

Teknion at 25

Back in 1983, Teknion – then just a handful of people in a 30,000-square-foot facility – entered the contract furniture market with T/O/S (for Teknion Office System), designed specifically for the new technology-driven office. The company has come a long way since then. Today, it has over 3,000 employees and more than 2.5

million square feet of facilities worldwide.

From the beginning, Teknion strived to be a different kind of furniture company – one with an entrepreneurial spirit, focused on its customers and serious about design, and aligned with sustainable principles.

Over the years, it has created a comprehensive portfolio of products that work together, allowing customers to cope with constant change and reduce obsolescence by blending new and existing designs. Teknion's "greatest hits" include the

off-modular Transit system (1992), Altos architectural walls (1999), the Contessa mesh chair (2003), and the District furniture collection and Marketplace worktable (both 2007).



Beaver tale

In collaboration with Canadian Aboriginal artists, designer Sabina Hill creates original custom furniture, art and installations merging the rich mythology of West Coast Aboriginal culture with a contemporary aesthetic. One such work is her Prow Coffee Table, handmade of tempered glass, bronze anodized aluminum and figured makore with stainless steel standoffs. Hill's limited edition of 10 tables with a whale motif has sold out; she's now offering tables with a beaver motif (also limited to 10, the table is made to order and available in four to six weeks; for more information, visit www.sabinahill.com).

Hill worked with Tlingit artist Mark Preston to develop the beaver motif. "I wanted it to be

very abstract – not the typical crosshatch beaver tail or a frontal view," she says. "What we came up with is a side view of the beaver, which has been defined and contained within the profile of the laser-cut aluminum top, with all the traditional Northwest Coast elements of a beaver motif accounted for."

The Beaver Prow Coffee Table is part of the Canadian Art and Design exhibition at the University of Toronto Art Centre. Showcasing designers and craft makers who interpret and celebrate the Canadian countryside and wildlife in their work, it runs until Dec. 3.



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