

Products for public spaces

Airports, train stations and other public spaces are frequented by large numbers of people day in, day out. Consequently, the layout and furnishings of such spaces must fulfil the highest demands with regard to functionality and quality. At the same time, the planning of public environments also has to take the well-being of employees, visitors and passengers into account, thus demanding the very best in ergonomics and design. Vitra can guarantee these qualities for its clients in the public sector, thanks to the company's extensive experience, innovative vitality and broad product portfolio.

Vitra's expertise in the conception and outfitting of public spaces is based on many years of experience. Ever since the early 1960s, for example, the Swiss furniture manufacturer has offered the Eames Tandem Seating system (ETS) for communal waiting areas. In addition, Vitra's customers benefit from the company's competence in the Home and Office sectors, which yield dynamic synergies for the conception of public spaces. On the basis of this know-how, Vitra has successfully planned and executed such prominent recent projects as London Heathrow Airport, Molde Airport in Norway and the Terminal 2 lounge at Munich Airport.

Thanks to the wide palette of Vitra products, users can enjoy their superior quality in many different environments: not only in waiting areas but also at boarding gates, in customs and security zones, at luggage check-in and retrieval points, and in restaurants, lounges or shopping areas, as well as in back offices and control centres. Vitra is represented with its interior design concepts in over 100 major public spaces, including airports, train stations, government agencies and other institutions.

Meda Gate

Design: Alberto Meda, 2011

The Meda Gate seating system is especially suited for the rigorous demands associated with public waiting areas. Numerous design phases led to the development of an extruded aluminium T-beam, which allows for easy assembly and features a sleek finish for carefree cleaning. The individual seat units are attached to the horizontal support beam with only two screws, making them quick to install and simple to replace as needed. The construction of the system, which provides attractive cantilevered seating in airport terminals, offers ultimate comfort to users and easy maintenance for facilities management staff. With regard to both materials and construction, Meda Gate is exceptionally robust and durable – and thus ideal for withstanding the typical wear and tear on furnishings in public waiting areas.

Airline

Design: Norman Foster, 1998

Acclaimed for his designs of major international airports, the architect Norman Foster is also an expert on the outfitting of airport interiors. The Airline seating system for waiting areas was developed by Foster in collaboration with Vitra. The basic idea: a sturdy frame consisting of an aluminium beam supported by die-cast aluminium legs, upon which seat units, armrests and table elements are mounted. Airline enables an economical and flexible use of space. The system is extremely robust and easy to clean. It is also simple to assemble or reconfigure as needed.

Eames Tandem Seating ETS

Design: Charles & Ray Eames, 1962

Eames Tandem Seating is a robust, time-proven system that provides a comfortable place to relax while waiting in airports, train stations or other public spaces. It was constructed to withstand extremely heavy use. The durable seat and back panels can be individually replaced. Exceptional comfort is guaranteed by the large seat surface and the sandwich construction of the upholstery. The simple modular system makes it possible to add any number of seat units, also in combination with table tops.

Occasional Lounge Chair

Design: Jasper Morrison, 2016

Jasper Morrison's new Occasional Lounge Chair is a charming, compact armchair: its outward shape has the appearance of a cubic volume with clean lines, straight edges and a polygonal body that tapers downward. The design is subtle enough to utilise several chairs together – in free arrangements or geometric configurations – yet with its distinctive look, the Occasional Lounge Chair also adds a striking accent to any interior as a solo piece. The inner shape of the lounge chair, by contrast, is characterised by softly rounded, organic contours. The seat cushion and backrest provide an inviting cosiness and level of comfort that one would not expect from the Occasional Lounge Chair at first glance.

Repos Seating Family

Design: Antonio Citterio, 2011/2013

The Repos seating family combines the know-how required for comfortable, dynamic seating with the aesthetic appearance of a lounge chair.

With their generous padding, inviting armrests and high backrest, the elegant swivel-based lounge chairs Repos and Grand Repos impart an image of supreme comfort. Thanks to the synchronised mechanism concealed beneath the upholstery, sitters can move from an upright posture to a reclined angle for resting and lock the backrest in any position. The resistance of the backrest can be manually adjusted to the user's weight. This ensures great comfort and optimal spinal support across the entire

range of movement. Both Repos and Grand Repos are available with a base that is 5 cm higher than the standard version, making it particularly suited for lobbies and other public spaces.

The seating family acquires a complementary addition with Petit Repos, a low-slung lounge chair. Like the reclining loungers Grand Repos and Repos, it is distinguished by high-quality materials, superb comfort and a contemporary design. Petit Repos features an integrated, flexible backrest connection. This facilitates movement and increases comfort by allowing the sitter to sink into the back. With its understated appearance, this lounge chair cuts a fine figure in public settings and offers visitors an inviting place to sit and enjoy a few minutes of pleasurable relaxation.

NesTable

Design: Jasper Morrison, 2007

Thanks to today's technological innovations, a person can work on a laptop computer virtually anywhere – yet suitable furniture for this purpose is often lacking. NesTable offers a lightweight and flexible solution, providing a convenient workplace during waiting periods at airports or in other public settings. The tray platform is fully adjustable in height and angle, which makes it possible to maintain a healthy ergonomic posture, even while working from a sofa or lounge chair.

Flower

Design: SANAA, 2010

Flower is a bench with a slender centre and petal-shaped seat design reminiscent of a clover or a stylised blossom. It comfortably accommodates at least three people who can either engage in conversation or face away from one another and relax in solitude. Initially conceived in 2001, Flower was first employed during the 7th Istanbul Biennial. Since then, the bench has been repeatedly produced in small numbers for individual projects, thereby demonstrating its suitability for use in airports and other public buildings.