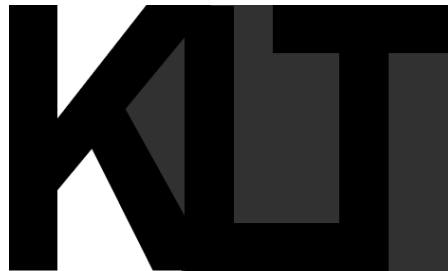




Eurocucina 2008



“OIKOS’ Kitchen Living & Technology”

At Eurocucina 2008 OIKOS launches newly developed designs reflecting the latest trends in kitchen design and translating them into functional, high quality products at affordable prices.

The kitchen environment evolves rapidly and progressively incorporates solutions to new needs, in addition to creating improved areas for the preparation and consumption of food. The kitchen is increasingly becoming more integrated with living areas and therefore tends to absorb those functions as it becomes a space to relax and interact, a place where comfort, elegance and style of furnishing solutions play an important role. The kitchen can now be regarded as a creative area, thanks to an increasing interest in cooking and technical advances in cooking appliances.

Multimedia technology offers new perspectives to the kitchen environment. Convergence of different functions towards digital solutions have made it possible to produce equipment which offers seamless integration with traditional kitchen units as seen in the new kitchen line designed by Massimo Colombo for Oikos. This kitchen will be presented at Eurocucina 2008 (Hall 22 – Stand D 14).

Colombo has designed a ***Multimedia Unit***, which is composed of a double screen, facing both the working and living area. The unit integrates a computer, MP3 player and a cell phone, all wirelessly connected and controlled, blending almost seamlessly with the clean, architectural composition of the kitchen. This technology makes it possible to listen to music, receive information and communicate without leaving the kitchen.

OIKOS sets out to enhance the kitchen by breaking down the barriers between working space and relaxing areas within the home, taking into account the personal preferences and needs of all members of the family, and offering communication with the outside world as well.

The new features of OIKOS all support these new trends:

Santos Rosewood and a more delicate Canaletto Walnut veneer add to the wide choice of wood finishes and reflect the market demand for warm and strong elements. The new door of the latest OIKOS line is characterised by a low profile frame with a simple matching handle.

Stunning Porfido and Lava natural stone worktops complement the sleek lines of the OIKOS furniture, available in honed finish or brushed and flamed finish with a split edge. Both these stones feature on the display kitchens at Eurocucina.

The Touch (handleless) range is now available with an extra-high gloss finish, with white or black gloss lacquered grooves and plinths. The new Blum drawers and baskets, available in white or black gloss lacquer with frosted glass sides further offer complimentary contemporary aesthetics. OIKOS are also introducing their new range of stainless steel undermounted and recessed hobs and sinks, all listed in the OIKOS catalogue.

The introduction of LED lighting reflects the latest trends in lighting technology, adding glamour and radiance to OIKOS designs. LEDs guarantee low energy consumption and avoid polluting materials, they are small in size and emit light at a constant level. These lights last longer and switch on faster than traditional lamps. LEDs do not emit harmful IR and IV radiations and are ideal to light artwork due to their chromatic values.

The new electrically assisted door openings, for base units and especially for bi-fold wall units solve an old problem of matching design with comfort and ease of use.

Hands-free taps will now also be available, with an option for temperature control as well.

For those who enjoy cooking and have multiple appliances, OIKOS now propose a Pantry System with a composition of appliances positioned behind sliding doors, to house fridges, ovens, wine coolers, coffee machines, ice makers etc.

If the kitchen is to function as a living room after food preparation, the lacquered or veneered shelving system integrated with wall units offers novel storage and display methods, making good use of space which may otherwise be void.

Finally the new low base units, with a height of 510mm and no plinth, offer innovative design solutions, especially when positioned back-to-back to create an elegant block. The surfaces of these units can be freely interpreted as storage, decorative or creative areas, in the same way that all OIKOS kitchens can be personalised.

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