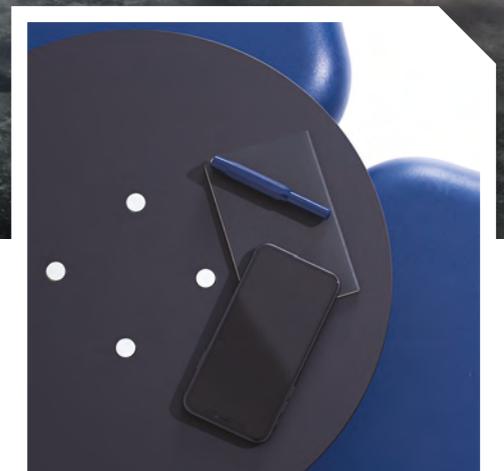




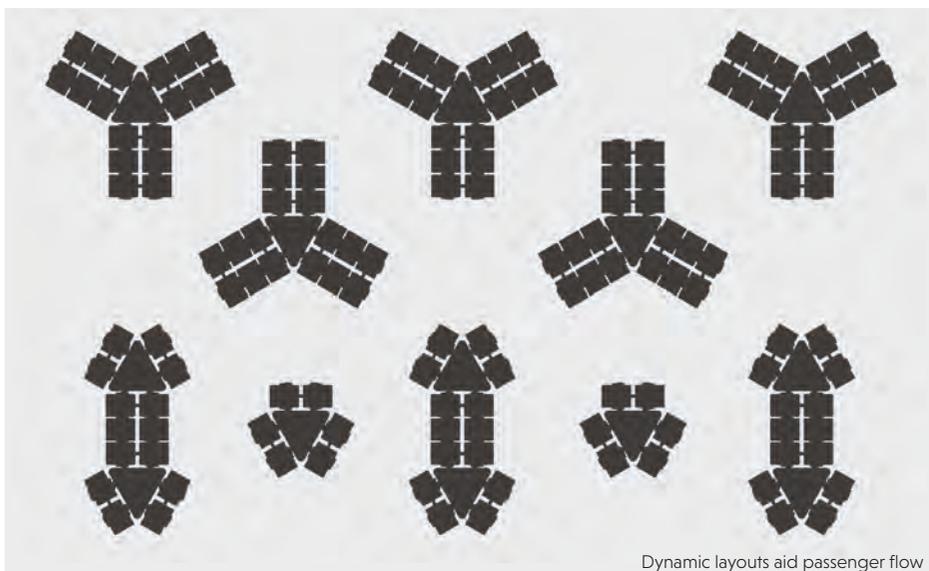
Link dynamic seating system

BELOW
Optional accessories
for Link include tables
and charging modules



DYNAMIC SEATS

London-based studio **OMK** looks at how the design of airport interiors is playing an increasingly vital role in shaping the overall passenger experience



Dynamic layouts aid passenger flow

■ For more than 50 years OMK has been at the forefront of the furniture industry with design-led innovation at the heart of the business. Having now supplied seating systems to more than 350 airport projects globally, its experienced in-house design team offers layout planning, passenger flow and behavioral analysis consultation services to leading airport operators, architects and aviation consultants. The insights gained from this two-way process are directly fed into an advanced product development program that has resulted in many of the innovations that are now the industry standard in terminal seating.

Recent design trends have veered toward creating large open concourses to optimize passenger flow. Reacting to this, OMK has been promoting the use of dynamic seating layouts as an alternative to traditional linear seating rows. This is achieved through the use of a triangular table, which acts as a hub, articulating the seat runs to offer many different configurations. Case studies have demonstrated that this results in better passenger flow, an increase in seating capacity and higher retail footfall as the hub units provide a 360° view of the environment.

Product development

Taking this concept one step further, OMK has launched a seating system designed specifically for dynamic layouts. Link is formed from a unique geometric shape and a simple linking device, which can be easily removed and reattached enabling

TERMINAL SEATING



LEFT
Trax has been in continuous production for over 30 years

BELOW
Flite power arm, designed for easy maintenance with interchangeable modules



easy reconfiguration throughout the lifetime of the product, which carries a 25-year warranty.

Designed specifically for high-use applications, Link has an integral steel frame that sits inside a molded polyurethane cushion. Powder-coated or stainless steel legs are attached to the frame, creating a modular unit with a range of accessories including dividers, tables and charging points.

To complement Link, OMK has also released Bridge, a working table with integrated power and USB charging, to offer a standard to alternative tables traditionally designed as FFE items. Link and Bridge further extend OMK's existing range of three systems – Trax, Flite and Seville – each designed to satisfy different requirements. This focused approach makes it quick and easy for the company's clients to select the correct product.

Existing solutions

Trax has been in continuous production for more than 30 years. The award-winning seating system has undergone a number of significant design changes over the years and is now available in four chassis options, which when combined with the extensive

The iconic Seville bench is bidirectional, making it ideal for use in baggage reclaim

range of material finishes and accessories creates more than 77,000 combinations. This makes Trax OMK's most versatile product, suitable for retail areas, gate rooms and external spaces.

Flite is designed primarily for gate rooms and rail concourses, with a compact footprint providing a 10% increase in seating density over other products on the market. A minimalist design eliminates the need for pre-assembly and halves the time required for on-site assembly, not only producing a further cost saving but resulting in less disruption to a live airport or station.

The iconic Seville bench is bidirectional, making it ideal for use in baggage reclaim and rail platforms. Made entirely from aluminum it can be placed in external areas such as smoking shelters. There are three standard supports so the bench can be floor-fixed, wall-mounted or free-standing. Options for bespoke mounting options to fit with any railing or cladding system are also available.

Responding to Covid-19

The coronavirus pandemic has further caused a shift in the way that public spaces are used, especially in the airport environment where the requirement to limit the spread of germs and help passengers to feel safe is paramount. Dynamic seating, designed to ensure passengers face away from each other, can be used to accommodate larger groups. However, in some cases encouraging social distancing is more challenging. Crowded departure gates, for example, require more direct intervention.

OMK offers a removable social distancing strap as a temporary and relocatable solution. Further reconfiguration is possible due to the modular nature of OMK's products. Seats can easily be converted to tables creating new spaces to place luggage, and in turn free up more floor space. Furthermore, antimicrobial additives can also be added to any polyurethane product, further adding to passenger confidence. ■



Social distancing straps offer a temporary and relocatable solution