

PIIROINEN launches the ecological COMPOS LOBBY chair

A completely new material – the seat is produced from 100% biodegradable natural fibre

The Finnish design furniture manufacturer **PIIROINEN** is launching the ecological **COMPOS LOBBY** chair at their exhibition in Japan 3-24.4.2009. In addition to the launching of the new chair, **PIIROINEN** is also presenting its extensive furniture collections for public spaces at the Case-gallery, which is situated in Tokyo, close to the Harajuku region.

Innovative material used in the chair

In the **COMPOS LOBBY** chair, designed by Samuli Naamanka, the traditional high criteria for public space design as well as a new way to take the environment into consideration are combined. The environment is taken into consideration by diminishing environmental impacts by choosing the correct materials in industrial production.

The seat of the **COMPOS LOBBY** chair, is produced from 100% biodegradable natural composite fibre. The difference between natural composite fibre and other natural fibres is that it doesn't contain any inorganic materials, not even binding substances. There is not even any oil based materials used in the chair. Due to the material choice of the seat, environmental impacts are diminished when considering the whole life cycle of the chair, from the production of the seat until dispose.

After the chair has been used for a long time, the seat material can be milled and used again for the production of a new product. At the end of the life cycle, the seat can also be demolished by burning or by composting it industrially for 2000 hours, i.e. about 80 days. In practice, the seat decomposes itself throughout time, even by composting it normally, like any other organic material.

The steel frame of the chair is chromed or matt chromed. This steel frame can be recycled to 100% by using it as raw material for the production of stainless steel.

In addition to the features and criteria of the chair that is especially designed for public spaces, ergonomics and durability are also accentuated. Thanks to the 3-D shape of the seat, it is comfortable to sit on. Also, the seat is easy to clean.

The chair has passed the fire tests FM VSS 302 as well as 95/28 EC annex 4 and 5. Chemical burn free materials have not been added to the material.

Risto Piironen, President, PIIROINEN:

"The presenting of the **PIIROINEN** collection at the Tokyo exhibition is once again a significant step on the international market. I am also very pleased that we can bring a completely new environmentally friendly product on the market. The **COMPOS LOBBY** chair is very suitable for this moment in time, fulfilling specific requirements. At the same time we are also showing our ability to be able to use special materials and production processes. The chair is a great addition to the innovative **PIIROINEN** furniture collection.

Samuli Naamanka, Interior Architect:

"The goal of the three year long period of material research was to study the pressing of natural fibres for the demands of the furniture industry and achieve curves that are bent into three directions as well as to explore different thicknesses of the material. From the beginning it was clear, that we didn't want any inorganic materials to be used. In the **COMPOS** chair the goal has been achieved.

It is important to understand that the costs of the mould for this kind of technology, in comparison to plastic moulds or aluminium moulds is remarkably cheaper. Therefore, the production of the 3-D seat is possible even with a smaller investment. One of the significant benefits in comparison to plastic seats is the temperature of the surface, being much warmer and as a consequence more pleasant to sit on."

Samuli Naamanka, born 1969

Interior Architect Samuli Naamanka (born 1969) is known as a versatile designer whose work combines carefully considered vocabulary of form with creative technical innovation.

In addition to product design and interior design, Naamanka specialises in environmental design. Amongst other things, he has carried out groundbreaking work in the development of products made of concrete. As a result, this has given birth to, for example, a patented invention for a graphic concrete patterning technology as well as for colouring concrete in several different colours.

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PIIROINEN exhibition

PIIROINEN is exhibiting its extensive furniture collection at the Case-gallery in the Harajuku region in Tokyo. At the exhibition the following **PIIROINEN** collections are exhibited: the **CHIP, AND, DALE, OPTION** and **FRAME** collections designed by **Antti Kotilainen**, the **ARENA** and **JET** collections designed by **Pasi Pänkäläinen**, the **GRAND CANYON** collection designed by **Timo Ripatti**, the **COMPOS LOBBY** chair designed by **Samuli Naamanka**, the **Triennale**-chair designed by **Antti Nurmesniemi**, the **FLAKES** collection designed by **schmidt/hammer/lassen design/** and the **DOVE** chair designed by **Asko Lax**.

PIIROINEN has been exporting furniture for public spaces to Japan already for ten years. Piironen's representative in Japan is Office Kumano, who has made Piironen furniture well-known especially among architects and press people.

Throughout the years, **PIIROINEN** has furnished many significant interiors in Japan. For example, the Fuji Speedway Formula 1 track as well as several universities such as the Keio University, the Waseda University, the Sophia University and the Hosei University.

Exhibition address:

+Case Gallery
18-23 Oyama-cho, Shibuya-ku, Tokyo, Japan
postal code: 151-0065
03-5452-3172 (Ms. Okamoto)

For further information, please contact:

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Material on the COMPOS LOBBY chair available at:

<http://www.piiroinen.com/index.php?id=174>

PIIROINEN is a Finnish family business founded in 1949. The company specializes in the manufacturing and marketing of design furniture, as well as metal refinement, metal surface treatment and component manufacturing. The PIIROINEN collection consists of furniture series designed by Finnish and Danish top designers. The most common characteristics of the collection are a clean-cut design and finished details. Although each series has a unique feature, the furniture is easy to combine in order to create compatible interiors. The PIIROINEN furniture has received recognition around the world over the years, while delivering timeless and adaptable furniture that suits diverse spaces and specific user needs.

The PIIROINEN headquarters and factory are located in Salo and there is also a showroom in the centre of Helsinki (Pohjoisesplanadi 21). The company has employs 160 people.

COMPOS LOBBY
design Samuli Naamanka

High resolution pictures available at: <http://www.piiroinen.com/index.php?id=174> or by contacting
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