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Europe & Africa Espace Européen de l'Entreprise 1 allée d'Oslo BP 40033 Schiltigheim 67012 Strasbourg Cedex France tel: +33 3 88 13 30 30 fax: +33 3 88 28 31 78

North America 901, 44th Street Grand Rapids MI 49508 USA tel: +1 616 247 27 10 fax: +1 616 246 40 40

Asia Pacific & India 4th floor, N32 Kowa Bdg 5-2-32 Minami-Azabu Minato-Ku Tokyo 106-0047 Japan tel: +81 3 3448 9611 fax: +81 3 3448 9617

Latin America 901, 44th Street Grand Rapids MI 49508 USA tel: +1 616 247 27 10 fax: +1 616 246 40 40

Middle East Design House unit A2 PO Box 502596 Dubai Media City Dubai UAE tel: +971 4 369 7838 fax: +971 4 369 7837

Concept and Design Steelcase - Product Design node Thomas Overthun

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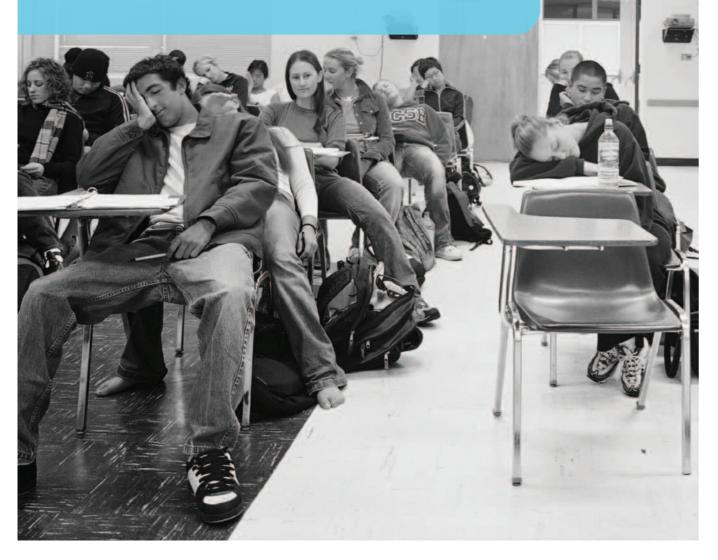




# node Education Solutions

# we didn't go back to the drawing board. we went back to school.

observations



" The biggest issue with the way the classroom is set up is that it's assuming there's one way of teaching and one way of learning."

## node Education Solutions

Today classrooms are designed for passive, one-way learning with tight rows of desks and chairs that inhibit movement and interaction, and instructors confined to the front of the room, where there are few opportunities to connect with students.

Students bring new tools, new attitudes, and new expectations into the classroom. Their desire for connection is constant. Campus activities and study groups prove how connected students have become. This need for interaction does not suddenly disappear when they enter the classroom.

While everything about learning is changing, the classroom remains stuck in the past. In order to keep pace, it has to change.

# Why node?

- 1 The node chair allows to be reconfigured by the students themselves according to the teaching style and task.
- 2 Users are comfortable seated and can change posture and orientation.
- 3 Students have enough space to use laptops and textbooks at the same time and have room to store their backpacks below the chair.



**Education has changed** 

Lesley, professor



## node Functionalities

Better classroom performance can be summed up with four simple words.

move

fit

store

The node chair is highly **mobile** - a quality that translates directly into classroom performance. After all, a lesson plan can be carried out more effectively when seating is arranged and rearranged effortlessly.

The **swivel seat** is another design advantage. It gives students the freedom to shift focus throughout the room. And because the personal worksurface swivels in tandem, books, laptops, and other information remain at their fingertips.

No two students are alike. With that in mind, the node chair has been designed with an **adjustable worksurface**, providing a perfect fit for students of all shapes and sizes. The node chair's worksurface accommodates both left- and right-handed students.

Until now, there's been very little thought given to where, or how, students are to stow their backpacks and other personal items. The base of the node chair provides a **unique storage solution for backpacks** and student belongings that usually clutter the aisles. Even the arms on node serve a storage purpose. An optional cupholder frees up worksurface area for books and technology.

connect

Until now, educational institutions had to choose between supporting active learning or a higher density of students in the classroom. node supports both. It's mobility and storage capacity also enable teachers to make **quick and easy transitions from one teaching mode to another**.















# node Flexibility

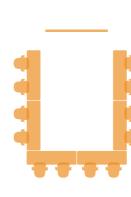
The node<sup>™</sup> chair is mobile and flexible. It's designed for quick, easy transitions between room configurations. With node, a classroom can flex from a lecture-based mode to a team-based mode, and back again, without interruption. In other words, node can take a passive space and make it active. The node chair supports active and team-based modes of learning, even when student density is important.

A classroom doesn't have to be any larger. It simply has to have the right chair.



classroom one: node with mobile tables

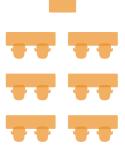




13h30 / project team **14h** / large conference





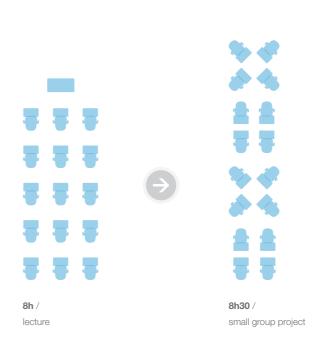


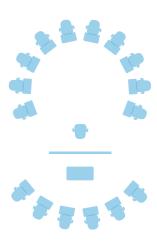
14h45 / lecture **Students are wired differently these days. They desire an active learning environment.** While they might not come right out and say it, students expect more from their classrooms than ever before. They want their surroundings to support co-learning, co-creation, and open discussion. Not only does the research indicate this, but it's what you find when you observe students inside (and outside) the classroom.

Students are hands on, tackling a variety of tasks at once. **This all leads to the demand for flexible environments.** In the absence of a solution, educators have been faced with a tough choice: promote active learning, or organise a classroom to fit as many students as possible. It's one or the other. The existing classroom footprint is only so big, and there's not much flexibility. Until now.



classroom two: node with worksurfaces





8h45 / large group discussion and interactive lecture

## node User benefits

Students spend a lot of time in the classroom. Shouldn't the chair they sit in make every minute count? The node chair was designed to help today's student be **more comfortable, more connected, and more engaged**. Its purpose is to support the very reason educational institutions exist. Student learning.



Easy to move and to swivel node allows students to change posture and position.



node adapts to a variety of students sizes and keeps their belongings nearby and out of the aisles.

# passes with flying colours.

choose your colour







Wasabi

Orange





Platinum

Arctic White



Baby Blue

## node Selected features and statement of line

## Finishes and colour options







Arctic White

## Cupholder



Sterling dark solid





## node environmental performance

Since 1912, Steelcase has been committed to continually reducing the environmental impacts of its products and activities on a global scale, by constantly seeking more effective ways to conserve resources, prevent pollution and nurture environmental consciousness in its people every day.

During node development process we evaluated the environmental aspects of the products at each stage of its life cycle: materials extraction, production, transport, use and reuse, until the end of its life.





Product Environmental Profile (PEP). Based on ISO 14021, its purpose is to communicate precise and verifiable information on environmental aspects of the product during its life cycle.

**PSCScertified.** Indoor Advantage. This certification is awarded to products complying with the indoor air quality emission INDOOR AIR QUALITY before Advertises | furniture requirements defined by the ANSI/BIFMA M7.1-2007 standard.

You care about the end of use of your furniture. We offer options - be it refurbishing, take-back, charitable donation or recycling. Visit steelcase.com to discover more about Steelcase's unique ecodesign strategy.

Materials 15% recycled content by weight PVC free

> Production No gluing processes

## You require official certifications. We can deliver them.