

Press release

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New Element Office furniture pieces launched at Orgatec, Cologne

Element Office, Foster + Partners latest collaboration with Italian manufacturer Unifor, has been revealed at the Orgatec office fair in Cologne. The first two pieces in the range – a meeting table and desk – respond to the fluid, dynamic nature of today's workplace and the need for flexibility to support both relaxed group working and individual study. Suitable for a residential or office setting, the simplicity and elegance of the design allows the tables to stand alone or as part of a larger arrangement.

The Element 01 study table was first created as a bespoke piece of furniture for a private residence. It is designed around the principles of concentration and collaboration: the straight body of the desk places everything within easy reach for individual study, while the curved end supports informal group working. The table cantilevers from a solid base at one end, formed by a "toolbox" containing timber trays and storage. Utilising a sliding mechanism originally developed for jewellery shop displays, allows the trays to appear to float when extended. Above this, the surface of the desk can be retracted to reveal a power source. The top surface tapers towards the edges to appear slim in profile and a single leg extends like a column to provide support. It can be specified in a range of materials to suit both domestic and office settings, including ceramic, glass, aluminium and wood.

The Element 02 meeting table is designed to support movement, discussion and group

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working. The circular table comprises two discs – a central pillar containing a power supply and a perimeter ring, which can be elevated to support both standing and seated meetings. Controlled by a lever and smooth internal mechanism, it can rise from 56 centimetres to a little over 1.2 metres.

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