

Structured openness: working in the se:hive

The modern world of work continues to be dominated by open plan office spaces that are both adaptable and encourage collaborative working. While these spaces facilitate interaction, people always need a place to which they can retreat for focus, relaxation, private conversations, and online meetings. To meet these needs and strike the right balance between openness and focused, individual work in the office, Sedus has designed a new acoustic solution, se:hive.

“The strength of se:hive lies in its simplicity and modularity,” says Konstantin Thomas, designer at Sedus Stoll AG. “The furniture responds to our fluid way of working: sometimes noisy and collaborative, sometimes quiet and introspective. It creates islands of calm and focus without destroying the open character of modern offices. Like any well-designed tool, it adapts to the user, not the other way around.”

The perfect balance between openness and focus

The modular design of se:hive evokes the structure of a honeycomb, with a range of screening options to meet different needs. The upholstery fabric optimises acoustic comfort and offers users a way to customise the interior to reflect their brand identity and personal tastes.

“With se:hive, you can see exactly how form and function go hand in hand,” explains Thomas. “The flexible structure allows for customisation, the flowing shapes integrate harmoniously into any room and their acoustic properties create spaces for focus and retreat. A modular system must not be rigid – it has to change with your needs. That was precisely our aim: to develop a solution that gives users the freedom to configure the system to meet their own needs.”

The combination of well-thought-out design and ergonomic functionality in se:hive helps to create a working environment that supports productivity and well-being in equal measure. It offers acoustic comfort and supports healthy posture with its optional sitting and standing areas. Its intuitive design, simple assembly and integrated servicing make it a joy to use.

Sustainability is a first principle

Sustainability is no longer an option, but an inherent feature of the things we create. “The material we used for se:hive is a perfect example of this,” says Thomas. “The wood comes from the Black Forest, a region with a longstanding tradition of woodworking. The fibre filling is partly made from waste wood, which reduces the consumption of resources and applies the principles of upcycling. It

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The logo for Sedus, featuring the word "sedus" in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font.

is a material that tells a story and at the same time shows how ‘waste’ can become something valuable.”

The use of sustainable materials is characteristic of Sedus’s commitment to environmentally friendly workplace solutions. The filling made from wood fibreboard is 100% recyclable, while the fabric is not glued but upholstered – for maximum reusability. Working with local suppliers to create the filling material was an additional, important step for Sedus to reduce transport emissions.

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