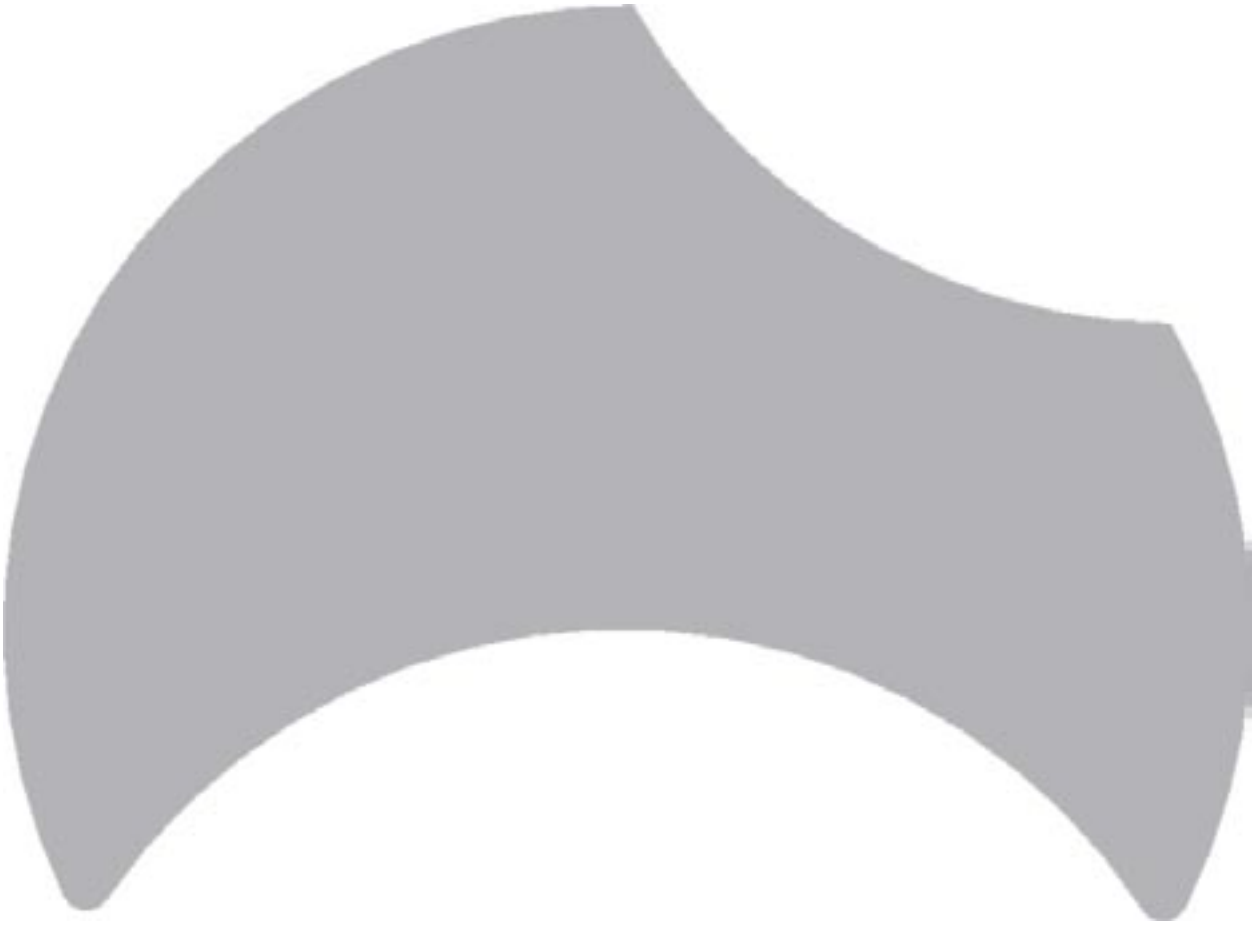
Office-table concept

Patented concept.

The office-table concept bases itself mainly on the modularity of one singular form. This modularity offers the possibility to respond to various demands of office layout. Apart from the modularity the design of the table integrates itself in the various facets an office-table is used in and the way one interacts and communicates with people and colleagues.

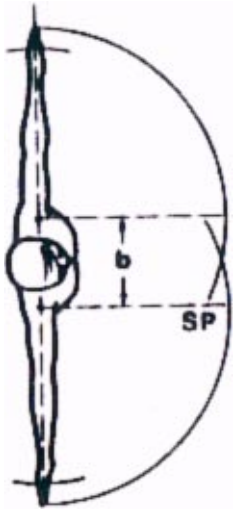
Studies convincingly have proven that office layout in its totality can influence the company's productivity up to 15%. The design takes into account the formal and informal contact, the virtual private workspace, the circles of reach, etc…

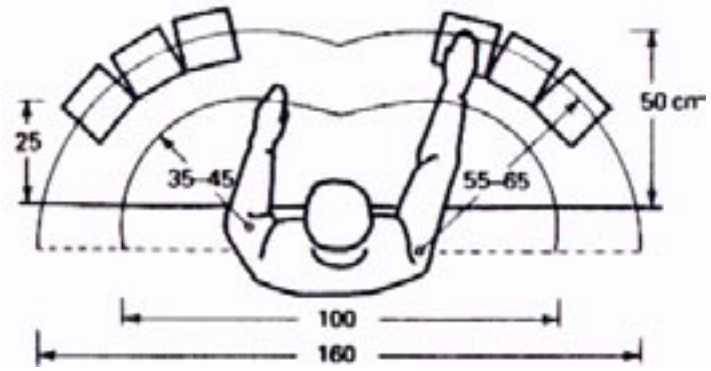
The form:
There is one basic form which allows endless modularity. It is designed to respond to the latest findings on office lay-out and incorporates also the less evidently projected spaces.

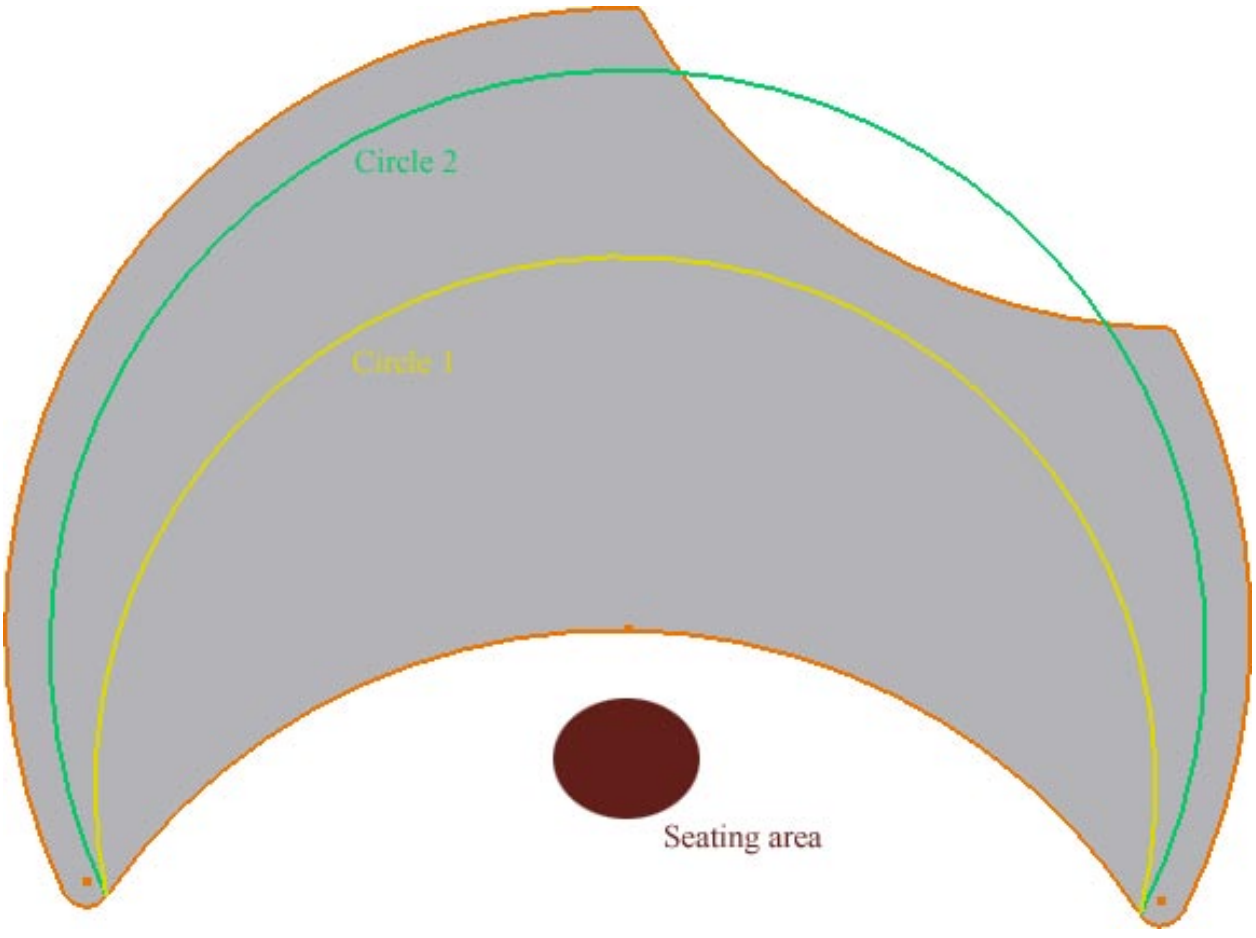


Circles of reach:

In contrast to square office tables with the proposed design the whole table is within reach. Without upper corporal movement the arms reach between 55 and 65 centimetres, marked as circle 1. With some waist flex (still without chair movement) the circle expands 20 to 30 centimetres marked as circle 2.

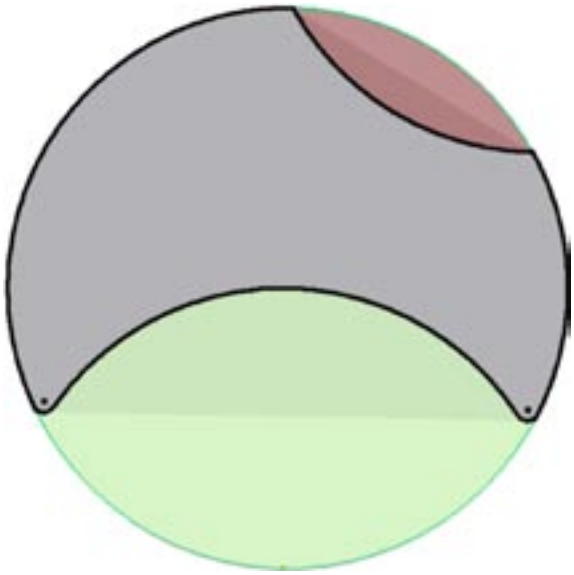






Projected spaces:

Projected spaces are senses based spaces. They are suggested by an item and are completed by one's senses. A rectangular office table does not clearly project observable spaces, other items like the drawer block or the under frame will have to define the workspace.



In the current design the work-spaces are already clearly defined. In the drawing the coloured areas mark the imaginary projected spaces. Notice within these coloured areas a lighter and a darker space. The darker coloured spaces are defined by a straight line between the extensions, the lighter spaces are defined by the completion of the contours.
The darker areas are directly projected spaces and the lighter areas are imaginary projected spaces. A combination of both spaces are ideally to make working areas.

The darker zones are the private workspace of the user and belong to his active workspace. The lighter zones on the other hand are an extension of the user's active workspace and act as a buffer zone. They protect the working space and give the user a sense of tranquillity what fosters the general concentration on his work.

In the example shown below we can see that the user in fig. 1 has no buffer zone, on the contrary, he himself even acts as a definition point of his active workspace. He will have the feeling to sit in the alley and will be more frequently disturbed by passing colleagues then the user in fig 2. He can enjoy a buffer zone and notice that his active workspace is independently defined from his seating position.

Fig. 1

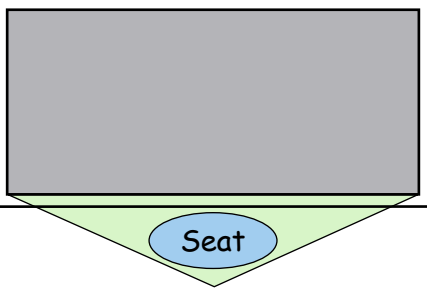
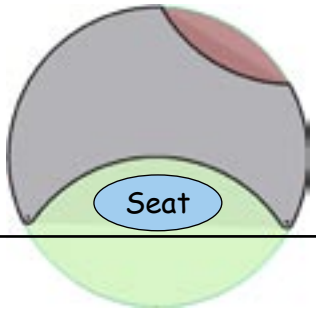


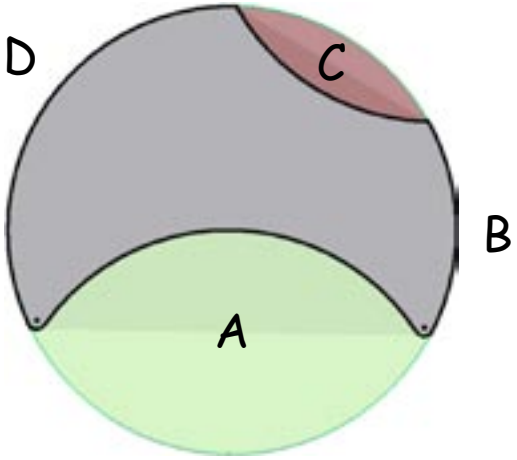
Fig. 2



Alley way

The proposed design clearly defines work and communication zones.

Zone A: this zone is the ideal place for a long term working environment. There is a clear definition of the active workspace with buffer zone. This would be the daily workspace.
Zone B: this zone, as zone D is clearly excluded and does not belong to the active workspace. It is smaller than zone D and therefore lends itself faster for informal communication with other colleagues.
Zone C: this zone is an alternative working zone. It is smaller than zone A and therefore more apt for temporary use (ex.: temporary work study with a colleague.)
Zone D: this zone is most clearly excluded and is optimal for formal contact. (ex.: receiving clients.)



Some pictures on how the office tables may be used


Zone A: the permanent workspace


Zone B: the informal contact

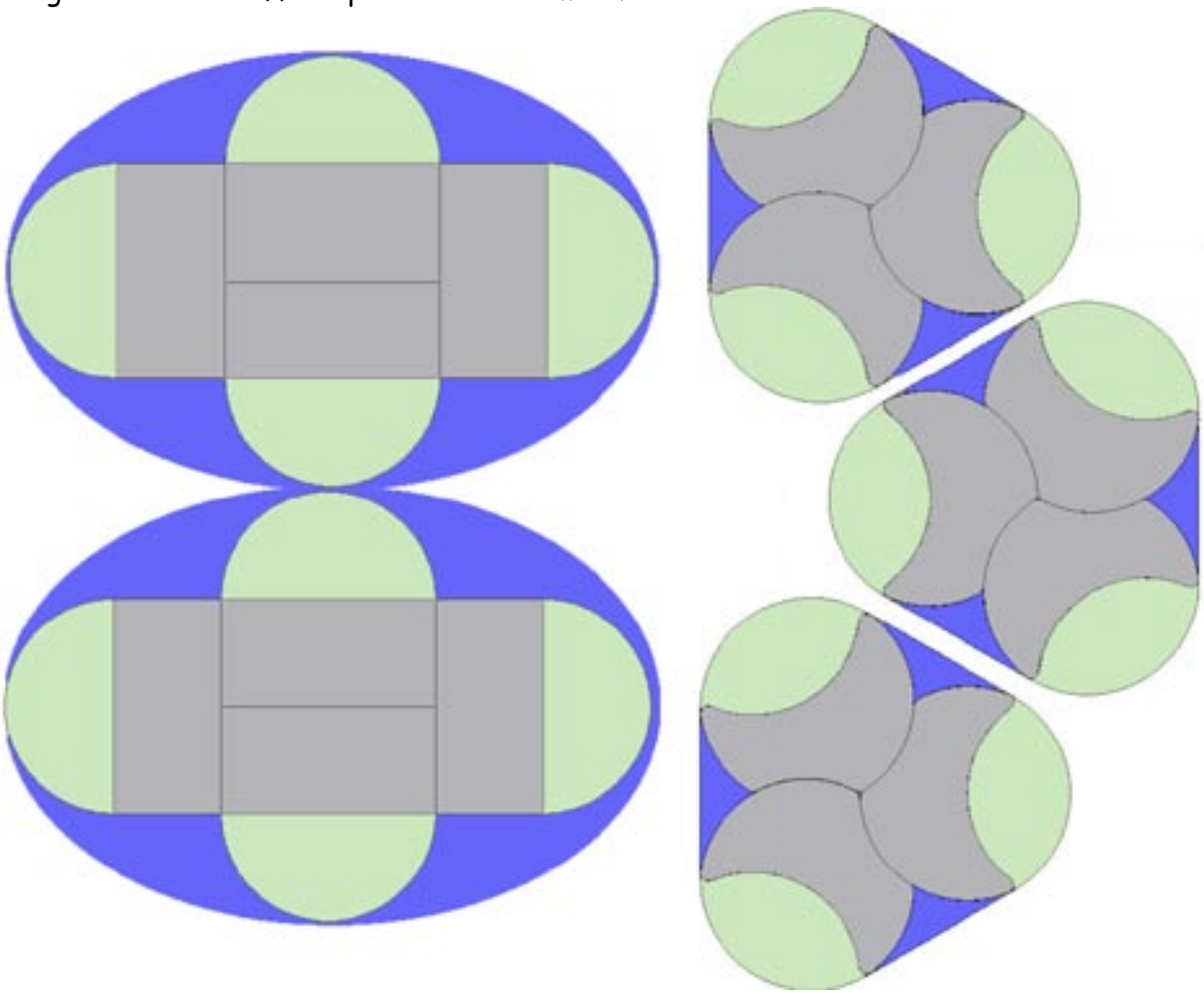

Zone C: the temporary workspace


Zone D: the formal contact

Rectangular – concept comparison.

Below a small example on how the concept of the office tables compares itself to the use of conventional rectangular office tables. The concept tables not only make more optimum use of the desk surface, as explained previously, it also allows for combinations which will use office space and layout in general more effectively.

The comparison boxes found just below the drawing indicate that with a similar office desk surface the concept tables will seat one person more and will use the space more economically and produce less wasted office space. Due to the fact that the seating area is already largely incorporated in the design the organic forms of the concept tables occupy less overall surface space. Conventional rectangular forms will need additional seating surface using the available office space less economical.



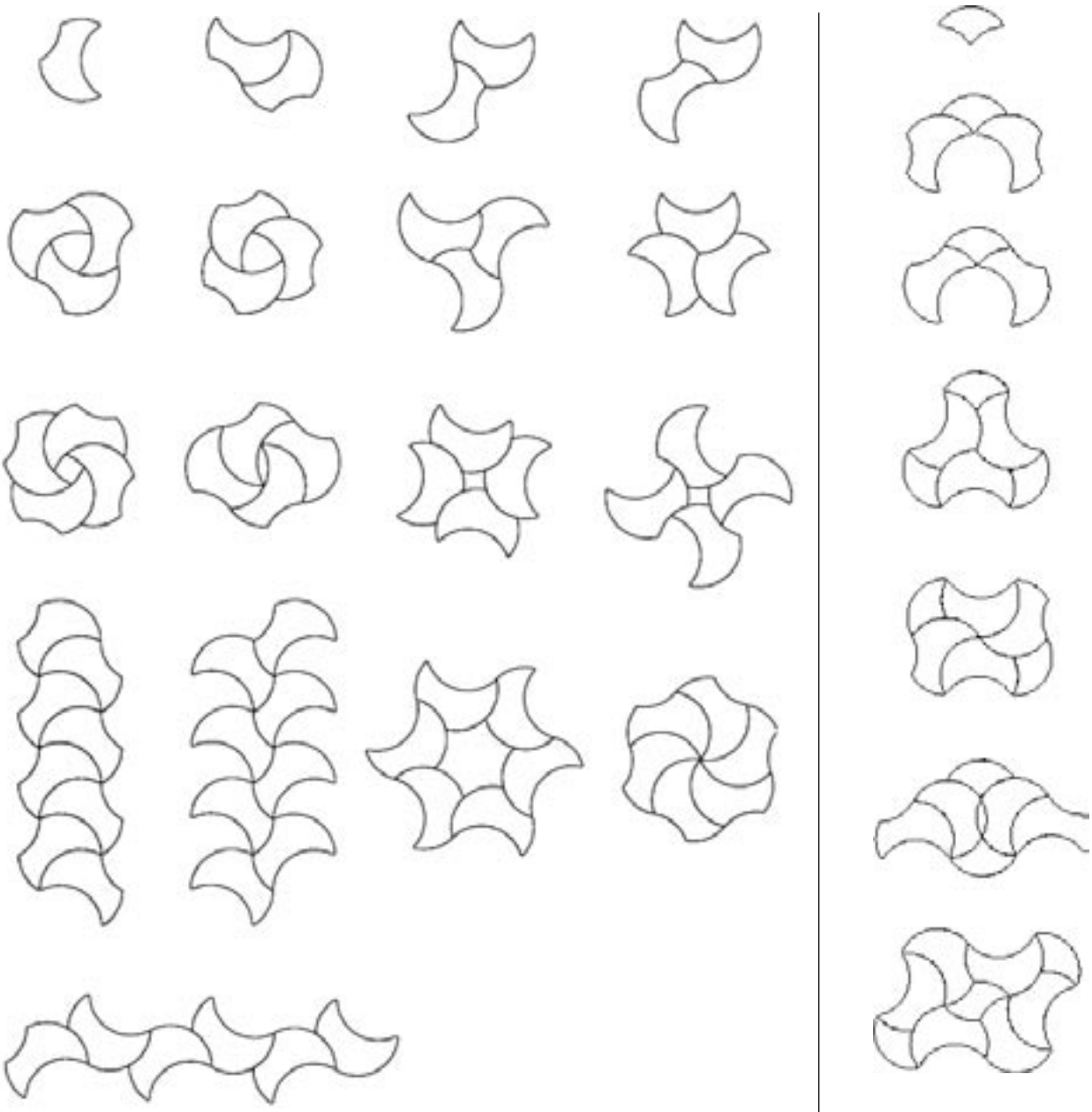
Office desks surface area: Top view of the desks surface.

Seating area: area occupied by the mobility of the office chair.

Dominated area space: Waste space that is occupied the lay-out of the desks.

Rectangular tables (seats 8)	
Dimentions:	1.40 m X 0.70 m
Surface area /table top:	0.97 m2
Surf. entire 8 tables:	7.8 m2

Concept tables (seats 9)	
Dimentions:	diameter 1.40 m
Surface area /table top:	0.84 m2
Surf. entire 9 tables:	7.6 m2



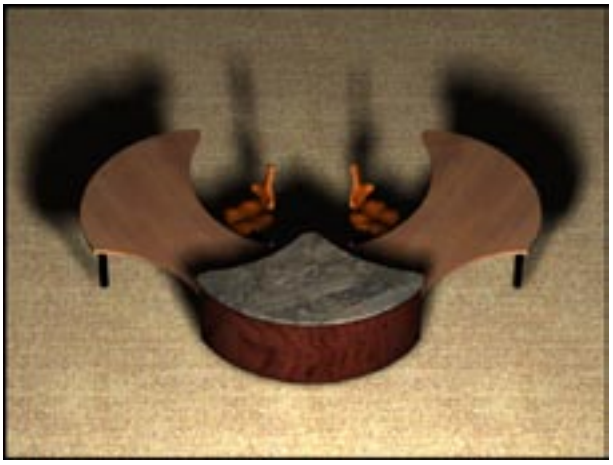
The modularity

The design lends itself to endless modulation. Obviously not every combination is feasible within an office layout concept. The models shown are the more appropriate once within a varied working environment. Some more suitable for executive use others for workstations, cubicles, computer stations, call centres, boardrooms, reception areas or the office hotelling concept.

Additional combinations are obtainable using an add-on. They expand the collection and offer solutions to certain office necessities. Additional workspace, printer-fax-scanner space, reception contoire, etc…

In the following section computer generated models show some of the possible working environments. The hotelling or cocooning concepts are not yet included.

Boardroom Layout

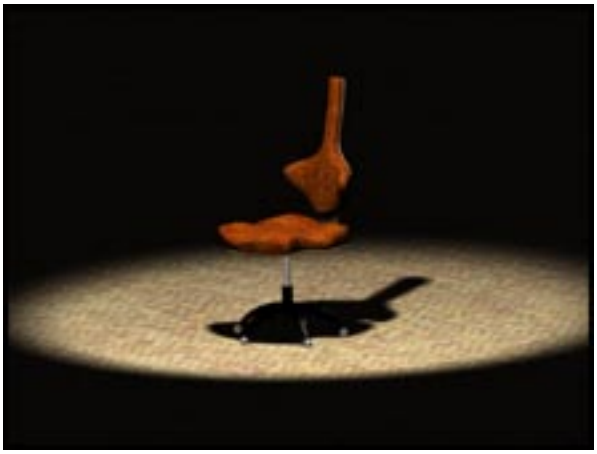


Reception Layout

Cubicles shown in various combinations with and without separations (first 4 pictures.) Last 2 pictures are views of an office chair designed for this project.





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