

SWERVE

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SWERVECO.COM

Agile Systems from an Agile Company

Swerveco is an interdisciplinary design and manufacturing company with a decidedly Modern aesthetic. Located in West Berkeley, California, Swerve unites a long industrial tradition with innovative design and a modern factory to create a unique production-house: In-house design, architecture and manufacturing staff combined with state-of-the art CNC equipment allows Swerve to move agilely through prototyping, fabrication and mass-production.

For 2008, Swerve is designing and producing an innovative furniture kit. Emphasizing scalability, durability and innovative design, "T6" will morph into work environments including shelving systems, work stations and tables.

Its Team

Our staff includes our founder, Michael Goldin, who attended The Department of Architecture at the University of California, Berkeley for a Master's Degree after a Bachelors in Biology and Mechanical Engineering and a short career designing and running restaurants. From the beginning Michael's brother Steven Goldin was a crucial part of the firm. With a background in legal and business matters, and an education in the medical field, he joined Michael to build an international industrial design and furniture company that incorporates their varied backgrounds. Swerve is a creative team of 14 people developing and executing custom furniture systems for work and home. From its beginning in 1993, Swerve was conceived as a collaborative effort. It takes a team of dedicated and creative people from engineering to production to project management to be able to achieve the unique alchemy which Swerve brings to its work.

Factory

Swerve is located in a structure originally built in 1923 as the Berkeley Brass Foundry. History, function and Modern design are integrated into the completed building, which was vacant until 2007 when Michael and Steven Goldin designed and rebuilt the old factory as the setting for Swerve's operations. A parallel awareness exists of the origins and re-working of the building, and the processes and principles which are ongoing in the company. As with the re-construction, understanding of history, materials, engineering and design play a key role in Swerve's processes.

Production

Swerve production is backed by state-of-the-art multi-axis CNC machines including a 6-Axis Mori Seiki NT 4200 DCG, and a 5-axis Heian NC-162 Router. With this equipment mass production is possible in materials ranging from wood to plastic to various metals. We also use the latest Unigraphics software enabling us to go from design straight to the shop floor for production.

Products

Swerve's products are characterized by a genuine attention to structure and solid connection. As the skeletal structure of the old foundry is still present in the new facility, Swerve furniture expresses classic joinery and structural integrity along with the most contemporary manufacturing and design processes.

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T6 essentially comes as a kit of parts which can be standardized or tailored for a given customer or any given application. Mixing and matching from the kit allows a designer or user to decide whether T6 takes shape as wall-mounted shelving and/or desk system, a freestanding workstation, or a beautiful conference table.

Swerve has designed T6 with new fundamental structural components and ideas which comprise a kit of parts allowing endless variation in function. You can drop in a second monitor arm, an additional shelf, a standing desk or a task light. Adjusting only two sets of screws, users can adjust shelves and work surfaces to suit their needs.

Materials

6061 T6 Aluminum: Our latest furniture system takes its name from this material. T6 has been chosen for many reasons, but chief among them are beauty, strength and recyclability. With innovative design, T6 allows us to leverage these qualities into mass production.

Corian: This non-porous plastic is non-toxic, with little to no off-gassing of volatile organic compounds. All pigments and particles used to create its myriad colors are free of heavy metals, toxic and carcinogenic ingredients.

Phenolic Resin: Organic materials, such as recycled paper pulp or canvas fiber, are combined with non-petroleum based Phenolic resins to produce sheet materials.

Bamboo: The bamboo plywood Swerve uses is a highly sustainable product. Bamboo's incredibly fast growth cycle makes it ideal for managed growth and harvesting. Furthermore, the adhesives used between plies are non-toxic and emission free.

Felt: One of the oldest forms of wool fabric, available in many colors.