

NEWS

WHO WHAT WHERE

BUSINESS

et al. appoints Marco Acerbis as Art Director

et al. has appointed Marco Acerbis as its new Art Director, ahead of its 70th anniversary in 2026. Founded in 1956 as Metalmobil, the brand is known for high-quality seating and tables for hospitality spaces. Acerbis, a Compasso d'Oro winner, will lead a creative direction aimed at strengthening et al.'s international presence through a more focused, identity-driven approach to design. He highlighted the importance of product design in shaping brand value, with innovation extending beyond aesthetics to technical and functional performance. The appointment reflects a broader ambition to create collections that foster meaningful user connections, while continuing to combine Italian craftsmanship with industrial innovation.



BUSINESS

IHG appoints Neetu Mistry as UK & Ireland Managing Director

IHG Hotels & Resorts has appointed Neetu Mistry as Managing Director for its UK and Ireland business. In the role, she will oversee more than 400 open and pipeline hotels, driving performance and growth while strengthening owner relationships. Mistry brings over 20 years' experience across UK and European hotel companies, with a strong track record in building high-performing teams and delivering long-term value. She previously served as an Owner Representative on one of IHG's regional councils. Karin Sheppard said Mistry's expertise would help unlock further potential across the UK and Ireland portfolio. Mistry described the role as an opportunity to support growth in a dynamic market, working with partners and teams to deliver long-term success.

OPENINGS

Omnam Group unveils new brand identity ahead of European openings

Omnam Group has launched a refreshed brand identity and expanded capabilities ahead of major European openings, including The Lake Como EDITION and Baccarat Florence. Founded in 2011 and led by David Zisser, the group now comprises 50 specialists managing ten projects across Europe, with a combined value of €2.6 billion. Omnam operates across the full lifecycle of hospitality projects, from acquisition and development to asset management and exit, supported by an enhanced internal structure spanning design, investment and technology. Key developments include the Omnam Design Studio and a new Innovation & Technology team focused on AI-driven solutions. The updated visual identity reflects a more visible, design-led positioning as the group prepares for upcoming landmark openings.



OPENINGS

Hilton opens Quang Hanh Onsen Resort in northern Vietnam

Hilton has unveiled Hilton Quang Hanh Onsen Resort, a wellness-focused retreat set in the Quang Hanh valley of Cam Pha, Quang Ninh, near the UNESCO World Heritage site of Ha Long Bay. The property marks Hilton Hotels & Resorts' third hotel in Vietnam, expanding the brand's presence in the country.

The resort draws on the region's natural hot mineral springs to deliver a one-of-a-kind onsen experience.

Each of the 178 villas and 38 rooms features a private onsen, alongside hot and cold saunas. Accommodation ranges from rooms and suites for couples and families to two- to four-bedroom villas spanning 110 to 550 square metres, with two 1,250-square-metre Presidential Villas offering private teppanyaki facilities, karaoke rooms, and wine cellars.

Guests can enjoy Yoko Onsen Quang Hanh's 27 public baths, 18 gender-specific and mixed bathing areas, sauna and spa facilities, or relax in the resort's Eforea Spa, indoor pool, 24-hour fitness centre, and Kids' Club. Dining options include Genji, a modern Japanese restaurant with sushi, teppanyaki and kaiseki menus, and Genji Bar, offering panoramic views, cocktails, and afternoon tea.

The resort also features flexible meeting and private dining spaces, catering to corporate functions and celebrations. Located 30 minutes from Ha Long City and two and a half hours from Hanoi, Hilton Quang Hanh Onsen Resort combines local culture, natural wellness, and Hilton's signature hospitality to offer a restorative experience for domestic and international travellers alike.

OPENINGS

Minor Hotels launches The Wolseley Hotels with New York flagship

Minor Hotels has announced the global launch of The Wolseley Hotels, with its first property set to open in New York City in early 2027. Located steps from Bryant Park in Midtown Manhattan, the hotel will introduce The Wolseley restaurant and bar to the United States, bringing one of London's most celebrated dining institutions to an international stage.

The hotel occupies the landmark building at 130 West 44th Street, originally constructed in 1905 as The Lambs Club clubhouse and designed by McKim, Mead & White. Blending British sophistication with New York's cultural energy, the property will feature 76 guest rooms and suites, combining classical elegance with contemporary luxury and bespoke craftsmanship.

At the heart of the hotel, The Wolseley New York will serve as the culinary flagship for North America, offering all-day dining, signature cocktails, and a refined European-inspired atmosphere. Complementing the restaurant, a cellar-level speakeasy bar and a reimagined wellness centre will provide intimate, holistic experiences for guests.

The Wolseley Hotels brand draws on the Art Deco elegance and enduring appeal of its London namesake, reinterpreted for a global audience. Minor Hotels intends the New York property to be the first in a selective international rollout, with future locations planned across Europe, North America, Asia and the Middle East.

"This flagship establishes the standard for the brand's global expansion," said Dillip Rajakarier, Group CEO of Minor International.



Dr. Barbara Sturm launches hotel amenities line with La Bottega

Dr. Barbara Sturm has partnered with hospitality supplier La Bottega to launch a fragrance-free hotel amenities range based on her anti-inflammatory skincare philosophy.

The collaboration translates the German doctor and aesthetics expert's clinically driven approach into a new **Hotel Essentials Collection**, developed specifically for luxury hospitality. Long trusted by physicians, celebrities and patients worldwide, Sturm's anti-inflammatory methodology focuses on calming the skin and protecting the barrier rather than using aggressive ingredients.

The new line introduces fragrance-free formulations designed to hydrate and soothe the skin while supporting overall skin health. The products are free from parabens, PEGs, silicones, gluten and triclosan, aligning with the brand's medical roots while adapting the formulations for the demands of hotel use.

"My philosophy is that every skincare routine should combat inflammation and heal the skin, not attack it," said Dr. Barbara Sturm. "Bringing this philosophy into hotels for the first time allows guests to experience professional, anti-inflammatory skincare standards in their daily rituals wherever they are in the world."

For La Bottega, part of La Bottega Collective, the partnership reflects a broader shift toward wellness-focused guest amenities. CEO Tommaso Pacini described the collaboration as a milestone for the hospitality sector, positioning skin health and efficacy at the centre of the guest experience.

The collection includes hand wash, body wash, shampoo, conditioner and body lotion, packaged in 100% recyclable 50ml aluminium tubes and refillable dispensers made with recycled materials.

The Dr. Barbara Sturm Hotel Essentials Collection will debut at the brand's flagship boutique on Madison Avenue in New York and will be available by invitation only to five-star hotels worldwide.



Niu Niu: A New Professional Hair Dryer for Hospitality

Oliver Hemming has introduced Niu Niu, a new ionic hair dryer engineered specifically for hotel guestrooms. Designed with the operational needs of the hospitality industry in mind, Niu Niu combines a quiet, high-performance motor, durable construction and simplified maintenance features in a compact, contemporary form.

At its core is a second-generation, high-efficiency motor that delivers strong airflow with low noise levels. Finished in matt satin black, its lightweight, ergonomic design ensures intuitive use for all guests.

Niu Niu incorporates several features to support efficient housekeeping and long-term reliability. The stainless-steel mesh filter can be cleaned quickly by removing the air cover and wiping it down, while its self-cleaning reverse motor function helps remove dust from inside the appliance, reducing the frequency of engineering intervention.

The dryer offers four temperature settings, including a cool-boost mode, and three airflow speeds, allowing guests to adjust performance according to their needs. Ionic technology is included to help reduce frizz and improve hair smoothness, delivering results comparable to professional salon tools.

Designed as a dependable, guest-friendly and service-efficient appliance, Niu Niu offers a practical upgrade for hotels seeking a well-engineered product that meets contemporary expectations and complements other elements of the Oliver Hemming collection for a coordinated look.

New HIMACS Colours Bring Depth, Texture and Sustainable Choices

HIMACS solid surface introduces fifteen new colours, expanding its versatile portfolio with alluring aesthetics, additional options with recycled content, and even greater design freedom. Ranging from refined marble, stone and terrazzo effects to in-demand biophilic greens, sultry darks and fresh whites, these new choices enable specification of the finest aesthetics together with premium performance and enhanced sustainability.

Several additions include SCS-certified pre-consumer recycled content, reinforcing a commitment to responsible solutions. Additions to the Aurora & Marmo and Terrazzo families are joined by the newly defined Calacatta collection, bringing together marble-inspired elegance with the benefits of a robust, non-porous and thermoformable material.

These carefully considered additions to the HIMACS palette mean the many benefits of the premium solid surface – from enduring beauty to extraordinary versatility – are offered in extensive aesthetic choices to make specifying exactly the right surface satisfyingly easy. Whether in vertical or horizontal applications and whether for commercial, public or residential environments, HIMACS offers just the right colour and just the right functionality together with invaluable confidence in hygiene, safety and sustainability.



Hector Finch unveils Spring 2026 lighting collection

Hector Finch Lighting has announced its Spring 2026 Collection, introducing 12 new designs that balance traditional craftsmanship with contemporary detailing.

Spanning lanterns, pendants and wall lights, the collection also extends existing lines with new finishes, colours and material options. Signature combinations include opal glass, spun brass, aged copper and leather detailing, reflecting the studio's focus on refined, understated design.

At the centre of the launch are three ceramic lights built around a classic empire shade form. Designs such as the Elena and Claudia pendants reinterpret familiar silhouettes in glazed ceramic, while incorporating crafted details including leather straps made by local artisan Matt Fothergill. The Octavia light, meanwhile, introduces a spun brass conical shade with extensive customisation options.

The collection also expands the brand's lantern offering, with new designs including the Box Wall Lantern, Henriette and Rialto. These pieces draw on historical references while introducing more contemporary geometries and materials suited to both interior and exterior settings.

Across the range, customisation is a key focus, with options spanning multiple metal finishes, glass types and bespoke RAL colours. The collection reflects Hector Finch's continued emphasis on material integrity, craftsmanship and adaptable design.

Hypnos and the New Era of Hospitality Sleep

Hospitality is being shaped by a new kind of traveller. Guests are staying longer, blending business and leisure, and seeking spaces that offer autonomy without sacrificing quality. Privacy and flexibility are essential, yet the reassurance of hotel-level service and standards remains equally important.

In response, branded residences, private members' clubs and new serviced apartment concepts have emerged. The focus is no longer simply on accommodation, but on experience, wellbeing and a sense of belonging. For solo travellers and groups alike, the appeal lies in a sense of ownership – spaces where living, working and dining flow naturally, and comfort feels personal. Once primarily associated with corporate travel, serviced apartments are now more culturally connected to their destinations, responding to guests who expect more from extended stays.

For designers, this creates a more complex brief: combining residential warmth with commercial performance, while rethinking how comfort, durability and a strong sense of place are achieved.

In London's Mayfair, SLO Claridge House reflects this shift. The first property for Nestor's sustainable luxury brand, SLO, is built around the belief that time, presence and wellbeing are the true markers of modern luxury. The design brief called for a hotel-level identity within a setting that feels deeply residential, with British craftsmanship and natural materials underpinning the scheme.

Sleep sits at the heart of the experience. Lighting, air quality and materials were considered alongside the bed itself, with the Hypnos Eden Project Harmony mattress selected for its natural fibres, craftsmanship and alignment with the brand's sustainability goals.

Dornbracht unveils Coya bathroom series

Dornbracht has introduced Coya, a new bathroom design series defined by a fluid, hybrid aesthetic that blends contrasting geometries. Created in collaboration with Sieger Design, the collection merges circular and square forms into what designers describe as a cohesive "squircle" language.

Positioned as a reflection of shifting interior trends, Coya embraces a more transitional approach to design, balancing traditional and contemporary influences. According to designer Michael Sieger, the concept centres on "The beauty that lies in contradiction", resulting in fittings that resist clear categorisation while maintaining visual harmony.

The launch also marks the first product aligned with Dornbracht's new brand claim, "Inspiring your vision", signalling a broader creative direction for the company. Across spouts, handles and rosettes, the design language is consistent, with softly contoured elements intended to enhance both ergonomics and visual appeal.

Coya has been developed as a comprehensive system spanning washbasins, baths, showers and accessories, enabling a unified aesthetic across the bathroom. A wide range of finishes – including chrome, champagne (22-carat gold) and brushed bronze – highlights the collection's flat surfaces and refined detailing.

Additional customisation options are available through Dornbracht Atelier, allowing for personalised elements such as interchangeable handle inlays.

With its focus on versatility and cohesion, Coya is designed to suit increasingly individualised interior schemes that combine multiple styles within a single space.





LEMI Sorrento: the balance between ritual and functionality

In the contemporary wellness landscape, where experience becomes an integral part of the treatment, Sorrento emerges as the multifunctional treatment bed by LEMI that redefines the concept of a professional workstation.

Not simply a working tool, but a solution designed to support the operator's gesture and welcome the body into a continuous wellbeing experience.

Sorrento is designed to combine two essential configurations — massage and Head Spa — into a single luxury solution. This approach allows spas, resorts, and beauty centers to optimize their spaces while maintaining the highest standards of comfort, transforming every treatment into a complete care ritual.

At the heart of the project lies the integrated retractable wash basin, engineered to provide quick and intuitive access without compromising the elegance of the workstation. This system allows for a seamless transition from a body treatment to a Head Spa ritual, naturally supporting every phase of the service. Head Spa technology integrates scalp washing and massage into a single configuration inspired by Japanese techniques, promoting muscle relaxation and stimulating circulation through a delicate and uniform water flow.

Comfort is ensured by a Memory Foam mattress designed to distribute weight evenly and eliminate pressure points, guaranteeing maximum relaxation even during prolonged treatments. The removable and adjustable horseshoe headrest provides optimal ergonomic support for the neck and head, adapting to different operational needs and promoting proper cervical alignment.

The fully electric system with three motors for height, backrest, and legrest adjustment allows operators to fine-tune the position with millimetric precision, improving ergonomic posture and reducing physical strain. Intelligent functions, such as the dedicated memory for the ideal hair-wash position or the END function that automatically returns the bed to the end-of-treatment position, further simplify operational management.

Sorrento is also a design element. The wood and metal base, made from FSC-certified timber supplied by partners committed to sustainable development, represents the meeting point between aesthetics and environmental responsibility, while Spa Essence finishes ensure hygiene and ease of cleaning over time.

Technology, ergonomics, and Italian craftsmanship coexist in Sorrento. Every detail is designed to transform the treatment into a sensory experience, where functionality and aesthetics merge into a harmonious balance. Not just a multifunctional treatment bed, but a new vision of professional wellbeing, where ritual meets precision and comfort becomes an integral part of the experience.

Sorrento Head Spa is not only the future of treatment—it is the promise of a new art of care.

Humanscale wins two 2026 iF Design Awards

Humanscale has secured two honours at the iF Design Award 2026, with wins for its Diffrient Lounge chair and eFloat Quattro desk.

The annual awards, judged by an independent panel from more than 11,000 global entries, recognise excellence in innovation, functionality and sustainability. Humanscale's latest accolades highlight its long-standing focus on intuitive, human-centred design.

Developed by the company's New York-based design studio, both products reflect a philosophy rooted in simplicity—reducing components and materials while enhancing performance and user comfort. The studio brings together industrial designers, engineers and ergonomics specialists to create furniture that works with the body rather than requiring adjustment from the user.

The Diffrient Lounge continues the legacy of pioneering designer Niels Diffrient, translating a concept first explored decades ago into a contemporary lounge chair. Designed for hybrid working environments, it features an articulating back, integrated headrest and a pivoting worksurface for devices.

Meanwhile, the eFloat Quattro reimagines the height-adjustable desk with a four-leg structure that combines stability with smooth, quiet movement. Designed to encourage regular posture changes, it also meets high environmental standards, with a largely recyclable construction.

Together, the two awards reinforce Humanscale's reputation for design that balances ergonomics, sustainability and commercial performance.

