NEW SCHOOL OF THOUGHT ON EDUCATIONAL SEATING

Fully upholstered chairs and sofas make an entrance

OFM of Holly Springs, N.C., an office and school furniture manufacturer, distributor and wholesaler, reports that “soft seating” is gaining popularity in a number of commercial and educational settings nationwide. Defined in the industry as fully upholstered chairs and sofas with little exposed metal or plastic, soft seating feels like furniture typically found in a home or other personal setting.

“We’re seeing a demand for soft seating in larger offices, libraries, break rooms, lounges and reception areas,” says Blake Zalzberg, president and CEO of OFM. “Companies [and schools] are looking to make these areas more comfortable, casual, and modern as they move away from conventional wood furniture, which can seem stuffier by comparison.”

Soft seating is typically fully upholstered in either a cleanable fabric or medical-grade vinyl that allows easy cleaning. It can also be made in a wide variety of colors and feature modern touches like fixed table arms or built-in electrical and USB outlets to allow people to charge devices while sitting. OFM says it is seeing soft seating offered among higher-end manufacturers, but that could change in the coming years as it continues to gain in popularity.

OFM introduced three new soft seating series during this year’s annual NeoCon, June 9-11, 2014, at The Merchandise Mart in Chicago.

Learn more at www.ofminc.com

NEC introduces Interactive Touch Overlays for Large-Screen Displays

NEC Display Solutions of America, provider of commercial LCD display and projector solutions, announces overlay accessories that make its LED-backlit V Series displays touch-interactive so retailers, restaurants and other community-facing organizations can use their digital signage to build closer user relationships and strengthen brands.

With easy installation and fitting over existing LED-backlit V Series display bezels, NEC Touch Overlays are reportedly available for the 42-inch V423, 46-inch V463, 55-inch V552, 65-inch V652 and 80-inch V801 models. Using the latest infrared touch technology, these overlays deliver 10 concurrent touches for those interacting and collaborating with the content on the displays.

“Access to touch screens in our society through smart phones, laptops, and other devices is creating an interactive world,” says Rachel Karnani, senior product manager for large screen displays at NEC Display Solutions. “NEC overlay accessories are accelerating this phenomenon by enabling people to interact directly with digital displays.”

For more information, see: www.necdisplay.com