



Jan-Feb 2009

Stay Tuned:

Mar-Apr Features:
 Refurbished Furniture-
 Furniture Fire Safety

Volume 2, Issue 1



NYU Green Room

Certification Criteria:

Climate Cool



Cradle to Cradle



Fair Trade



Energy Star



SCS



Green Guard



LEED



Green Organizations

- Environmental Preferable Purchasing www.epa.gov/epp/
- USGBC– U.S. Green Building Council– www.usgbc.org
- Forest Stewardship Council– www.fsc.org
- NYU-Sustainability– www.nyu.edu/sustainability

Rakk 'Em Up

By Giselle Graham –NYU- Purchasing Services

Sleek and minimal, Rakks is an elegant architectural shelving system . Known for its capability of providing maximum strength and flexibility in the most exquisite and unobtrusive way, it's no wonder that it is becoming the preferred shelving option throughout the University. The system itself is made up of several components that can offer a wide array of design possibilities. Rakks is manufactured from nearly 50 stocked aluminum extrusions which is easily recycled and is available in clear anodized, black anodized and white powder-coat finishes. It is available in both floor to ceiling with vertical suspension poles and wall mounted standards.

The Rakks Shelving Systems and specialty brackets are designed and manufactured by Rangine Corporation . They are located in Needham, Massachusetts

and have been at the forefront of innovative shelving systems since opening their doors in 1971. Their make-to-order capability makes custom applications not only possible but it is available for a very modest cost and it minimizes waste making it a sustainable option. The aluminum found in the hardware, shelves and support brackets have a recycled content of 64% (41% pre-consumer and 23% post consumer). Their corrugated boxes and sheets used to package their products are manufactured from materials with a minimum of 33% pre-consumer recycled content. Rangine Corporation recycles all of its scrap aluminum and paper products. www.rakks.com

[Commercial Files of NY](#) is NYU's primary suppliers for this shelving system and they consistently provide

safe and on-time installations. In addition to Rakks, they also offer a selection of storage options such as lockers, files and custom millwork.

One vendor in particular, Modular Millwork, originated in Steinen, Switzerland but entered the US market in 1994. It is GREENGUARD certified. Their wood panels are made from 100% recycled Industrial particle-board. The worksurface can be specified in a thermoset laminate (which is made in a factory controlled production environment). It is also available in a bactericidal surfacing which is made from 100% natural products such as linseed oil, pine rosen, wood and cork flour, pigment and jute. The organizers and sorters are made up of 100% polystyrene (high impact plastic) and is recyclable in both the grey and black colors. www.iopcusa.com



Rakks– Pole-Mounted



Rakks- Wall-Mounted Standards



Modular Millwork– Custom

How Green is Your Storage?

By Giselle Graham –NYU- Purchasing Services

There is no question that Steelcase has been at the forefront of sustainable furniture design. They offer an extensive collection of Cradle to Cradle certified products. Their commitment to the environment even extends to their file and storage cabinets as well.

All of the storage components within the Universal Line are SCS Indoor Advantage certified for indoor air quality in North America and it contains 28% of recycled content. The Indoor Advantage program provides credit towards the U.S. Green Building Council's LEED certification. For a broader range of options, the lateral files within the 200 Series, 800 Series, 900 series, Answer and Turnstone are also SCS Indoor Advantage certified.

Over the past few years sustainability designs have become more important within the Healthcare industry. Steelcase's Nurture division has introduced their "Viridian" line of environ-

mentally conscious case-goods for patient room storage. The line features dressers, wardrobes, TV cabinets, Bedside tables and overbed tables.

The Viridian collection is constructed from environmentally friendly materials. The body is covered in a bonded melamine and the core is made up of certified standard 100% pre-consumer recycled wood fiber particleboard. The cabinet tops, bases, sides and door fronts includes PVC free edge banding and the aluminum hardware such as the pulls, legs and brackets are all made from recycled aluminum. This collection can truly support a more pleasant and healing environment.

Steelcase's Elective Element 6 wood line not only meets the SCS Indoor Advantage Certification, it also has a Silver Cradle to Cradle certification. It consists of 75% of recycled content. It is constructed with water-based glues, stains, top-

coats, and UV finishes. The particleboard products consist of 100% recycled wood fiber contents and is available in Forest Stewardship Council (FSC) and Sustainable Forestry Initiative certified woods. Metro's Topo furniture line also meets the SCS Indoor Advantage certification and contains 50% of recycled content.

On all wood products, Steelcase has developed a wood finish process called Clarity. "Clarity's waterborne UV clear coat provides exceptional durability, clarity and quality, all while helping the environment". It is more durable because it allows the products to dry faster thus the risk of damages during shipping and installations lessens. The Clarity finish also allows for repairs to the topcoat, if damages should occur and it allows a finish consistency and clarity that is sure to let the natural beauty of the wood shine through. www.steelcase.com



EE6- Storage Cabinet

"We learn from our gardens to deal with the most urgent question of the time: How much is enough?." — Wendell Berry



Universal- 5-Drawer lateral file



Answer- metal tower



Metro- Topo Freestanding Storage



Steelcase Nurture Collection- Viridian by Softcare

File under “G” for Green.

By Giselle Graham –NYU- Purchasing Services



The Tetrad Bamboo shelf Unit- Brave Space-Brooklyn NY



Knu Lateral File- Knu

Green considerations of simple storage components can prove to be an integral part of your workplace design. Not only will it be beneficial to the environment, it can be an aesthetically pleasing detail to your office space.

Baltix Sustainable furniture is in the process of reengineering their “EcoBuzz” line. The new products will be called Baltix Classics. Some of the design changes planned are to reduce the amount of aluminum framing which in turn will reduce the weight and cost to transport. They also plan to use a new powder coated finish for consistency and to make their core materials FSC certified. Their storage cabinets are available with eco-panel faces made from recycled newspapers and formaldehyde-free soy based resins. They are also available with a unique bio-based material created from sunflower

seeds. Stay tuned. www.baltix.com

Brave space is a group of Brooklyn-based designers who believe that the use of materials that are both durable and environmentally sustainable can have positive effects on our world. Their Tetrad Bamboo shelving come in a variety of shapes and sizes and is inspired by Tetris (a puzzle video game). They have combined Natural and Amber Bamboo rubbed in Organic Herbal oils. A durable non-toxic water based finish is then added to create this interesting bookcase. It can be a playful and creative addition to any space. www.bravespace.com

Iannone Eco-Friendly Modern Designs featured their new cork lateral and pedestal files in 2008. The files consist of formaldehyde free bamboo plywood and renewable cork fronts that can accept tacks. The cabinet is constructed with (no

added formaldehyde adhesive) maple plywood that is FSC certified. This material is then finished with a low water based VOC finish. It is available with touch release dovetail drawers and in natural or mocha cork finishes.

www.iannonedesign.com
Knu office furniture features a series of animated, compact storage components for contemporary interiors. It is constructed from FSC certified Baltic birch. The legs are manufactured using 40% recycled content and all lamination is accomplished by using water borne PVA adhesives. This adhesive contains zero VOCs. More than 70% of their shipment is blanket wrapped and almost all of their packing material is recycled from cardboard to skids to foam spacers. The veneers are available in ash, cherry, ebony, maple, walnut and wenge. www.getknu.com



Baltix- Eco-Buzz Recycled Newspaper Cabinet



Iannone Design- Amber Bamboo and Cork Filing Cabinets