alvar Aalto's office: six months later, they married. Their creative partnership was marked by absolute equality. For example, while Cabinet 250 is credited to Alvar due to the inclusion of the L-leg, archive documents show that Aino was the first to attach a cabinet body to the L-leg design. A practical storage unit for everyday items such as bed linen and clothing, it fulfilled her belief that no object or function is undeserving of aesthetic beauty.

As a designer, Aino is primarily known for her work in glass and interior design, and then as a furniture designer. But her interests included architecture and photography, as well as various areas of applied art and design. Among many other things, she designed ceramics, lighting and printed fabrics.

She was closely involved in the company's development, taking on the roles of design director and md and, in many ways, laid the foundation for the Artek aesthetic, which combined clear form with simple surface ornamentation. Her legacy lives on in Artek and in her ever-popular, much-copied glassware.

Visit: www.artek.fi



Aino Aalto in the family back garden



Alvar and his second wife Elissa in the 1960s



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Knightsbridge Berber in Dusty Fossil

Take two yarns

Abingdon Flooring has used the yarns from two of its bestsellers for a unique combination

Abingdon Flooring has combined the yarns from its Pure Elegance and Rustique designs to create Knightsbridge Berber, a heavyweight twist carpet that combines plush softness and tri-coloured texture.

'Combining the yarns creates a gorgeous, textured finish that will enhance any room. This unique Berber style is unlike anything available on the market today: it offers a distinct, sophisticated look that cannot be found elsewhere and is perfect for creating standout interiors,' says Charlotte Coop, Abingdon Flooring head of marketing.

'With this launch, Abingdon Flooring continues to set the bar for quality, style and durability in the carpet industry.

'A standout product in the Stainfree range, Knightsbridge Berber is available in a four-ply construction and is denser and thicker, ideal for high-traffic areas such as busy family homes, bedrooms, and busy living spaces. The unique combination of these materials ensures the perfect balance of comfort, style and resilience, ensuring that the carpet maintains its luxurious feel and stunning appearance for years to come.'

As part of Abingdon Flooring's Stainfree offer, Knightsbridge Berber comes with a Stainfree for Life guarantee, and has a 12-year wear warranty. It is available in 2.5m, 4m and 5m

widths, with Abingdon Flooring's signature fleece backing.

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Next step

Larger patterns, new structures and creak-free, waterproof herringbone

Eleven years after Quick-Step introduced its original Impressive collection as the world's first waterproof laminate floor – long established as a cornerstone of its offer – the updated Impressive range presents larger patterns, new structures and creak-free, waterproof laminate herringbone floors.

For 2025, Quick-Step has introduced eight new designs across two new structures. These join the 10 bestselling Impressive styles to create a collection of 18 natural wood designs that welcome nature indoors.

For the first time, Impressive now also comes in six herringbone styles in an elegant and lifelike surface texture that is unique to these herringbone planks. The Impressive Design herringbone floors are as easy to install as regular planks, thanks to

the Unizip joint that eliminates the need for separate A/B plank types.

The new Smooth structure found in regular Impressive planks has an elegant grain and fine wood pores with a refined bevel.

Contrasting this clean look is the new Rich structure, with a more vibrant feel with spirited knots adding depth of character.

The new colours and textures are all available with 20 planks per design, with the increased number of planks creating a more natural look.

Impressive Design goes further with 56 planks in each of its six colours. Ginger Oak, Cardamom Oak, Nutmeg Oak, Cumin Oak, Cinnamon Oak and Charred Oak ensure a selection across light, medium and dark shades.

The herringbone styles of Impressive Design have a 8mm specification,

meaning that they can be installed alongside standard Impressive floors (excluding Impressive Ultra).

Visit: www.quick-step.co.uk





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Join the club

Tufty-Time has turned 20

2005 saw the launch of YouTube, the first human face transplant, the value of digital music sales outstrip singles – and B&B Italia introduce Patricia Urquiola's Tufty-Time.

To mark its china anniversary, the system has been reinterpreted while preserving its essential characteristics of modularity, enveloping comfort and flexibility that have made it an icon. The new structure provides a particularly inviting seating experience, thanks to a

generous padding in recycled polyester set between polyurethane and fabric, which delivers a softer, more cushioned feel. The seat height has been increased by a few centimetres, and the addition of a curved module – increasing the total to 14 – has enhanced its potential, enabling more convivial and fluid settings.

Designed with a strong focus on circularity, the system has been engineered to be fully disassemblable and debuts an exclusive new fabric: a

wool chenille with a boucle effect.

Since 2005, Tufty-Time has evolved through multiple iterations – Tufty-Time, Tufty-Time in leather, Tufty-Too and Tufty-Time '15 – and remains a B&B Italia bestseller.

'Tufty-Time is a piece very dear to me. The new version is designed with longevity in mind, a fundamental quality for a design approach that looks ahead,' says Urquiola.

Visit: www.bebitalia.com



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Elio Martinelli created Serpente in 1965

Creative rush

The symbol of technology, functionality, dynamism, geometry and nature is 60

Serpente represents an age when new materials, especially plastic, came to the fore; pop and colour were in full bloom and the word 'design' came into everyday usage. These materials, and new production technologies, brought expressive possibilities and allowed Elio Martinelli to carry out the unprecedented experiments that became one of his trademarks.

Plastic burst into the daily lives and imaginations of millions of people: in living rooms, innovative lamps such as Serpente simplified everyday life and gestures, revolutionising habits and helping to create the 'modern' lifestyle.

The Martinelli Luce founder's design – a symbol of geometry, nature, dynamism, functionality and technology – has turned 60, and an orange metal arm version marks the anniversary.

Serpente has successfully resisted changing fashions over the decades. Designed in both table and floor versions, it stands out for its swivel arm that allows the white shade to rotate 360 degrees, generating a fluid movement reminiscent of the sinuous elegance of a snake.

Innovative techniques for the time were used in its construction: in particular, special moulds were designed and developed in-house for the thermoforming of the diffuser, characterised by its undercut, as well

as for the highly complex curvature of the arms.

'Orange is a colour that evokes enthusiasm, movement and creative freedom, the same that characterised my father Elio and still guides our work today. I remember this lamp in our house, standing out on the piano when my son Marco started playing it as a child. Serpente is part of our history, both as a family and as a company, and fully identifies us,' says Emiliana Martinelli, Martinelli Luce president.

Visit: www.martinelliluce.it



There are table and floor versions

The shade rotates 360 degrees



Beds and bedroom



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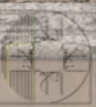
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Could Gyles Brandreth make a return?



Anton du Beke hosted in 2024

Inside story

Making the Bed Show, Bed Industry Awards and gala dinner happen

'So that's another Bed Show, Bed Industry Awards and gala dinner completed and, after recovering from the usual post-show exhaustion, it's time to analyse the data, reflect on what sort of event we delivered, celebrate all the good points, look at what we could do better and start planning for the 2026 Bed Show,' says Simon Williams, National Bed Federation head of marketing and membership, and the man with the unenviable job of ensuring all three are a success.

'History shows us that support for an exhibition in the UK furniture and bed industry tends to ebb and flow and, unless it remains attractive to both visitors and exhibitors, its continued existence is always under threat. We strive to ensure the Bed Show and Bed Industry Awards and gala dinner remain the "must attend" events in our sector.

'Work on this year's show began in earnest in January, when we contacted all NBF members asking for their space requirements. By the end of February, we had our first rough floor plan: it takes a few hours of moving bits of paper around, trying to ensure each member's position within the halls is different to the previous year. Unlike most shows, exhibitors cannot choose their location and are moved every year. This makes our job more difficult, but it ensures there is no favouritism and that smaller exhibitors are treated no different to the bigger brands.

'At the same time, we work on fine-tuning the categories for the awards,

approaching experts to help judge the different categories, and are in dialogue with an agency to find a suitable 'big name' host for the awards evening – no easy task given the overwhelmingly positive feedback we received about Anton du Beke, our host in 2024. Names are suggested but quickly scratched off the list due either to unavailability or cost.

"What about bringing back Gyles Brandreth for one last hurrah?" was one suggestion. Now there's a thought...

'By March we have a shortlist of potential hosts that are available in principle, subject to agreeing a fee. This year one of those was Vernon Kay, and with the media frenzy around the Oasis comeback tour, we thought he would be the ideal host, given his well-known love for the band's music. All we had to do was book a fantastic Oasis tribute band and hey presto, we have a theme for the event.

'So, contact was made with the UK's official number one Oasis tribute →→→



Vernon Kay with Oasis

BEDS AND BEDROOM



The NBF team and president at the gala dinner: Williams was in the main suite making sure the event ran as planned



Exhibitors have new locations every Bed Show

Oasish, who confirmed their availability and were duly booked. However, there was still much toing and froing with Kay's management team before we finally reached agreement towards the end of May. Now we could start advertising and promoting the evening to the industry and begin work with our video company to produce the introduction and category videos that are played on the night of the awards.

'Meanwhile, we're sifting through the entries for the various awards categories and liaising with the judges to arrange dates and times to carry out the judging process. Most of the awards are judged before the show, but the two product awards (Bed of the Year and Component Product of the Year) can only be judged during set-up day on the Monday prior to the show opening. Certificates for the winners and finalists need to be produced and trophies sourced while finalising videos, slides and appropriate music tracks for the presentations on the evening. We also write all the scripts

for the host, to ensure the announcing and handing out of the awards goes as planned and to time – no long speeches.

'Then there's numerous large banners and signage to produce in order to direct visitors within the venue to registration, to highlight the various cafes and the Supplier Zone, as well as designing and printing the complimentary refreshment vouchers handed out to visitors and exhibitors. Digital messaging and imagery also need to be created for uploading to the many digital notice boards dotted around the foyer at the Telford International Centre.

'We then turn our attention to what food to serve to more than 500 people at the gala dinner. Anyone who has organised a corporate event or family wedding will understand how difficult this task is. Get it wrong (as we have done in the not-too-distant past) and you'll soon know about it. We carefully select a number of different starters, main courses and desserts to taste, taking into account the need to have

options available for different dietary and religious requirements. There's also the job of choosing and sourcing the table centre-piece decorations that add a real impact to the room on the night. This year, we also added an Oasis-themed selfie backdrop at the drinks reception for guests to use to capture the buzz of the evening and share on social media. It's these little additions that help turn a good night into a great night. And what a great night it was.

'We received overwhelmingly favourable feedback on this year's Bed Show, BIA and gala dinner thankfully. Special thanks to our key sponsors Highgrove Beds (awards and registration); Harrison Spinks (gala dinner drinks reception); Adjust-A-Bed (Oasish); CPS Group, Sealy UK and Silentnight (cafes and complimentary refreshment vouchers).

'The planning for the 2026 event is underway. Now where is Gyles Brandreth's number?'

Visit: www.bedshow.co.uk



Shows must be attractive to both visitors and exhibitors



Bensons won National Bed Retailer of the Year



The Sealy Bed Show team

Raising the bar

Innovation, partnership and performance
(and Bed Product of the Year) are core for Sealy

'This year's Bed Show was one of our strongest to date. We welcomed a record number of retailers onto the stand, which has directly translated into new floor model placements across our network. It was great to see not only our established partners showing continued confidence in Sealy, but also new stockists coming on board as a result of conversations started at the show. We've been focused on expanding our retail footprint, and the event provided the ideal opportunity to turn that ambition into action. The atmosphere was energetic and optimistic, a real reflection of where the brand is right now,' says Mark Tuley, Sealy cco.

The atmosphere was lifted further with the Elevate Edison Luxury Plush winning Bed Industry Awards' Bed Product of the Year.

'Despite a challenging retail landscape, 2025 has been another year of solid growth. By the end of August, sales were 9% ahead, in a market that's broadly flat or slightly behind: we've increased our market share for the third consecutive year. It's a significant achievement,

particularly given the wider economic pressures affecting consumer spending. The results reinforce our strategy: focusing on quality, brand consistency, and supporting retailers to sell confidently. It's proof that a strong brand with a clear purpose can continue to thrive even in difficult trading conditions.'

The Sealy team spent much of the first half of the year enhancing choice within the core Posturepedic collections, introducing new comfort feels and refining the details that matter most to consumers. 'These developments have strengthened our ranges and opened up more opportunities for retailers to upsell or expand their offering. Our ongoing goal is to help our partners build a better mattress business: that's always been central to the Sealy Posturepedic ethos. Seeing these improvements drive growth for both us and our retailers shows that the strategy is working.

'The premium end of our portfolio continues to deliver exceptional results. The introduction of Exquisite in 2023, and the continued success of Elevate Ultra, has encouraged retailers

to confidently trade customers up to higher value models. We're selling more mattresses overall, but importantly, at stronger average prices. That balance of volume and value is something we'll continue to focus on into next year.

'With a strong pipeline of product innovation and a renewed focus on premium comfort, Sealy Posturepedic remains firmly positioned as a leader in the UK bedding market: trusted by retailers and recognised by industry experts alike.'

Visit: www.sealy.co.uk



Mark Tuley



Above left: Centurial Above: Majestic

Hat-trick

Sleeppezee has created three more collections for independent stockists

The Bed Show provided an exceptional platform for Sleeppezee to unveil its latest collections. The Sleeppezee stand, which garnered significant attention from visitors, was a true reflection of the company's commitment to craftsmanship, innovation and style, demonstrating Sleeppezee's new brand proposition under its The Rest of Your Life campaign.

The event saw the debut of three collections for Sleeppezee's independent retail partners: Jessica, Centurial and Majestic.

Designed in partnership with brand ambassador Jessica Ennis-Hill, the next-generation Jessica collection sees each model specification improved, as well as an enhanced comfort filling: Dual Gel. This is a pressure-relieving memory foam that is infused with two gel additives to regulate temperature. Red gel acts as a heat conductor that helps move away excess heat and blue gel acts as a heat sink to manage the excess heat. The result means Dual Gel provides four times faster heat transfer than standard foam, creating a cooler, more comfortable night's sleep.

Gel beads in the foam cluster together under compression to provide additional support and reduce excessive sinking and pressure, helping to keep the spine aligned and body supported.

Sleeppezee's premium collection Centurial was extended with two new



models and a luxurious loose topper, which can be used across the collection. With 8,000 springs, the two new models are the most supportive yet, with natural fillings including horsehair and latex.

Sitting underneath the Centurial collection is the new Majestic range. Each model features multiple layers of British wool, silk and cashmere, finished with a soft and sumptuous chemical-free damask. The Majestic collection offers customers premium-quality mattresses,

backed by a 10-year guarantee, at competitive price points.

'Our successful presence at Bed Show 2025 is a testament to Sleeppezee's enduring legacy and vision for the future. As the company embarks on its next century, we remain committed to delivering innovative, high-quality sleep solutions that meet the evolving needs of customers,' says Amy Curtis, Sleeppezee marketing director. Visit: www.sleeppezee.com

Jessica Deluxe
Shown on Joshua Latte



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Fresh thinking

comfort breathe is designed to help hot sleepers get a deeper night's sleep

Silentnight's comfort breathe was developed with hot sleepers in mind, designed to combine comfort with durability to create a range that keeps air flowing freely through the mattress – to help people stay cooler and comfier from the moment their head hits the pillow.

The range has 10 models, from the 800 Pocket to the 3000 Boxtop, giving independent retailers a product ladder across multiple price points.

Each mattress is built with comfort breathe fibres, a breathable layer designed to promote ventilation, draw away moisture and help regulate body temperature through the night by allowing air to circulate and reduce heat build-up. Promoting airflow also helps to keep moisture at bay, which means less chance of mould or material breakdown – which means shoppers can feel assured their mattress is made to last.

Every model is foam and additional FR chemical treatment-free, ensuring a fresher, healthier sleep environment and helping retailers meet the growing eco-conscious expectations of consumers.

The mattresses feature Silentnight's Mirapocket springs, to provide tailored, zoned support by responding independently to movements, enhancing spinal alignment and reducing partner disturbance. Quality and durability are backed by a five-year guarantee.

For consumers seeking next-level comfort, at the premium end of the range is comfort breathe airflow: an innovative alternative to traditional foam, offering enhanced breathability and unmistakable sink-in comfort that lasts. comfort breathe airmesh has extra breathable fibres to keep sleepers cool and comfy as they sleep.

The collection's fresh aesthetic reflects its breathability, with clean white bases, sage green accents and a subtle wave

pattern inspired by flowing air. From double-sided designs at mid-tier, to premium pillowtop and boxtop options, each model is finished with touches such as breathable mesh borders, handles and colour-matched embroidery.

comfort breathe mattresses are made using recycled content and are fully recyclable at end of life through verified partners, continuing Silentnight's mission to lead the market in sustainable comfort. Tel: 0333 123 0892



comfort breathe mattresses are made using recycled content and are fully recyclable at end of life





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Responsible sourcing
has been a major focus

Record progress

Harrison Spinks' 2025 Impact Report highlights emissions reductions, nature restoration and community support

Record progress in sustainability and social impact, including reducing emissions, planting thousands of trees and producing hundreds of beds for children in poverty are among the main findings of Harrison Spinks' 2025 Impact Report.

Fresh from winning Bed Industry Awards' Bed Manufacturer of the Year, its second consecutive win and fifth overall, the majority employee-owned company has highlighted major developments including:

Enhancing the environment – at its Yorkshire farm, a historic orchard has been restored and 3,000m of native hedgerows planted, with more trees and songbird feed to increase biodiversity and wildlife; over 160 volunteer hours were spent restoring rare Yorkshire wildlife and habitats through Yorkshire

Wildlife Trust's Wild Ingleborough restoration project, including a record 2,365 trees planted in one day;

Supporting local communities – mattress donations to local children's charity Zarach increased by 50%, delivering 360 beds for children living in poverty this year;

Colleague welfare – with 51% of Harrison Spinks' beds division owned by an Employee Ownership Trust, the manufacturer continues to prioritise colleague wellbeing through investment in training and long-term career development, including being involved in events to support women in the traditionally male-dominated industry;

Reducing emissions – the company reduced direct (Scope 1) emissions by 10% and indirect (Scope 2) by 37% in the past financial year, achieved by

investments in infrastructure, improving heating systems and switching to renewable energy contracts;

Waste reduction – having achieved its goal of zero-production waste to landfill by 2025, Harrison Spinks has launched a new waste strategy to minimise incineration, with planned machinery upgrades enabling post-production waste to be repurposed into new mattress fillings;

Responsible sourcing – further initiatives to source traceable, certified natural materials, prioritising British fibres where possible such as wool and traceable alpaca fibre, plus replacing horsehair with coir.

'This year has been one of real milestones. From our responsible sourcing strategy to supporting local families and restoring the Yorkshire landscape, we're proving that the industry can create social value and positive change. Charities like Zarach and St George's Crypt remind us that a good night's sleep is a basic right, while projects like Wild Ingleborough show the power of protecting nature on our doorstep,' says Nick Booth, Harrison Spinks md.

'Being named Bed Manufacturer of the Year for the fifth time is recognition of everyone's hard work and commitment to doing things the right way. We're proud of the progress we've made in sustainable bed making and responsible manufacturing, and hope we can inspire others on their sustainability journey.'

Visit: www.harrisonspinks.co.uk



The Princess Royal meeting Wayne Tinker, Harrison Spinks side stitcher at the Leeds factory





Harrison Spinks

The True Bedmakers



Winner

nbf
Awards
2025-2026

Bed
Manufacturer
of the Year

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We're passionate about making luxury mattresses and beds in the most responsible way. It's why we grow comfort fillings on our Yorkshire farm, weave naturally FR chemical treatment free fabrics in-house and make our own award-winning springs.

Our unique approach to luxury bed making makes us different.
It's why each and every one we lovingly handcraft is proudly
cut from a different cloth.

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Verona



Sienna

Recognition

Delivering real business results is key

Shire Beds strengthened its reputation, being named a finalist in the Bed Industry Awards' Manufacturer of the Year category, capping an outstanding year for the manufacturer.

Shire supports more than 200 top independent furniture and bed retailers through its exclusive Brand Behind Your Brand white-label programme. These collections are designed to help retailers achieve better margins, stronger brand identity and long-term growth.

'The Capri and Ravello collections, where the white-label story began, remain standout performers. Crafted with natural materials and hand side-stitched pocket-sprung construction, these double-sided mattresses match the quality of leading branded alternatives while offering exceptional value. Now with a 10-year guarantee, they continue to deliver impressive

sales and retailer confidence,' says Fara Butt, Shire Beds director.

'In line with this, the Boutique and Artisan ranges of divans and headboards now carry a 10-year guarantee and are available in six additional colourways, allowing retailers to offer fully coordinated, stylish bedroom solutions.'

The Bed Show saw Shire showcase its full white-label portfolio of seven distinctive collections, created to combine comfort, performance and retail versatility.

'Visitors were particularly drawn to the Tencel and Bamboo Hybrid range, featuring foam-encapsulated borders and a choice of 1,000, 3,000 and 5,000 pocket springs. Each model includes high-density, pressure-relieving viscoelastic foam infused with gel bead technology for advanced comfort and temperature regulation.

'The Cool Nytz Collection continues to address growing demand for temperature-controlled sleep, while the Solitude range offers a sustainable, chemical-free option for eco-conscious consumers. For premium buyers, the Verona and Sienna collections blend wool, silk and cashmere, delivering luxury and craftsmanship.

'The response to our products at the show was phenomenal. Retailers loved the combination of modern styling, sustainable materials and white-label opportunity, praising not only the

quality and comfort but also the flexibility for own-label branding, giving control over pricing, margins, and in-store differentiation. Being recognised among the top three manufacturers nationally validates our approach and our team's hard work.'

The BIA success comes after a year of strategic growth for Shire Beds, expanding its workforce by a third and investing more than £250,000 in advanced machinery and automation. These investments, along with staff development initiatives, have enhanced quality, scalability and sustainability. Operational improvements include short delivery times and a no-quibble returns policy, further strengthening customer trust.

A redesigned website, launching later this year, will showcase the product portfolio while enhancing digital engagement and customer support.

'Recognition at this level is about more than awards: it demonstrates that quality, innovation and partnership deliver real business results. Our focus remains on helping retailers thrive while setting new standards in comfort, sustainability and performance,' says Butt. 'With a growing product range, modern design ethos and unwavering dedication to partnership and excellence, we continue to shape the future of the UK bedding industry.'

Visit: www.shirebeds.co.uk



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Origins Luxury



Steve Malkin, Planet Mark founder and David Baldry, Hypnos group md celebrate the manufacturer's Planet Mark Certified – Net Zero Committed status

Choice

Hypnos is introducing bed linen, a new fabric collection and more tension options

This Autumn, Hypnos not only announced its Planet Mark Certified – Net Zero Committed status, the first bed industry brand to achieve this, it also expanded its retail offer by adding firmer tensions to selected collections, introducing new fabrics and launching pure wool bedding made in Britain.

The British bedmaker showcased its collection for launch in 2026 at the Bed Show, with firmer mattress options, on-trend fabric selections and new luxurious wool bedding reaffirming its commitment to British quality and craftsmanship.

The ReActivePro ORTHO pocket spring creates a choice of extra-firm feels, designed for sleepers seeking enhanced support but unwilling to compromise on craftsmanship and materials for the ultimate sleep experience.

The first three mattresses within the Legacy Collection, including the award-winning, Good Housekeeping Institute approved Legacy III, have three tensions rather than two: a choice of medium, firmer and now extra firm. The Origins Luxury No-Turn collection has also been redeveloped to offer a variety of tensions enhanced with the responsive feel of latex and wool. With varying layers of natural latex and RWS British wool, these mattresses are now complimented by a choice of three tensions in medium, firmer and extra firm.

Hypnos debuted its upholstery fabric collections for its hand-made divans and headboards. These new fabrics focus on tactile finishes and soft, mineral hues. It has also introduced a luxury fabric collection offering a palette of textures and colours to selected retailers. With bright colours and playful textures, they are designed to elevate the visual and sensory appeal of any bedroom; many are also stain-resistant.

Hypnos used the show to share its latest divan accessories and preview the reintroduction of solid wood dovetail drawers with a soft close mechanism

and available in solid oak.

Retailers were also introduced to a new collection of luxury bedding, the Tailored Sleep Collection. Handcrafted in Britain with RWS wool from British farms, the collection will be available in Spring and includes all-seasons and lightweight duvets, a mattress protector and a selection of luxury wool pillows. Pillows with clusters of pure wool, or a blend of wool and responsibly sourced feathers, will be available in medium and firm, while a natural latex pillow is cocooned in layers of wool.

Visit: www.hypnosbeds.com



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Infinity includes a zip-and-link option

Season of comfort

Catering to all needs

Komfi is approaching the colder months with renewed momentum and a clear focus on comfort, quality and choice following a successful Bed Show.

Komfi's Vitality and Infinity collections highlight the company's commitment to providing retailers with flexible, high-performing solutions that make it easy for customers to prioritise better sleep.

The Vitality range of five models – Ultra Firm, Excel Medium, Excel Firm, Hybrid and Max – has been designed to offer genuine value without compromise and prove that practicality and comfort can go hand in hand. Vitality has a mattress for every type of sleeper: from

the in-demand Ultra Firm to the Hybrid model offering balanced comfort and responsive performance.

Each model is finished with a distinctive colour-coded zip to support clear merchandising in-store and online. Combined with its modern, tactile cover design and thoughtful construction, Vitality has been developed to offer dependable comfort that customers can trust, with the reassurance of British-made quality.

For those who prefer indulgence and modern luxury, the Infinity range takes comfort to the next level. Available in three tiers: Elite, Prestige and Imperial,

the collection combines refined finishes with next-generation 4G foam technology to create mattresses that deliver exceptional pressure relief and long-lasting performance. A zip-and-link option allows customers to choose two different tensions for a personalised sleep experience, for couples with differing comfort needs.

Whether customers are searching for practical everyday comfort or a premium sleep experience, Komfi's collections have been created to empower retailers to cater to all needs under one British brand.

www.komfi.com



Vitality Max



Vitality Ultra Firm

komfi



High quality sleep solutions catering to a broad range of price points and sleep preferences. Offering retailers short lead times, reliable UK manufacturing, and convenient delivery options.

Please contact your local agent for more information

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Above: Breasley's Bed Show stand
Above left: Robin Thorpe

Together

Sport and performance partnerships mixed with mattress debuts for Breasley

Breasley headed into Autumn on a high after a standout Bed Show, where it unveiled sport and performance partnerships alongside product and service initiatives.

The company is now official mattress and pillow supplier to Championship club Wrexham AFC. It is working with players and coaching staff to provide sleep solutions designed to optimise pre-match preparation and post-match recovery.

'This partnership allows us to bring our expertise to support the club and its community as they continue their journey of growth and success,' says Pomi Khan, Breasley CEO.

Robin Thorpe has become as the brand's sleep science ambassador. The Red Bull director, performance and visiting academic at Liverpool John Moore University and Arizona State University will help to amplify Breasley's digital presence with expert-led content rolling out across its website, social channels and in-store POS in the coming months.

The show was the launchpad for the UNO Natural range, which sits within the UNO Exclusive Collection. The three-model line-up – Natural Embrace Plush, Natural Balance Medium and Natural Calm Firm – features foam-only designs with a premium, breathable wool-blend

quilt cover paired with UNO's seven-zone memory support layer designed to enhance airflow and targeted pressure relief. Early feedback from buyers was highly positive, with strong order banks reported from the show.

Breasley used the show to spotlight rapid growth in its own-label programmes over the past 12–18 months. Two clearly defined service tiers make it simple for retailers and brands to engage:

Platinum OEM offers a fully bespoke route, curating materials, designs and budgets to build coherent, own-brand ranges, while Gold ODM provides a ready-to-go selection of mattress cores and pillows for swift market entry and fast delivery.

Breasley also showcased Salus, the company's premium proposition focused on rejuvenation and balance.

Email: breasleysales@breasley.co.uk



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Above left: The two all-foam models were wrapped in futuristic fabrics **Above right:** Energize becomes more elastic and motion-friendly as temperatures increase

Energized

Kaymed's introduction 'feels fresh, different and perfectly timed'

The launch of Kaymed's Energize at the Bed Show brought energy to the event, as retailers responded enthusiastically to a range that 'feels fresh, different and perfectly timed for today's wellness-driven consumer'. Energize stood out with its bold purple branding and eye-catching visuals.

'The six-model lineup – including two concept designs in striking black-and-purple covers – drew immediate attention and footfall. The two all-foam models were wrapped in futuristic fabrics that turned heads. And the four hybrid

models feature modern waterfall tops and tailored borders, with spring counts from 1,000 to 2,000 for layered comfort and support,' says Terry Bridger, Kaymed sales manager UK.

'Retailers were instantly drawn to the bold new aesthetic: but it was the feel of the mattresses that truly won them over. Energize offers a plush, contouring comfort on first contact, followed by a dynamic bounce that activates as the sleeper's body warms the surface. Unlike traditional visco-elastic foams that soften with heat, Energex activates at 27°C,

becoming more elastic and motion-friendly and helping sleepers move more easily and stay in deeper sleep longer.

'We knew Energize had something very new and special, and the response confirmed it. Retailers loved the feel and the story. We've already secured placements with key independents and are in talks with national chains.'

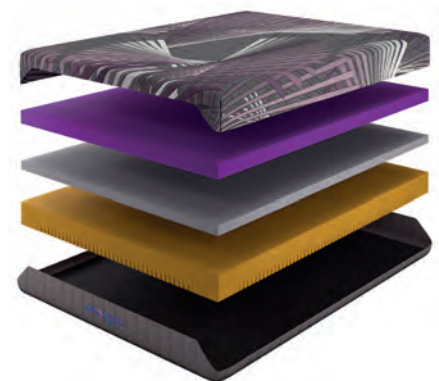
'A simple demo unit stole the show. Using a hairdryer to warm Energex foam, buyers could feel the transformation from firm and static to elastic and energizing. The hands-on experience reassured retailers and sparked real excitement,' says Conor Stapleton, Kaymed marketing manager.

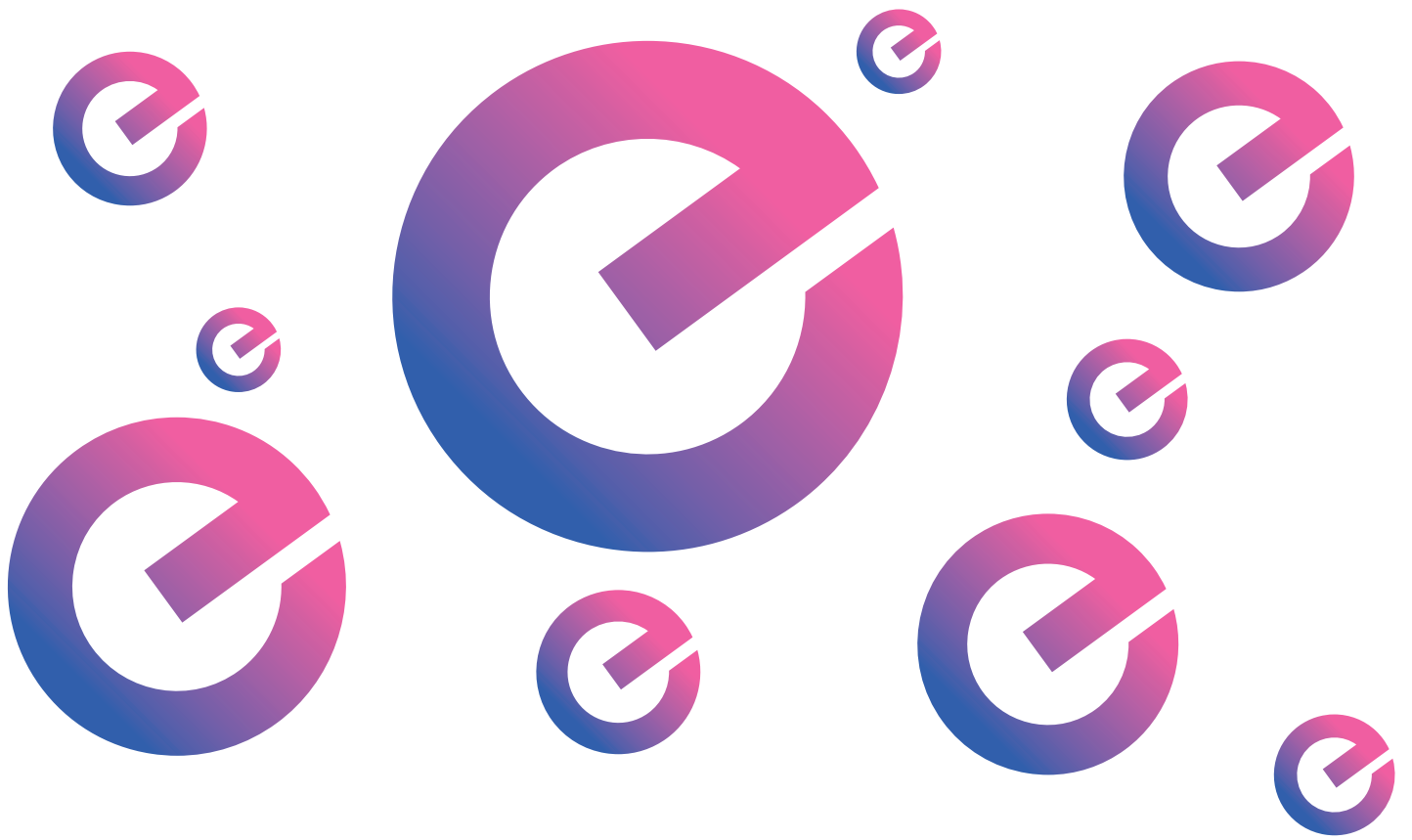
'It's fantastic to see the brand promise land so well. Energize helps people sleep deeper and move easier – and now it's my job to help retailers tell that story in-store.'

Email: terry.bridger@kaymedworld.com



Kaymed at the Bed Industry Awards gala dinner





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Terry Bridger
terry.bridger@kaymedworld.com

kaymed

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Measurable progress

Sustainability and innovation coexist without compromise

Material innovation is at the heart of transforming the furniture industry: sustainability is no longer an aspiration, it is an operational imperative. The Vita Group understands this and its Orbis foam represents a step towards that goal.

Orbis is Europe's first flexible polyurethane foam manufactured by blending recycled raw and conventional materials. This technology enables the reuse of valuable resources by incorporating raw materials derived from post-consumer foam from end-of-life mattresses. By doing so, it addresses a critical challenge: reducing waste while maintaining the performance standards expected by consumers.

'Unlike many initiatives that require compromise, Orbis offers a direct replacement for conventional foam. It delivers the same comfort and durability while contributing to lower CO2 emissions and reducing reliance on virgin raw materials. This approach supports a circular economy model, where materials are kept in use for as long as possible, and waste is minimised,' says the group.

'Its development has been driven by collaboration, working closely with partners across the value chain to bring a technology to market that directly tackles waste. This is not about token gestures or marketing claims: it is about measurable progress. Every kilogram of recycled content used in Orbis represents material diverted from landfill and a reduction in demand for new resources.



'Now in its second generation, Orbis demonstrates that sustainability and innovation coexist without compromise. It is part of a broader strategy to future-proof our industry, ensuring that environmental considerations are embedded in product design from the very outset.'

Orbis aligns with emerging regulatory frameworks such as the EU's Ecodesign for Sustainable Products Regulation (ESPR), which require manufacturers to improve recyclability, durability and transparency across the product life-cycle. By incorporating recycled content and enabling circularity, Orbis helps manufacturers meet these obligations and prepare for stricter reporting under the Corporate Sustainability Reporting

Directive (CSRD) and UK Sustainability Reporting Standards.

'As the conversation around sustainability becomes more rigorous, transparency matters. Orbis is an important milestone on the journey towards full circularity. By investing in technologies like this, we aim to set a benchmark for what responsible manufacturing can achieve.

For manufacturers, the message is clear: sustainable choices do not have to come at the expense of quality or performance. 'With Orbis, the industry can take a tangible step towards reducing its environmental footprint, without sacrificing the comfort and reliability that customers expect.' Visit: www.thevitagroup.com



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Be scientific

Purecare's UK Sleep Study continues to reveal sleep secrets

Sleep is more than rest: it is the foundation of wellbeing, mood and motivation – and consumers are increasingly recognising that how they feel is directly tied to how they sleep.

Purecare's UK Sleep Study revealed that while practically everyone believes sleep is vital to their overall wellbeing, a fraction under half say stress or anxiety regularly disrupts their rest. While temperature and comfort remain key factors, the study highlights that the greatest challenge lies within the mind.

'Understanding sleep is about mindset as much as materials. The modern sleeper wants calm, not just comfort, and that is what we design for,' says Paul Lake, Purecare UK and Europe head.

When the mind races, the body cannot relax. Younger adults reported

the lowest average sleep quality of 6.23/10, often citing overthinking before bed as a major barrier. 'This reflects a growing national pattern: stress is now one of the biggest obstacles to restorative sleep. This is why Purecare focuses on creating environments that promote both physical and emotional balance. The Wave and Nano Pillows are engineered for optimal spinal alignment, essential for comfort but also for peace of mind. Cooling layers and gentle contouring help reduce tension and temperature fluctuations, allowing the body to unwind naturally.

'The OmniGuard Advance 5-Sided mattress protector, honoured with the Good Housekeeping Approved 2025 seal, supports this same philosophy. Its waterproof, allergen-blocking design

helps create a cleaner, calmer sleep space, proven to ease anxiety around hygiene and comfort.

'More than 40% of respondents say they feel significantly more focused and productive after a good night's rest, confirming that sleep is one of the most powerful tools for mental clarity and wellbeing. To further support this, the Purecare Cooling Protectors and Bamboo-Blend sheets regulate body temperature and encourage a sense of serenity, turning nightly routines into genuine wellness rituals.

'Every product we make connects insight with innovation. When people sleep well, they live well – and that is the heart of everything that Purecare stands for,' says Lake.

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Better sleep starts here

Partnerships are driving real change

Sleep is fundamental to our health and wellbeing – as essential as food, water and oxygen – but millions of people across the UK struggle to get the rest they need. The Sleep Charity is a national, award-winning organisation dedicated to helping the country to sleep better through expert advice, evidence-based resources and support for individuals and professionals alike.

Its mission is simple: to improve the UK's sleep health. It does this through a range of programmes, training and campaigns designed to raise awareness of the importance of good quality sleep and to break down the stigma around sleep issues. Its resources support children, teenagers, adults and employers, as well as healthcare and education professionals.

'Sleep impacts everything – mood, energy, productivity and physical health. By tackling poor sleep, we help people unlock their potential to thrive at home, at work and in life. Good sleep starts with the right sleep environment, and the bed is at the very heart of that. As advocates for healthy sleep, we're proud to support the UK bed industry in highlighting the essential role a quality bed plays in achieving restorative rest. Beds are more than just furniture; they are vital pieces of health and wellbeing equipment.

'The bed industry shares our mission: to help people sleep better. By working closely with manufacturers, retailers and trade associations, we can amplify this message to consumers in an engaging



The Sleep Charity can partner with your brand and team for greater impact

and credible way,' says Vicki Beevers, TSC founder and ceo.

'Partnering with us gives brands the opportunity to align with a trusted national voice on sleep. Together, we can: increase consumer confidence in the value of investing in quality beds and sleep products; raise awareness through credible campaigns, PR activity and education, and champion better sleep for everyone.'

'Our collaborations offer visibility across national media, digital platforms, podcasts and events, reaching audiences who are actively seeking better sleep solutions. One partnership that has had most impact is with the National Bed Federation. Together, we've delivered a range of high-profile initiatives that spotlight the importance of sleep and

the role of a good bed,' says Lisa Artis, TSC deputy ceo.

'Through joint campaigns, including a series of our popular podcast Sleep On, the annual Sleptember awareness month, and our adult sleep ebook *Understanding Your Sleep*, we've reached millions, encouraging people to prioritise sleep health and understand how bed choice impacts rest and recovery. These campaigns not only raise awareness but drive tangible consumer action, benefiting public health and the industry.'

'As we look to the future, we're excited to continue working hand in hand with partners who share our vision of a well-rested nation. By joining forces, we can create real change – one good night's sleep at a time,' says Beever.

Visit: www.thesleepcharity.org.uk



Working in partnership with Simba and Simba Sleep Dreamspace to deliver sleep education to Saracens High School, London



The Sleep On podcast with Bed Advice UK, part of the NBF, reaches more than 10,000 listeners on the importance of the bed for sleep



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Moon gazing

Marble, soft fabrics and light combine for balance and harmony

For Neutra, the bedroom is a place of balance and harmony, where primordial stone meets soft fabrics, and light becomes a poetic gesture. Each element is designed to welcome and protect, to transform rest into a sensory experience.

The Moon bed is an invitation to stop time, letting oneself be cradled in a transformative embrace, turning sleep into an all-encompassing wellness experience. Its generous wide shape (208cm x 260cm or 228cm x 260cm) is designed to suggest softness, as if floating on a cloud, while the base offers comfort that goes beyond mere repose, allowing for an experience of total abandonment.

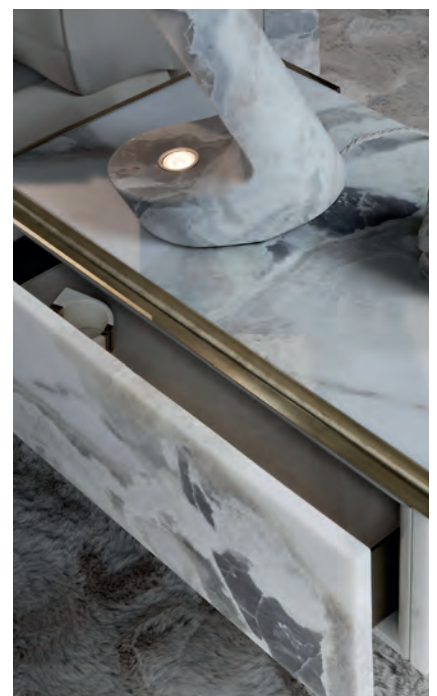
Leaning back into the headboard, one is enveloped in its soft deepness like a warm hug, with the marble flanks designed as a protective shell, creating a sculpture-like piece and haven in one.

The Onis, also designed by Draw Studio, is an ode to lightness, where balance and strength intertwine in harmony. Each unit is suspended like an architectural landscape fragment, balanced between modernity and tradition, between the strength of marble and the familiarity of metal.

The Révérence light is a tribute to balance and observation. The essence of its design is dual stance: vertical like a silent presence that welcomes light into its inner space, and tilted, where it becomes a table lamp. The base, a marble cylinder, seamlessly integrates

with the hollowed diffuser at its centre, creating a dialogue between solid and void, light and shadow.

atelier oï has updated its design with a small (50cm x 22cm x 13cm) version, to complement the large and medium. Visit: www.neutra.design





Mambo bed, Cards table and Bambo chair

Dance again

Mambo has been extended with a bed

Following the success of the Mambo sofa and armchair, launched last year, Ghidini1961 has introduced the bed version with its generous, enveloping lines echoing the fluid and dynamic aesthetic of the seating, celebrating the movement and expressiveness of the famous Caribbean dance.

Designer Lorenza Bozzoli studied in Milan, launching her fashion career in New York before returning to the Italian city, where she expanded her creative exploration to embrace design as well. Her style became a kaleidoscope of cosmopolitan influences – a bold and distinctive language that seamlessly blends fashion, art and

design in a surprising way.

A mix of artisanal luxury, chromatic exploration and sartorial spirit defines her stylistic signature. Her pieces don't just furnish a space: they tell stories, evoke emotions and transform interiors into personal stage sets.

The bed elegantly defines the space, evoking the graceful, lively movements of mambo dancers. Its form is a dance that invites you to relax and let yourself be lulled by its comfort. The colour of the chosen velvet recalls the energy and fertility of the Caribbean, its generous curls the costumes of Creole dancers.

The Mambo bed, sofa and armchair can be complemented by Bozzoli's

Cards and Ufo side tables.

Cards – it recalls a structure made of playing cards – catches the eye without being intrusive. Each side tells a different story, turning a piece of furniture into a miniature work of domestic architecture.

Placed next to the Mambo bed, UFO forms an elegant combination: soft and embracing design on one hand, and sleek, futuristic lines on the other. The base consists of a central column that extends into a four-spoke, pedestal-style stand, while the upper structure is a container open on both sides, useful for storing books, objects or devices. Visit: www.ghidini1961.com



UFO



Cards is available in marble, or wood and metal



A happy band

Visitors and exhibitors enjoyed Bed Show 2025

Visitors and exhibitors at Bed Show 2025 treated the whole event with enthusiasm and gusto, from the opening rush to the gala dinner and awards evening (and after), through to day two where footfall matched the first day.

Exhibitors were united in praising the show's ability to attract buyers, with visitors to Telford proving time and again that they had taken their order books with them.

And for some, there was the unforgettable memory of Vernon Kay and Tean Dallaway, NBF president, crowning them the best in the business.

'This award is a fantastic recognition for the transformation we've driven across the business. I couldn't be prouder of the dedication shown by colleagues across our stores, factory and support functions. Despite a tough market, we've delivered growth by focusing on customer experience, store investment and strong new product innovation,' says Nick Collard, Bensons for Beds ceo after it was named National Bed Retailer of the Year.

'Being again recognised as the best in

the industry is an incredible honour and reflects the dedication, skill and passion of our entire team. We are immensely proud to now be a majority employee-owned business. Everyone who makes up Harrison Spinks lives the ethos, and together we are shaping the company's future, carrying forward our legacy while continuing to push boundaries in responsible bedmaking. Building on the great work we're already doing, our

people-first approach will ensure we continue to innovate and grow responsibly for generations to come,' says Nick Booth, Harrison Spinks md, after winning Bed Manufacturer of the Year.

'This recognition means a great deal as it's voted for by our peers across the industry. The NBF continues to set high standards, and we're proud to support its work,' says Greg Flynn, The Vita Group commercial director,





after being crowned Supplier of the Year for 'clearly demonstrating its continued development of innovative solutions to challenging issues'.

Darren Crowshaw, Nectar UK sales director highlighted the brand's MTick certification for menopause-friendly products, saying it was area that has been neglected for too long.

Alongside a focus on delivering bespoke goods and wanting to grow as a manufacturer, Paul Duffy, Breasley head of marketing added a little Hollywood stardust with the company becoming the official mattress and pillow supplier to Wrexham AFC, co-owned by actors Ryan Reynolds and Rob McElhenney.

Cameron Hoskin, Highgrove Beds marketing manager said buyers had been attracted to its nine new mattresses



and that growth had allowed it to boost its in-house capabilities.

Kris Wood, Higgy's co-founder and brand director added to the product message with news that a fifth of

mattress sales would be donated to charities such as Pancreatic Cancer UK.

Next year's event will take place on 22-23 September.

Visit: www.bedshow.co.uk





Design, meet practicality

Scion, Clarke & Clarke and Harlequin designs now have washable rug options

A collection of washable rugs featuring designs by the Clarke & Clarke, Harlequin and Scion brands has been introduced by Think Rugs, combining design heritage with everyday functionality. The partnership celebrates the very best of British creativity, offering rugs that are as practical as they are beautiful.

Each brand expresses its own unique design identity within the collection. Clarke & Clarke showcases its signature flair for expressive, floral-inspired patterns and bold colour combinations that command attention.

Harlequin takes a more refined approach, embracing muted tones, subtle patterning and layered textures for pieces that feel calm, contemporary and effortlessly sophisticated, while the third Sanderson Design Group brand, Scion, brings an element of fun and playfulness, offering a fresh and modern perspective perfect for family living and relaxed interiors.

'Together, these distinct aesthetics form a diverse and cohesive collection that celebrates the breadth of British design in a way that feels accessible and relevant for today's homes. Beyond their visual appeal, every rug has been

created with modern living in mind. Each piece is fully machine washable, offering the perfect balance of style and practicality for busy households,' says Sam Tippet, Think Rugs director.

'Designed to withstand everyday life without compromising on softness or comfort, the rugs are also made using at least 60% recycled materials by total product weight, reflecting our commitment to sustainability and responsible production.

'This collaboration marks an exciting moment for Think Rugs, uniting Sanderson Design Group's heritage and artistry with our expertise in producing high-quality, design-led rugs for real homes. The result is a collection that redefines what washable rugs can be – thoughtfully made, visually inspiring and designed for how we live today. This launch is a true celebration of creativity, craftsmanship and everyday comfort.'

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Cromatic II

Roche Bobois has again collaborated with Pedro Almodóvar and Rossy de Palma

Roche Bobois' Autumn rug introductions include another collaboration with film director Pedro Almodóvar. Inspired by his most iconic films, the Cromatic Collection places colour centre stage, reinterpreting scenes and emotions through handwoven rugs, and follows the furniture collection earlier this year.

Highlights include: El Deseo, 80% Tencel and 20% New Zealand wool with relief, in a 250cm x 350 cm size; Mujeres, 85% New Zealand wool and 15% Tencel loop pile in 300cm x 400 cm and 300cm x 500cm sizes; Volver and Floresitas, 100% New Zealand wool with cut-out floral patterned edges; and Átame and Tacones, wool and Tencel combinations with loop pile and relief in 250cm x 350cm.



Mujeres

Rossy de Palma, Spanish actress, model and Almodóvar muse brings her singular aesthetic to black-and-white rugs, drawing on Spanish inspiration with Abanico, a 300cm diameter rug with loop pile and relief, and Fan, a 210cm x 110cm half-moon design.

Visit: www.roche-bobois.com



Fan and Abanico

Below: Volver



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Forgotten patterns

An almost lost chapter of textile cultural history has been reborn

With the Caucasus Qafe collection, Jan Kath has brought an almost forgotten chapter of textile cultural history back to the present.

The Greater Caucasus, the border mountain range between Europe and Asia, was once considered the cradle of numerous artistic carpet motifs. The ornamental patterns told of religious symbolism, ancient cults and mythical concepts of nature.

Many factories were automated, hand-spun wool was replaced by industrial mass-produced goods and artistic levels fell during the Soviet era, and it was feared the designs were lost.

The eponymous company's founder discovered rare carpets from pre-communist times in the archives of Baku. He has now transformed their motifs into a contemporary formal language, using the characteristic erased effects for which he is known. The old patterns appear eroded, overlaid with an abstract veil. What initially seems an act of destruction turns out to be a visual echo: of transience, cultural change – and the beauty of imperfection.

All sizes of rug are possible, with 120knots per sqin in hand-spun wool and silk.

Hand-knotted in Agra, India, they are certified by Label STEP.

Visit: www.jan-kath.com



Jan Kath



Shirvan-Antique-Sky



It was feared the designs had been lost during the Soviet era

Labyrinth in Coral Pink



ALL IMAGES © ANDY LIFFNER



Diagonal in Sand

A broader view

Layered's second collection with Teklan explores scale and perception

Layered's second collection with colourist and designer Tekla Evelina Severin (aka Teklan) has six 100% wool tufted rugs, where colour, geometry and spatial references interact in a world that balances between the architectural and the playful.

The collection picks up where Teklan's 2024 Prism collection left off, but moves beyond colour-blocking and basic forms into a more exploratory landscape of framing, optical effects and 3D illusions. There's a sense of rhythm and structure, but also a

continuous testing of boundaries, with references oscillating between classical architecture and the precise rhythm of tiled surfaces.

'I like when design is rooted in a system but allows room for personal expression. Working with rugs is like sketching a new geography for a room: you influence how people move, how they perceive scale and surfaces. I like the idea that a rug can either enhance a space or create a deliberate break within it,' she says.

'Teklan has a rare ability to use colour as a tool to deepen and elevate pattern. She sees the rug as a canvas and keeps pushing the boundaries of what it can be – with a clarity and precision that never fails to surprise. We are proud to continue this collaboration, which moves fluidly between the unexpected and the self-evident,' says Malin Glemme, Layered founder and creative director.

The collection is built around three core patterns: Diagonal, Labyrinth and Fregio, each in two colourways. Fregio takes its starting point from the idea of the floor frieze. One version explores the combination of deep olive green, blush tones and burgundy for a look with

international resonance. The second is rooted in a personal favourite: pink and yellow, inspired by the iconic outfits of Pippi Longstocking and Annika.

Labyrinth draws from Teklan's spatial installations, where surfaces are often arranged in sequences. The rug takes a graphic structure with 3D qualities, subtly referencing Carlo Scarpa's architecture – particularly the Brutalist Brion tomb, near Treviso, where light and shadow become architectural elements.

Stripes are a recurring theme in Teklan's design language, and in Diagonal the stripe is rotated and outlined with a subtle contour to create a sense of movement and shadow. One colourway contrasts blue and burgundy; the other is a more muted, warm-toned graphic interpretation.

'I like to move between extremes. Something can be stylised yet soft, systematic yet organic. It often comes down to exploring what happens in the encounter between the flat and the spatial: how a pattern can make a floor feel deeper, or a room feel larger.'

The rugs are available in four sizes from 180cm x 270cm to 300cm x 400cm. Visit: www.layeredinterior.com



Fregio in Butter Blossom



Integration matters

A patchwork of systems hinders growth

'For furniture and bedding retailers, technology is no longer a back-office aid: it is the backbone of the business. Yet many retailers still rely on a patchwork of systems: a standalone ecommerce platform here, a stock management tool there, spreadsheets for finance, another solution for delivery scheduling, and yet another for marketing or customer service. This software sprawl creates silos of information and forces staff to duplicate data, reconcile reports and chase errors. The result is a business that can spend more time managing software than serving customers,' says Stephen Connelly, Ordorite CEO.

The solution is a single, unified system, he says. 'Unlike generic retail packages, Ordorite is built specifically for the furniture and bedding sector. Its cloud-based platform integrates every function from point of sale and stock control to logistics, finance and marketing. Sales teams can see live inventory across all stores and warehouses; delivery teams work from optimised schedules that

reduce wasted mileage; managers access real-time dashboards and analytics; and marketing teams can segment customers with precision. By eliminating duplication and ensuring everyone works from the same data, it provides clarity and control.'

Integration also extends beyond the platform, with Ordorite connecting with ecommerce sites, payment gateways, logistics carriers and finance packages. Updates are delivered centrally, so every store and team is working with the latest features and security enhancements.

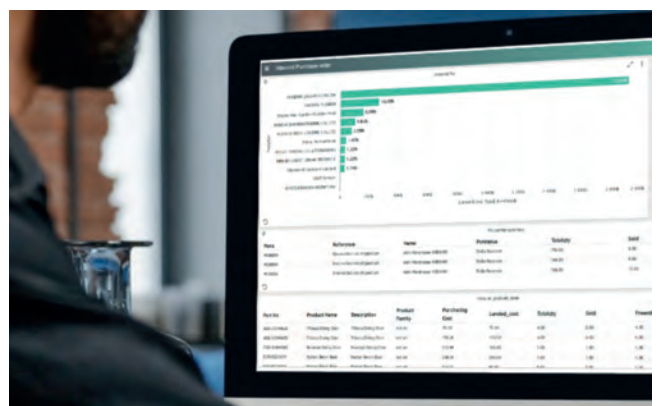
'Our goal has always been to empower retailers with tools that are both powerful and practical. We invest heavily in R&D, listen closely to our customers and adapt our software to their needs. We're proud our approach has seen us make the 2025 Deloitte Technology Fast 50 Ireland list.

'This recognition underscores our commitment to innovation and customer service. While many tech companies focus solely on features, we pair our software with hands-on support. Clients praise Ordorite's willingness and ability

to configure the system to their specific workflows. Our team provides personalised onboarding, training and ongoing support to ensure retailers extract maximum value from the platform. We also invest in continuous improvement, developing new modules such as Vision IQ for live KPIs and Grow Hub for data-driven marketing, as well as mobile apps for proof of delivery and warehouse scanning.'

As the furniture retail space becomes ever more complex, systems that once seemed adequate now hinder growth. An integrated, evolving platform can fuel efficiency and boosts competitiveness.

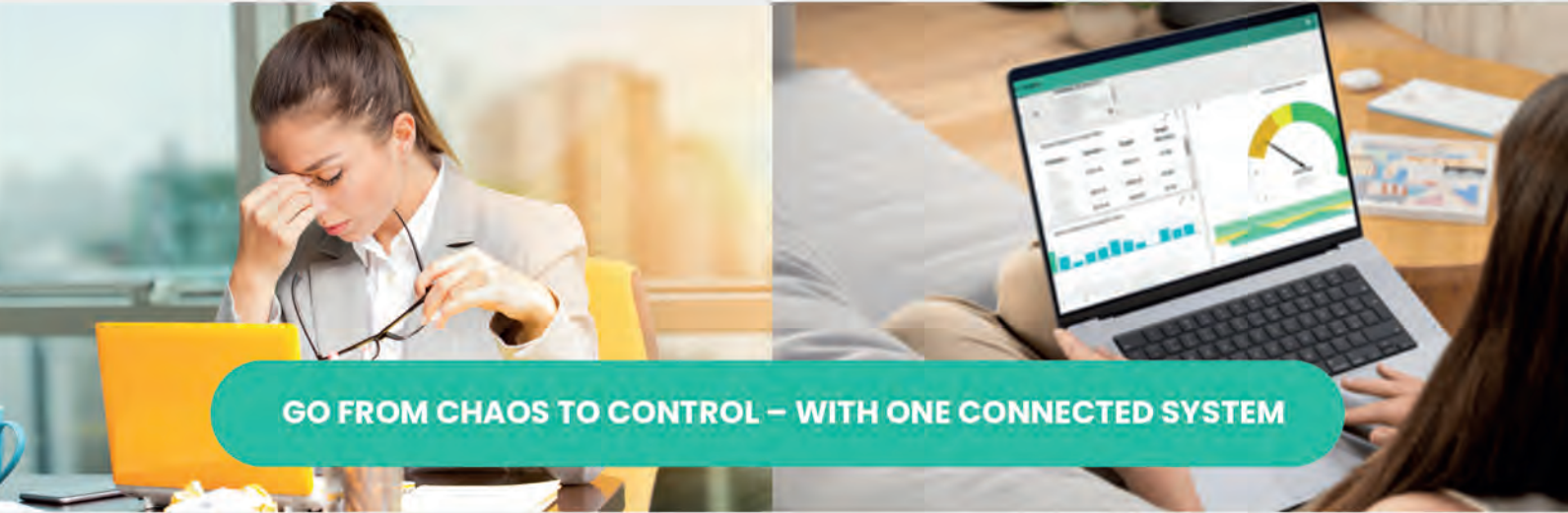
'Ordorite stands out not only as a technology provider but as a partner in business transformation. For retailers that want to streamline operations, delight customers and build scalable businesses, Ordorite offers a clear path forward, and our Technology Fast 50 shortlisting suggests the industry is taking notice,' says Connelly. Visit: www.ordorite.com



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Invisible danger

Safeguarding against excess subfloor moisture is essential

Excess subfloor moisture poses a particular threat to the appearance of wood flooring installations, making it vital to use a moisture management solution where necessary.

Achieving a long-lasting, visually attractive finish with wood flooring demands that the same basic principles of floorcovering installation are followed as when installing other types of floors. However, wood is even more susceptible than textile or resilient floorcoverings to damage from moisture. If unmanaged, excess subfloor moisture – the result of either rising damp or residual construction moisture – will cause wood to warp and attack adhesives, potentially resulting in the floorcovering cupping or buckling and, ultimately, complete floor failure. Safeguarding against excess subfloor moisture is an essential step when installing this kind of flooring.

In addition to ensuring a subfloor is suitably sound, smooth and free of any contaminants, including any old adhesive residues, it is essential to undertake a moisture test to check for subfloor moisture, to discover if the subfloor is dry enough to receive flooring.

'The only way of measuring subfloor relative humidity levels with accuracy, and the method advocated by British Standards, is using a calibrated digital



A specialist wood adhesive must be used during installation

hygrometer,' says Tim Green, F Ball training manager.

'Normally, a liquid waterproof surface membrane will be required to suppress excess subfloor moisture and prevent damage to flooring when relative humidity (RH) levels are above 75%. However, the maximum permitted figure is 65% where wood flooring will be installed, because of the sensitivity of this type of floorcovering to moisture.'

F Ball has two timesaving options for when a moisture management solution is required. Stopgap F77 waterproof surface membrane is a two-part, epoxy

resin system, which is applied in a single coat. It fully cures in as little as three hours and will isolate residual construction moisture or rising damp where relative humidity values are up to 98%.

A quicker way to create a barrier against residual construction moisture, where RH values are up to 95%, is Stopgap F78. The one-component system is applied in two coats, requiring 15-20 minutes' curing time for the first and a further 30 minutes for the second.

'After checking for subfloor moisture and deploying a moisture management solution where necessary, a smoothing compound can be applied to ensure a perfectly smooth base for the receipt of the floor, remembering to prime the subfloor beforehand. F Ball usually recommends a heavy-duty smoothing compound, such as Stopgap 300, prior to installing wood floors because they are better able to withstand the added strain exerted by the natural movement of the wood,' says Green.

'A specialist wood adhesive must be used to install wood blocks or planks. Utilising the latest technology, flexible wood floor adhesives, such as Styccobond B95, provide an elastic but strong bond, which will accommodate natural movement of wood flooring over its lifetime, ensuring a long-lasting, visually attractive floor finish.'

Visit: www.f-ball.com



Stopgap F78 cures in less than an hour



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Welcome the techno-craftsman

Technology and craftsmanship open up new creative perspectives together

Artificial intelligence has long been part of design – precise, efficient, omnipresent – while at the same time there is a growing desire for the handmade, for intuition and irregularity. It is within this field of tension that the Heimtextil Trends 26/27 unfold: under the central theme of 'Craft is a verb', they show how high tech and craftsmanship are not contradictory but open up new creative perspectives together.

Craftsmanship and digital design methods merge, tangible textures meet generative patterns, and natural structures meet algorithmic precision. This does not create a contrast but rather an interplay: where traditional craft techniques reach their limits, artificial intelligence opens up new

possibilities. This gives rise to a new type of player: the techno-craftsman. Digital tools are not seen as competition but as an extension of the toolkit. AI streamlines processes but raises questions about control and creative identity.

'The Heimtextil Trends 26/27, again developed by Alcova, illustrate how artificial intelligence will change the textile industry and, in combination with craftsmanship, opens up new perspectives. They provide the industry with impulses for sustainable production methods, innovative cooperation models and the development of future-proof business strategies,' says Olaf Schmidt, Messe Frankfurt vice-president textiles and textile technologies.

Visit: www.heimtextil.messefrankfurt.com



VISIBLE CO-WORK

AI provides the designs, humans complete them: in these works, the boundaries between craftsmanship and code become blurred. The design is created using AI and is completed through skilled craftsmanship. Examples include digitally embroidered linen, 3D knitted patchwork pieces and generative patterns on classic fabrics.



THE UNCANNY VALLEY

Technical elements such as wires, connections and coils are no longer hidden but deliberately displayed and showcased. They appear as visible details and draw the eye to the inner workings of the machine, rather than its flawless surface. This results in designs that reveal what is hidden and, with their playful expression, unfold something strange, almost alien.

COLOUR PALETTE

The palette ranges from down-to-earth tones to digital irritation: shades such as sand, clay, soot, olive and tree bark convey stability, materiality and connection. This calm is deliberately disrupted by sharp, synthetic accents such as acidic green, digital lilac and bright screen blue. These 'glitches' create tension and turn the colour scheme into a vibrant statement.





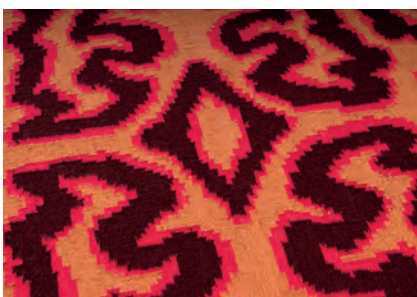
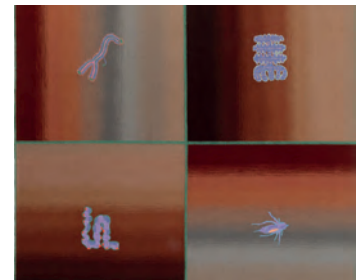
SENSING NATURE

Nature is the original source of inspiration here. Its forms, rhythms and structures reveal a diversity that is waiting to be decoded. Digital tools take on the role of translators: the rough surface of the ocean is transformed into a textile grid, while the lichen patterns growing over rocks are turned into decorative motifs through algorithmic processing.



A PLAYFUL TOUCH

At a time when design is characterised by functionality and optimisation, small decorative details are coming back into focus: not for practical reasons but for pleasure. A ruffle on an otherwise minimalist curtain, a neon element on a natural-coloured linen blanket, or an unexpectedly placed tassel: such gestures act as deliberate interruptions. They remind us that joy remains an essential part of design – and that textiles can also have humour.



RE: MEDIA

Textiles that emerge from the interplay of digital design and handcraft: drawings are first transferred into digital renderings, then converted back into jacquards or hand-embroidered patterns. This results in works that reveal the tension between different media. Motifs inspired by glitches – broken aesthetics, pixelated colour gradients and digitally reworked hand drawings can be expected.



CRAFTED IRREGULARITY

Fabrics with knots, irregular dyeing, visible seams and asymmetrical finishes take centre stage. These materials do not hide the craftsmanship but emphasise it – as a conscious counterpoint to the flawless perfection of AI-assisted design.

Tomorrow people

Brave, light and solid showcase the future

Which colours, forms and materials can help create spaces for a more liveable future? Ambiente Trends 26+ offers three clear suggestions: brave, light and solid. These concepts will shape international consumer goods fair Ambiente 2026, which takes place from 6-10 February in Frankfurt, as the three new style worlds are brought to life through striking product displays.

Brave is about the courage to experiment. It celebrates surprising collaborations where craftsmanship meets technology and retro touches merge with digital transformation. The result is joyful and artistic design, where playful colours and bold shapes take centre stage. Figurative motifs such as animals and floral patterns add to the narrative character, while the contrasting materials invites curiosity and delight.

Light is the style world of clarity and subtle sensuality. It embraces transparency, delicate structures and flowing materials to create interiors that appear almost weightless. Pastel tones, silvery surfaces and shimmering effects enhance this atmosphere of refinement. Designs move between calmness and energy, for a balance that feels modern and timeless.

Solid responds to a desire for stability while remaining adaptable. It focuses on modular furniture, clean forms and lasting materials. It surprises with unconventional resources, recycled elements and striking geometric structures. The bold palette reinforces its confident presence, while sustainability and quality are at the core. Solid is about building environments that combine strength with a contemporary sensibility.

For many years, the Ambiente Trend Area has served as an international guide to style directions, offering inspiration and clarity for visitors. Trend forecaster Stilbüro.bora.herke.palmisano has developed Ambiente Trends 26+ from global movements in art, fashion, design and lifestyle, translating these currents into answers to the question of how we want to live today and tomorrow. Visit: www.ambiente.messefrankfurt.com



1 Vase tribute Lucio F. by Andrew Jacob. Photo: Tom Dagnas. **2** Tracing Water by Folkform. Photo: Casper Sejersen. **3** SF06 Kerman, TA26 Kaname Round, CT09 Enoki by e15. **4** 2-in-1 chair by Werner Aisslinger for moveinBase. Photo: Studio Aisslinger. **5** Faye by Mathias Hahn for Schönbuch. **6** Alma by Francisco Gomez Paz for Paola Lenti. Photo: Sergio Chimenti. **7** Sedona by Patricia Urquiola for Moroso. Photo: Studio Eye. **8, 9** Ramel Series by Antonio Severi. Photo: Tanguy Morvan. **10, 13** Geometry by Claesson Koivisto Rune for Orrefors. **11** Jewelry by Kira Yurina for Time & Style. **12** Thing_01 by Konstantin Grcic for 25kg.



1 Orbit Light by Sabine Marcelis for Hydro R100 Project. Photo: Einar Aslaksen. **2** Chiaroscuro Installation by Rive Roshan. Photo: Design & Practice. **3** LightMassA by Raw-Edges Design Studio. **4** Loungescape by Antonio Citterio for Flexform. **5** Drape Light by Jamie Wolfond for Moooi. **6** Clay by Zanellato/Bortotto for Moroso. Photo: Studio Eye. **7** Tourbillon side table by Dorian Renard. **8** Glass by Juliane-Antonia Greve. **9** Tension Bowl by Paul Coenen. Photo: Jeroen van der Wielen. **10** Type-XIII Atelier Gi project by A-Poc Able Issey Miyake. **11** White Ridge by Ludmilla Balkis. Photo: Zeph Colombatto, courtesy of Guild Gallery. **12** Rotonda by Cara\Davide for Uniqqa. **13** Hydro-Sphere by Aleksandra Jakuc. Photo: Jaime Asua.



1 Instinct Collection by Lidewij Edelkoort x El Espartano, exhibited in Galleria Rossana Orlandi. Photo: Marco Menghi. **2** Pa let tile by Pa let. Photo: German Saiz. **3** Amphora III by Theo Galliakis. **4** Rose by Faye Toogood for Noritake Co. Photo: Taran Wilkhu. **5** Swisswool, exhibition image at House of Switzerland Milano 25. Photo: Agnese Bedini and Alessandro Saletta, DSL Studio. **6** The set by Minoesch Beeldstroom. **7** FOF by ECAU Carl Johann Jacobsen for Designed in CH Made in JP, presented at House of Switzerland Milano 25. Photo: ECAU Marvin Merkel. **8** Ripple by Patricia Urquiola for cc-tapis. **9** Blue Mirror by Teun Zwets. Photo: Jeroen van der Wielen. **10** Naga by Paola Lenti. Photo: Sergio Chimenti. **11** Vase by Aldo Landi for Bitossi Ceramiche. **12** Artwork Untitled by Shlomo Harush for Ni Lu Far. Photo: Filippo Pincolini.





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Order central

MIFF looks to top US\$1.3bn orders as Malaysia benefits from China+1

Malaysia has increasingly become a key beneficiary of the China+1 sourcing strategy as companies look to spread production in today's shifting global supply chains, and the Malaysian International Furniture Fair (MIFF) has officially opened visitor registration for its 32nd edition, taking place at Kuala Lumpur's Malaysia International Trade and Exhibition Centre and World Trade Centre Kuala Lumpur.

MIFF 2025 generated an estimated US\$1.31bn in on-site sales – up 3% – as 19,556 trade visitors from 120 countries and regions connected with 742 exhibitors across 100,000sqm of exhibition space.

Since its debut in 1995, MIFF has evolved into south-east Asia's largest export-oriented furniture trade event, gaining global recognition as a show where deals are sealed on the spot.

'With a proven track record of over 30 years, MIFF is a trusted marketplace, supported by a strong community of

loyal exhibitors and international buyers who return year after year,' says Kelie Lim, MIFF general manager. 'Buyers don't just come to look: they come to place orders and pay deposits on the spot. Our rigorous vetting of exhibitors saves buyers valuable time and ensures they meet reliable suppliers who can deliver.'

Renowned for the widest selection of Malaysian-made wooden home and office furniture, MIFF's halls are segmented by product for streamlined sourcing.

A comprehensive hospitality programme, designed to enhance visitor experience, includes Valued Visitor Privilege: complimentary hotel accommodation for early-bird first-time international visitors; Hosted Buyer Programme: exclusive benefits for international trade delegations, and Airport Fast-Track: priority clearance at Kuala Lumpur International Airport (T1) for registered overseas buyers.

'Every aspect of MIFF is designed to support our visitors' business objectives.

From saving costs on registration to simplifying travel logistics, our hospitality programmes ensure buyers can focus fully on sourcing and building partnerships,' says Lim.

MIFF 2026 will spotlight design innovation, technology and sustainability through a series of initiatives. The xOrdinary Showcase, KL iDesign Week, My Favourite International Design Awards; 2026's Furniture Design Competition has the theme of Playful. Practical. Purposeful: Furniture for Generation Alpha, focusing on children's bedroom; the new MIFF FDC Club fosters year-round connections between designers, buyers and manufacturers; the MIFF Furniverse digital ecosystem has been upgraded, featuring interactive floor plans, intuitive navigation tools and personalised matchmaking services, and the return of MIFF's award-winning Tree Planting campaign.

Visit: www.miff.com.my.



'Every aspect of MIFF is designed to support visitors' business objectives'



Ecomate



Crucial

VIFA and its organiser have been hailed ahead of the next 'strategic platform'

The third Vietnam ASEAN International Furniture & Home Accessories Fair attracted more than 2,000 overseas buyers. The 26-29 August exhibition saw 8,926 visitors, including 2,037 international visitors from 67 countries and territories.

76% of visitors were from Asia, 12% from America, 7% from Europe, 3% from Oceania and 2% from Africa.

The fair attracted 230 exhibitors: 138 Vietnamese companies and 92 international companies from Indonesia, Thailand, Cambodia, USA, China, India, Italy, Taiwan and Hong Kong.

The Ho Chi Minh City event featured a diverse range of products, from furniture and home decor to handicrafts and woodworking machinery.

From 8-11 March, Ho Chi Minh City will again become the focal point of Vietnam's furniture industry with the 17th edition of VIFA Expo 2026 – officially recognised as Vietnam's longest running furniture and home accessories show. Held at SKY Expo and WTC Expo, it will bring together more than 650 leading Vietnamese and international businesses and cover 51,000sqm.

There will be shuttle buses between the venues, along with a travel and accommodation support programme for international buyers.

'VIFA Expo 2026 is a key trade fair for Vietnam's furniture and handicraft industries. It acts as a strategic platform, connecting Vietnamese manufacturers with global buyers and suppliers. The

event will showcase a wide range of products in four main categories: furniture and wood; home decor; handicrafts; and machinery and materials. Positioned as a key event in Asia's furniture fair series, VIFA Expo is a crucial stop for international buyers to find and select essential and optimal products,' says organiser Lien Minh Company, which runs several furniture, interiors and woodworking exhibitions in the country.

The company recently received a Top 20 Excellent Enterprises in Vietnam 2025 award from the Science Institute for Economic and Cultural Human Resource Development (SIDECHM) and the CONPROCEN Center.

Visit: www.vifaexpo.com





Coming together

CIFF (Shanghai) saw a double-digit jump in international buyers

The China International Furniture Fair (Shanghai) enjoyed a 13% rise in international buyers during its 56th edition. The 9-12 September event at the National Exhibition and Convention Centre in Hongqiao, hosted more than 1,500 domestic and international brands, showcasing their collections to 92,709 professional visitors: including 80,836 from China and 11,873 from overseas, up 13.23%.

Organisers say that the performance 'confirms CIFF Shanghai's growing appeal as a strategic reference point for global business and design excellence, strengthening the event's central role in driving consumption, facilitating trade and creating meaningful connections within the global furniture industry.'

Under the theme of Design Crossing Boundaries, CIFF (Shanghai) offered six concurrent thematic exhibitions: CIFF (Shanghai) WMF, CIFF (Shanghai) Upholstery Tech, CIFF Shanghai Design Eden – Contemporary Design Trade Fair, CIFF (Shanghai) Offices & Public Spaces Exhibition, CIFF (Shanghai) Urban Outdoor Furniture Exhibition, and CIFF (Shanghai) Home Textiles & Accessories Lifestyle Exhibition.

The event encompassed eight major product categories: from sofas and sleep systems to office furniture, production machinery, home accessories, and outdoor and decorative collections.

Among key highlights was the debut of the New Retail Pavilion, which set out to establish a new standard for retail evolution by presenting an integrated

ecosystem of the furniture supply chain.

Leading brands chose CIFF (Shanghai) as their preferred platform for launching new products, unveiling more than 1,000 items, 90% of which were world premieres. Brands such as HC28 Maison, Camerich, Coomo, Carbine and Kuka Home accelerated their international expansion, presenting collections developed with world-class designers.

From material innovation to experiential applications, exhibitors redefined living aesthetics through cutting-edge design that seamlessly combined functionality, beauty and sustainability. The presence of 15 emerging design studios alongside established brands created a vibrant network of inspiration and collaboration.

Dedicated matchmaking sessions for overseas buyers brought direct contacts between professionals and more than 100 exhibitors. The strategy consolidated the show's role as a launchpad for Chinese brands entering international markets and a hub for collaboration across the global furniture supply chain.

CIFF (Shanghai) 2025 enriched its

cultural and intellectual dimension with nearly 40 high-level curated forums and exhibitions, along three directions:

Design Eden – Special Curation:

The Italian Lounge, East Design Show, Hotline Designers Joint Show, Imagine & Contemporary Design Life, Design Gravity, Limited IN, Coomo International Soft Furnishings Area, DDS x LT Live, Nomadic Store (re:store);

Design Industry – Special Curation:

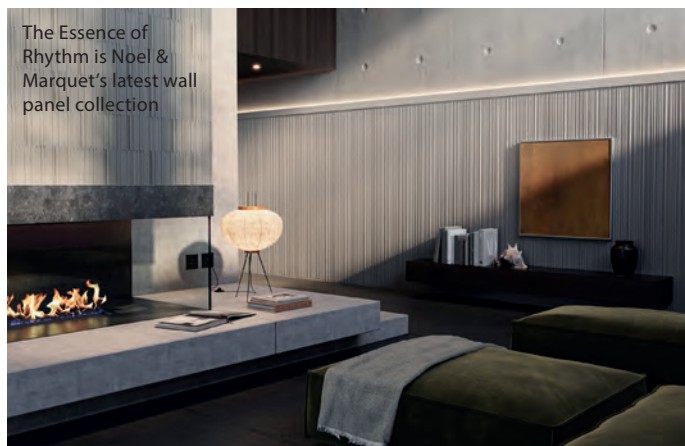
Grand Tea Gala, 2025 China Sleep Industry Summit & Sleep Technology Exhibition, Jintang Prize Winning Design Works Showcase, Design Face+ Theme Exhibition;

Office Space – Special Curation:

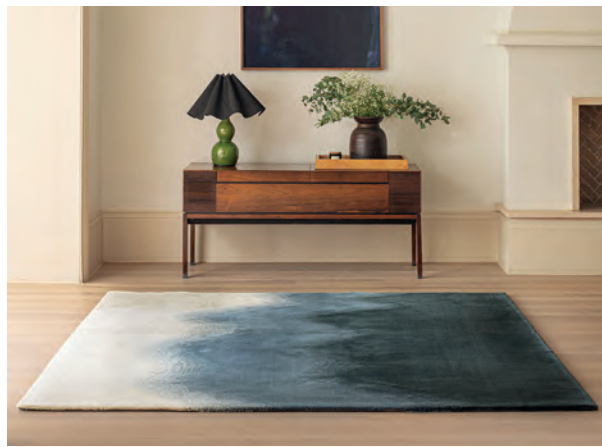
Shanghai Office Space Theme Pavilion, Fashion Office Carnival 'Multiple Ways of Collaborative Work', Commercial Space Salon Exhibition.

Creative and experimental installations provided insights to the international furniture community, promoting integration between design, manufacturing and new business models. Visit: <https://en.ciff-sh.com>





The Essence of Rhythm is Noel & Marquet's latest wall panel collection



Loomah debuted the made-to order Avalon by Loomah brand at the show, including Whitby from the Ethereal collection

Bags of style

Decorex saw a focus on bespoke options, quick manufacturing and luxurious looks. Visit: www.decorex.com



Burbeck At Home decided it had had enough of limited selection, inconsistent customer service and disappointing quality control, so launched its own furniture collection



Beyond Complements is Ian Sanderson's third series of small-to-medium scale printed designs, with larger motifs and new colour combinations including Olmo



Lithos Design's Pietre Chiaroscuro backlit walls turn marble into a surface that vibrates with light and emotion. Overlapping stone layers see the top opaque layer removed to outline the pattern and allow light to filter through the opalescent layer beneath. The incisions, designed in different thicknesses and widths, add three-dimensionality to the wall. There are two designs, Tweed and Strips (pictured), and four stone combinations.



Veneto is Iliv's latest plain boucle drapery collection, evoking a sense of softness and fluidity with its use of organically inspired textures. It is available in 19 colourways. →→→

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REVIEW



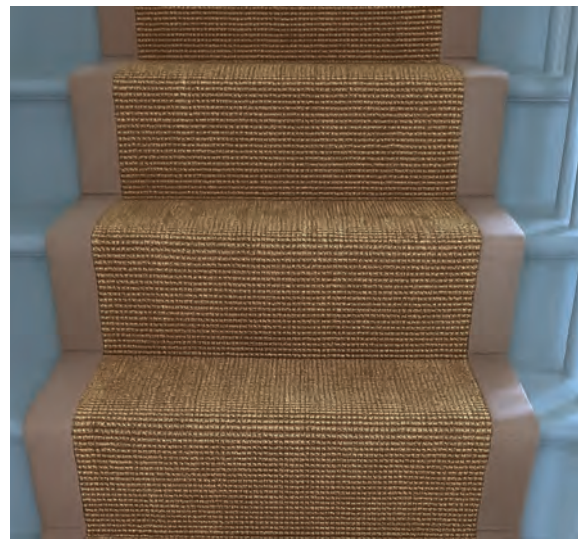
From Asia's eternal ginkgo trees to the timeless ceramics of the Mediterranean, Langelid von Bromssen's Overseas wallpaper collection carries whispers of journeys, including Pottery



Roger Oates introduced more than 50 new colours with the Linear Collection. Mawgan uses cut and loop pile in understated colours, with the stripes in each block combined in differing proportions to create shading effects.



Holmes Bespoke added to its wall hangings collection with the Papavero, Amapola and Mohnblume hand-tufted wool and silk poppies



Elements London debuted six collections, including the Wordsworth Boucle



Knots Rugs has turned Beñat Oe's monochrome paintings into rugs, including It Ain't So Part 1 and Part 2

Left: Stripes were celebrated by Alternative Flooring: debuting the Wool Candy Stripe collection and Margo Selby Carnival Stripes, which marked the 10th anniversary of collaborating with the designer

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