

# THE DOWNLOAD

© 2007 - BIFMA International

## calendar BIFMA EVENTS

The Business and Institutional Furniture Manufacturers Association (BIFMA) International had scheduled the following list of meetings and events as of press time. Additional events will be posted to the BIFMA website on the Internet at [www.bifma.org](http://www.bifma.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

June 13, 2007, 7:15 am - 9:00 am  
BIFMA International's Annual Meeting during NeoCon  
Holiday Inn Mart Plaza  
Sauganash Ballroom  
Chicago, IL

August 14, 2007, 9:00 am - 5 pm  
SOHO Subcommittee Meeting  
Hilton Inn Grand Rapids  
Grand Rapids, MI

August 15, 2007, 9:00 am - 5 pm  
Desk/ Table Canvass Comments Review Meeting  
Hilton Inn Grand Rapids  
Grand Rapids, MI

September 25, 2007, 10 am - 3 pm  
Information Systems Committee Meeting  
BIFMA Headquarters

October 10, 2007, 9:00 am - 5 pm  
Engineering Committee Meeting  
4 Points Chicago Sheraton O'Hare  
Rosemount, IL

January 31 - February 1, 2008  
Annual BIFMA Conference  
Florida

\*\*\*\*\*

## Manpower North America VP of Corporate Affairs Speaking

Melanie Holmes is responsible for corporate social responsibility at Manpower Inc., including work-force development, diversity, volunteerism and community involvement. An expert in building strategic partnerships between business, government, education and social organizations, she has insights on skills training of underemployed and unemployed individuals and why diversity is a business imperative.

Ms. Holmes will address BIFMA members at the Annual Meeting in Chicago on June 13, 2007. She joined Manpower in 1982 as a temporary employee and was soon promoted to Director of the Special Projects Group. In 1986, she was named Vice President of Product/Program

Development and in 1993 was given additional responsibilities as Quality Officer for North America. Holmes was elevated to Group Vice President of Customer Service in 1994 and to Senior Vice President in 1996. Before joining Manpower, she was employed

at Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Co. in Milwaukee.

Holmes, a breast cancer survivor, is a founding board member of ABCD: After Breast Cancer Diagnosis, an organization whose mission is to

provide free, personalized information and one-on-one support to people affected by breast cancer. Other board service includes COA: Youth and Family Centers, Big Brothers Big Sisters and the Milwaukee Ballet. A strong believer in life-long learning, Holmes received a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University, in December of 2005.

BIFMA's Annual Membership Meeting will be held on Wednesday morning,

June 13, 2007 in the Sauganash Ballroom of the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza in Chicago. A breakfast buffet will be served from 7:15 until 7:45 a.m., and the formal business meeting will begin promptly at 7:45 a.m and adjourn by 9:00 a.m.



Melanie Holmes, Manpower Inc.  
BIFMA 2007 Annual Meeting Speaker

# Election of New Directors Announced

BIFMA International is pleased to announce the election of three new Directors to the BIFMA Board. William (Bill) Bundy, President of Trendway Corporation, Jim Keane, President, Steelcase Group, and Franco Bianchi, President and CEO of Haworth, Inc. were all recently elected to positions on the BIFMA Board of Directors.

Bill Bundy was appointed President of Trendway Corporation in January 2007. His industry experience includes 5 years with Trendway where he led operations, product management, engineering, and customer care as Executive Vice President. Prior to joining Trendway, he held various leadership roles with Herman Miller for 15 years that included Senior Vice President of Miller SQA and earlier positions in logistics and supply management.

Jim Keane is president of the Steelcase Group brand of Steelcase Inc. Named to this role in October 2006, he oversees the sales, marketing and product development activities of the Steelcase brand and subsidiary companies Details, PolyVision and Vecta. He joined Steelcase in 1997 and prior to that, worked as an auditor with the public accounting firm of Peat Marwick, Mitchell & Co., and held various financial positions at Motorola, Inc.

Franco Bianchi assumed the role of President and Chief Executive Officer of Haworth Inc. in 2005. He oversees and directs the performance of the global organization, which comprises Haworth North America, Haworth

Europe, Haworth Asia Pacific and Groupe Lacasse. Before joining Haworth in 1992, his experiences included consulting on mergers, acquisitions and re-engineering; a role as Senior Associate for Arthur Anderson in Italy; and military service for NATO.

Brian Walker, President and CEO of Herman Miller will continue as BIFMA's President, while Rebecca Boenigk, CEO of Neutral Posture, was elected as BIFMA Vice President/President-elect.



*Bill Bundy*



*Jim Keane*



*Franco Bianchi*



*Rebecca Boenigk*

# BIFMA Conference Returns To Florida

The BIFMA Conference returns to Florida in 2008 with plans for a program full of valuable content for association members. We are currently seeking speakers on Lean Manufacturing, Worker Shortages, Growing A Business, and the future of the distribution chain, among others.

We are inviting Dr. Jeffrey K. Liker, Professor of Industrial and Operations Engineering at the University of Michigan and author of "The Toyota Way", to make a presentation on Toyota's lean manufacturing techniques and business practices.

We are also seeking a speaker from a prominent company, similar to the Nike presentation at last year's Conference to build on providing members with a "best in class" exposure to other industries. The goal of that session will be to see how other companies target markets and what their research process involves.

On the topic of "Worker Shortages", we will explore who will work in

the industry 10 years from now? As the Baby Boom reaches retirement age, will employers be able to attract and keep enough workers?

Other ideas being considered at press time are for an overview of what's happening in the Real Estate market; a look at Globalization from the perspective of John Engler, President of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM); and a conference dinner speaker to top Dave Barry's performance last year... an almost impossible feat!



*The BIFMA Conference - Florida 2005*

Mark your calendars for January 31-February 1, 2008. Sponsorship opportunities are available again this year. Companies interested in supporting the 2008 BIFMA Conference should contact Brad Miller of BIFMA ([bmiller@bifma.org](mailto:bmiller@bifma.org)) for the list of sponsorship options. The longtime support by this event's sponsors have enabled the conference to grow each year and present an increasing number of experts on the important issues to conference attendees.

# Canadian Federal Government Update

By Greg Rapier, Knoll Inc.

In late 2003, the Canadian Federal Government launched an expansive procurement review initiative focused on how best to carry out procurement government-wide. This review was to look at ways and means of reducing the cost of what the government buys and the government procurement function as well as increasing the speed of transactions. In addition it was to address increasing effectiveness in supporting government priorities, ensuring strong ethical foundations, effective checks and balances, and strong financial management, to ensure value government-wide.

As a result of this review, in 2004, the Government launched an initiative called The Way Forward. The Way Forward is a wide-ranging strategy led by Public Works and Government Services Canada (PWGSC) to find innovative ways to deliver services smarter, faster and at a reduced cost, and to improve how the Government of Canada does business. Part of The Way Forward initiative was to include consultation with industry associations in a number of different product categories including office furniture. When our industry was not invited to participate in the consultative process BIFMA members came together to form the Canadian Furniture Task Group (CFTG). In early 2005 the Government invited the CFTG to a meeting to provide insight and information as to how office furniture procurement could be reformed. The CFTG offered to provide ongoing collaboration to the Government to assist them in achieving their goals. In the months ahead, despite repeated efforts to engage the Government in this collaborative initiative, no further meetings or discussions were held.

In June 2006 the industry was invited to a meeting with PWGSC and was presented with a plan developed in conjunction with an outside consultant as to how office furniture procurement was to be reformed. This plan included radical changes to the current approach that provided open and accessible competition to the entire industry. It was obvious to the members of the CFTG and the industry as a whole that not only would the proposed plan not achieve the Government's goals and objectives it would have devastating consequences for both the manufacturing and distribution firms in the office furniture industry. BIFMA's CFTG engaged in a concerted lobbying effort to try to stop this reform initiative and offered to work with PWGSC to develop an improved reform initiative.

In September 2006, PWGSC engaged the services of the Conference Board of Canada and held four consultation meetings with members of the

industry in Calgary, Toronto, Montreal and Halifax. Members of the CFTG and other industry participants provided extensive feedback to the Government and were able to convince the Government that their plan needed changing. As a result, in early 2007, PWGSC created the Government Office Furniture Advisory Council (GOFAC), a government/industry collaborative initiative. GOFAC's purpose is to provide advice and/or recommendations regarding improving the method of supply, to monitor its implementation and to provide feedback on its effectiveness.

GOFAC kicked off its first meeting on February 27, 2007 and has held eight meetings since then. GOFAC is comprised of the following membership:

- o 1 large non-Canadian based manufacturer (Knoll)
- o 2 large Canadian based manufacturers (Teknion, Global)
- o 2 small or medium Canadian based manufacturer (Artopex, CAF)
- o 2 re-sellers
- o 1 Aboriginal enterprise
- o 4 members from PWGSC
- o 2 Government departmental end-users
- o An independent Chairperson

The initial focus of the Committee has been to use the Cabinets Request for Standing Offer (RFSO) to model the procurement approach for all other product categories. This product category includes lateral and vertical files as well as storage cabinets. PWGSC presented the Committee with an initial draft of the RFSO for this product category which had significant changes from the procurement approach presented to the industry in June 2006. However, through the collaborative process, the Committee suggested several changes that would not only assist the Government in achieving their goals more effectively but would also maintain the open and accessible competitive environment the industry desires. The majority of the suggested changes are being adopted by PWGSC and will provide Government users with the ability to make procurement decisions based on total value as opposed to simply lowest price.

The framework that has been established for the Cabinets RFSO will now be utilized by GOFAC in reviewing all of the other product categories in the office furniture program. Each product category will require adjustments based on the complexity and expenditure level of that specific category

*(continued on Page 4)*

# Canadian Update, continued

*(continued from Page 3)*

however the approach will be consistent. The Committee is currently working on the Freestanding product categories. Other product categories to be reviewed include systems furniture and seating.

In addition to dealing with the specifics of each furniture product category and the RFSO for same, the Committee will also discuss a number of broader topics that cross all products. This will include but not be limited to areas such as the year-end procurement surge, training for Government officials and end-users, green initiatives, value-based procurement and socio-economic initiatives.

When polled in a recent meeting, in general, the members of

GOFAC from the industry, Government end-users and PWGSC believe the consultative process has been positive and is resulting in a more effective approach to furniture procurement strategies that will achieve the Government's goals and objectives. PWGSC has been very open and receptive to the input of the industry and end-users. Further real, substantive change has occurred from the opening of the process and even more so if measured against PWGSC's position from last year. It proves the value that can be achieved when the industry and Government engage in a truly collaborative process focused on balancing the needs and objectives of all parties involved in the procurement process.

*(Email [bmiller@bifma.org](mailto:bmiller@bifma.org) to join the BIFMA Canadian Furniture Task Group)*

## Heading West For NeoCon Xpress L.A.

*By Maura Bruton, Director of Public Relations, Merchandise Mart Properties, Inc*

The first-ever NeoCon® Xpress L.A., the West-coast architecture, interior design and facility management community's premier opportunity to see hundreds of hot new products fresh from the NeoCon World's Trade Fair, will debut at The Los Angeles Convention Center August 22-23, with the hottest new trends and show elements in the contract furnishings industry.

Produced by Merchandise Mart Properties Inc. (MMPI), NeoCon Xpress L.A. is the showcase for the very best, innovative designs in the contract furnishings industry. In addition, many on-site special events, educational seminars and special exhibits will fill the convenient two-day NeoCon Xpress L.A. schedule. Following is a summary:

### NEWEST PRODUCTS & TRENDS

More than 150 of the leading manufacturers in the contract furnishings industry will showcase a comprehensive range of products for commercial interior environments. All who exhibit at NeoCon Xpress L.A. will feature their newest products and designs to ensure a fresh and distinct experience for attendees. A broad array of market segments will be represented in the product offerings, including: Corporate, Hospitality, Healthcare, Education, Government Building Products, Technology Solutions and Eco-Friendly/Sustainable.

### KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

Each day of NeoCon Xpress L.A, two visionary industry keynote speakers will be featured.

- World-renowned designer Angela Adams, owner of Angela Adams, Inc., will present to attendees on "Bringing Comfort to Contract."

- Jack Kyser, Senior Vice President and Chief Economist for the city of Los Angeles, known as the "guru of the Los Angeles economy," will enlighten attendees on his analysis and predictions of trends in the Los Angeles five-county area.

- Debra K. Ertel-Hernandez, CFM, CFMJ, FMA, senior facilities operations administrator at Toyota Motor Sales, USA, Inc., will discuss Making the Business Case for Sustainability at Toyota.

- Cameron Sinclair, co-founder of Architecture for Humanity, will discuss his current projects which include working in six countries on projects ranging from school buildings, to tsunami and hurricane reconstruction, to developing mobile medical facilities to combat HIV/AIDS.

### ASSOCIATION PARTICIPATION

In addition to the Southern California Chapter of IIDA, NeoCon Xpress LA has attracted the participation of leading national and local associations throughout the show. The Los Angeles Chapter of American Society of Interior Designers (ASID) will host a Downtown L.A. Tour led by Hal Bastian, President and Director of Economic Development of the Downtown Center Business Improvement District. This comprehensive tour will highlight the Renaissance of Downtown Los Angeles from the building of the Staples Center to the opening of the Cathedral of Our Lady of the Angeles, Walt Disney Concert Hall, as well as the housing boom which began in 1999 with the passage of the Adaptive Reuse Ordinance by the City of Los Angeles.

---

*For more information on NeoCon Xpress L.A., please visit:*

[www.merchandisemart.com](http://www.merchandisemart.com)

# Special Discount for AWFS® Program

BIFMA staff is participating in the 2007 AWFS® Fair College of Woodworking Knowledge (CWWK) education program. As a way to thank speakers, AWFS has extended a premium opportunity to all BIFMA members of a 10% discount on any educational seminar in which they enroll during the 2007 AWFS®Vegas trade show at the Las Vegas Convention Center, Las Vegas, Nevada, July 18-21.

The session BIFMA is involved with will occur on Wednesday, July 18, 2007 from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. Here are the details and other participants:



## Session: WE-26, "Got Sustainability? Get the Facts on Industry Programs"

**Moderator: Roger Rutan, Timber Products**

### Panelists:

**Brad Miller, BIFMA International**

**Will Warberg, Plum Creek MDF and Composite Panel Association**

**Bill Weaver, Canyon Creek Cabinets and KCMA**

**Patti Wells, Royal Plywood and US Green Building Council**



To take advantage of the discount when registering online, members must fill in their association name and Code Number. The Code Number

for BIFMA is B79856. Registration for the College of Woodworking Knowledge seminars opened in early March. To register online or for more information on the AWFS®Fair, go to [www.awfsfair.org](http://www.awfsfair.org).

The discount to BIFMA members is to gratefully acknowledge the involvement of BIFMA in the 2007 CWWK program. Of particular interest to BIFMA members is the seminar, "Got Sustainability? Get the Facts on Industry Programs."

The Business Management track offers a number of sessions on lean manufacturing including a hands-on, lean manufacturing production simulation, lean for office applications and continuous improvement. Other sessions explore pricing efficiencies, contracts, training, financial management and Internet marketing.

The program includes 52 seminars in six tracks: Business Management, Cabinet/Millwork, Techniques & Applications, Software/Technology, Hand-Crafted Furniture and Safety & Environment. Sessions range from one and a half and two hour lectures and panels to three and four-hour in-depth seminars and all-day workshops. Included in these seminars are the one and a half hour SMART programs (Special Machinery and Relevant Technology) that take place on the exhibit floor before the show opens in the morning, and focus on technical information, new technology and machine processes.

# Foam Hazards During Transit Debated

The U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT) has requested public comment on the issue of classifying polyurethane foam and finished articles containing PU foam as hazardous materials for the purpose of trucking regulations. A petition requesting the change was submitted by the National Association of State Fire Marshals (NASFM).

BIFMA convened two meetings of interested parties in May of 2007 to examine the issue. The ramifications of such a classification were discussed and the group also received input from representatives of the Polyurethane Foam Association, American Trucking Association, and American Moving and Storage Association.

Those attending the meetings agreed to conduct research within their companies by asking risk management and transportation departments how such a change would impact their operations. That information will be helpful in preparing comments which are due on June 28, 2007.

BIFMA has a long history of developing product standards supporting safe, healthy and sustainable work environments. The initial impression of the NASFM petition is that it lacks significant incident data to warrant the change. Members expressed concern about the scope of the proposal and whether raw materials or finished goods are the predominant concern. Many of the products potentially impacted by the proposal have little or no fire hazard in their final form and the manufacturers and customers of these products could be forced to bear disproportionate compliance costs.

For additional information, go to the BIFMA website at the following link: <http://bifma.org/govt/DOT/DOT.html>. To read additional comments and submit your own, which we encourage, go to the DOT website:

<http://dms.dot.gov/search/searchResultsSimple.cfm?numberValue=26275&searchType=docket>

To join the BIFMA Polyurethane Foam Transportation Interest Group, email Brad Miller at [bmiller@bifma.org](mailto:bmiller@bifma.org).

# Vertical File Standard Approved by ANSI

BIFMA has announced approval and release of the latest edition of the voluntary safety and performance standard for Vertical Files, ANSI/BIFMA X5.3-2007 which supercedes and replaces the 1997 edition. The new standard has been updated to include some new tests, as well as test revisions, and harmonizes applicable procedures with BIFMA's Storage Units Test Standard, ANSI/BIFMA X5.9-2004.

The order of test procedures within the standard has been reordered to be more user-friendly and a "Drop Test" has been added which simulates rough handling of the product. The test for locks and locking mechanisms has also been expanded to two separate tests.

A complimentary copy of X5.3 - 2007 (the new edition) will be provided to all BIFMA members and those individuals who participated in the ANSI Canvass of X5.3-2007. Additional copies are available from BIFMA. Contact Dick Driscoll at BIFMA International for further information (email: [rdriscoll@bifma.org](mailto:rdriscoll@bifma.org) or phone: 616-285-3963.

Established in 1973, BIFMA's mission is to lead, advocate, inform and develop standards for the North American office and institutional furniture industry. We serve businesses that are primarily engaged in design, development, marketing and fulfillment of office and institutional furniture products.

## Furniture Emissions Standard

In early 2004, BIFMA launched an aggressive initiative to develop an open, scientifically based, and consensus developed test method and standard for measuring VOC emissions from furniture products. The objectives of the project were to:

- Gain US Green Building Council acceptance of the standard as a viable alternative for the LEED-CI EQ 4.5 credit for low emitting furniture.
- Identify additional test labs capable of conducting commercial testing.
- Improve the ability to use small-scale chamber testing to predict large-scale chamber results.
- Accommodate 3rd party certification as appropriate.
- Pursue ANSI accreditation of the documents.

Over the past 3 years BIFMA has invested over \$500 thousand dollars to develop the test method and standard, conduct extensive product testing verifying the repeatability and reproducibility of the method, and advance the

science of emissions testing. Today, the standards are complete and will soon be submitted to ANSI for approval as American National Standards. Last July, the US Green Building Council approved the BIFMA method as a viable means of attaining the LEED-CI Environmental Quality credit 4.5 for low emitting products. There is now a competitive compliance verification environment with multiple commercial test labs and certification organizations capable of providing those services as needed.

There's one more objective that we initially set out to accomplish; that is to improve the ability to use small-scale chambers to more accurately predict large scale chamber results of larger furniture assemblies. Small chamber testing is a more efficient method and we'd like the industry to be able to capitalize on that opportunity. BIFMA will initiate another round of product testing at Syracuse University to address this final objective. We expect to have additional information that could affect the content of the BIFMA test method by the end of 2007.

## Industry Forecast

The most recent industry forecast report was released on May 22. The econometric forecast model was developed and is maintained by Global Insight on behalf of BIFMA and is revised quarterly. The current projections are:

	<u>U.S. Market Consumption</u>	<u>U.S. Production</u>
2007	\$13.7 billion (6.8% change)	\$11.5 billion (6.0% change)
2008	\$14.5 billion (5.6% change)	\$12.0 billion (4.3% change)

The model uses several industry variables, or drivers, to make its projections. Some of the major ones that impact the model most are the existing stock of nonresidential buildings, new investment in commercial office buildings, corporate profits, and service sector employment. Some general weakening in these variables, while still remaining relatively healthy, have

caused the forecast to be revised slightly downward from previous projections.

According to Global Insight, new investment in commercial buildings should remain healthy through the first half of 2007 but fall off somewhat as the downturn in residential construction begins to weigh on nonresidential. The existing stock of buildings is a fairly steady variable that contributes to the on-going demand for replacement office furniture. The level of corporate profits affects purchases more in the short-term, and is forecasted to remain relatively strong throughout 2007 but begin to decline somewhat in 2008. Growth in service sector employment has been a positive contributor over the last few years to office furniture demand but is expected to weaken somewhat in 2008.

# Sustainability Standard Development Continues

Over the past 18 months BIFMA has been leading a broad and diverse group of stakeholders on the development of a sustainability assessment standard for business and institutional furniture. Many key customer groups are beginning to inquire about the "green" attributes of industry products and our objectives in writing this standard are to appropriately address those customer needs, while minimizing the proliferation of proprietary eco-label programs.

Work groups focused on the key areas of Human and Ecosystem Health, Energy, Materials and Social Responsibility have been drafting the actual document text. The document has evolved to a point where a limited "trial use" experiment could be conducted. Feedback from a recent comment period and limited trial use of the standard by a few manufacturers has provided significant input that will guide

further evolution and refinement of the standard.

Generally speaking, results indicate the standard is addressing the appropriate aspects of "sustainability" including chemicals and material toxicity, energy usage and renewable energy, material utilization, life cycle thinking, social responsibility and other attributes. As the document development process continues the work groups will be vigilant to ensure that the standard appropriately addresses each of these aspects, that the supply chain is able to engage in the conformance process, and that compliance claims are accurate and understandable.

Ultimately, this standard will provide a product development roadmap for companies seeking to incorporate sustainability into their products and processes, as well as a comparative evaluation tool for customers.

## LCA of Volatile Organic Compounds Found in Paints and Coatings Studied

An organizational meeting for a project to develop a consistent framework for life-cycle assessment of the environmental impacts of paints and coatings took place at the National Center for Manufacturing Sciences (NCMS) in Ann Arbor, Michigan on Wednesday, March 21, 2007. The purpose of the meeting was to review and discuss the overall objectives of the project, to establish a target schedule for specific objectives and to organize specialized workgroups, as well as a steering group to advise the project as a whole.

For this first meeting, NCMS invited the participation of industry stakeholders, including the supply chain for related materials and services

(producers of paints and coatings, suppliers of materials used in paints and coatings, equipment producers, solvent recyclers) and users (manufacturers whose operations involve significant uses of paints and coatings). Also invited were information providers experienced in the creation of life-cycle assessment tools and their application.

Several office furniture companies were represented and others are welcome to join the effort at any time by contacting Paul Chalmer of NCMS at [paulc@ncms.org](mailto:paulc@ncms.org) or (734) 995-4911 for additional information on upcoming meetings.

## Designer Buying Power Added to Industry Fact Book

The newly updated and expanded edition of the ASID publication, *The Interior Design Profession: Facts and Figures*, includes a new section on the buying power of interior designers. Drawing on industry surveys, it reveals the dollar buying volume of interior designers and their specification of products in various categories.

"We have received many requests from designers and industry since we published the first edition of Facts and Figures in 2004, asking for information about interior designers' buying power and specification preferences," says Michael Berens, director of research and knowledge resources for ASID. "The new section was added in response to those requests. This information is not widely available anywhere else."

Unique to ASID, Facts and Figures brings together in one place

information and data about all aspects of the interior design profession in the United States and Canada, including design practice (e.g., number and distribution of designers, design firms, salary information, design specialties), design legislation (type of legislation, scope of legislation, number of registered designers, agencies and boards) and design education (number and distribution of programs, CIDA-accredited vs. non-accredited, faculty and their credentials, students and graduates). It also looks at recent trends in the design industry and how the media cover design, and includes a directory of interior design and related professional associations and organizations.

---

To order a copy of *The Interior Design Profession: Facts and Figures*, visit the ASID Web site at [www.asid.org](http://www.asid.org).

The Download is published quarterly by BIFMA International to provide a brief update of association activities.

BIFMA International  
2680 Horizon Drive SE, Suite A-1  
Grand Rapids, MI 49546-7500  
Phone 616-285-3963 / Fax 616-285-3765  
email@bifma.org / Website www.bifma.org

#### **BIFMA Staff**

Thomas Reardon *Executive Director*

Richard Driscoll *Director-Technical Services*

Brad Miller *Director-Government Affairs*

Michael Reagan *Manager-Administration  
and Statistical Information*

Roxanne DeBoer *Administrative Assistant*

#### **Editorial Staff**

Brad Miller & Roxanne DeBoer

#### **Content Contributors**

Greg Rapier, Knoll Inc.; Maura Bruton,

Merchandise Mart Properties, Inc.

#### **BIFMA Officers and Directors**

##### *President*

Brian Walker, Herman Miller Inc.

##### *Vice President / President-Elect*

Rebecca Boenigk, Neutral Posture

##### *Treasurer*

Scott Schwinghammer, Versteel

##### *Directors*

Stan Askren, HNI Corporation

Franco Bianchi, Haworth Inc.

Bob Bockheim, Nucraft

Kass Bradley, Knoll Inc.

Bill Bundy, Trendway Corporation

Danny Davis, Davis Furniture

David Feldberg, The Global Group

Steve Hankins, Group Dekko

Julio Hirschfeld, PM Steele

Jim Keane, Steelcase Inc.

Gregg Masenthin, Jami Inc.

P. Daniel Miller, Kimball International Inc.

Chuck Saylor, izzydesign

Paul Simons, The Mayline Group

Daniel Tuohy, Tuohy Furniture Corporation

Christine Woodard, Harden Contract

## CALENDAR of industry events

Updated regularly on BIFMA's Internet Site: [www.bifma.org](http://www.bifma.org)

June 11-13, 2007 NeoCon World's Trade Fair - Chicago, IL; Contact: Merchandise Mart Properties, Inc.; Telephone: 800-643-6074 or 312-527-7300; [www.merchandisemart.com](http://www.merchandisemart.com) (click on NeoCon)

June 12-16, 2007 – GIFA 2007 Dusseldorf, Germany, suppliers of foundry-related materials and auxiliaries, manufacturers of measurement and testing devices for quality assurance, plus engineering companies.

June 24-27, 2007 – ASSE Safety 2007 Conference & Exposition; Orange county Convention Center, Orlando, FL; <http://www.asse.org/expo>; [safety@heilexpo.com](mailto:safety@heilexpo.com); 630-434-7779

July 4-6, 2007 - ISOT 2007 - Tokyo, Japan; <http://web.reedexpo.co.jp/isot>

July 18-21, 2007 - San Francisco Furniture Market, Summer Market 2007 - San Francisco, California; <http://www.sfmart.com>

August 22-23, 2007 - NeoCon Xpress and L.A.DesignWeek - Los Angeles, California

September 16-19, 2007 – National Recycling Coalition 25th Annual Congress & Expo – Denver, Colorado; <http://www.nrc-recycle.org/congress/index.htm>

September 19-20, 2007 – Office Furniture Distribution Seminar and Annual Meeting; Amway Grand Plaza Hotel, Grand Rapids, MI <http://theofda.org>; [kmiller@mass.rr.com](mailto:kmiller@mass.rr.com); 978-249-0303

September 24-27, 2007 - National Manufacturing Week – Rosemount, Chicago, IL; Contact: National Association of Manufacturers, 800-840-0678; [www.manufacturingweek.com](http://www.manufacturingweek.com)

September 27-28, 2007 – IIDEX/NeoCon Canada, National Trade Centre, Toronto; Contact: 416-944-3350, <http://www.iidexneocon.com> (Canadian Facility Management & Design Expo & Conference Folded into IIDEX/NeoCon Canada)

October 1-5, 2007 - Human Factors and Ergonomics Society 51st Annual Meeting - Orlando, FL; [www.hfes.org/web/HFESMeetings/meetings.html](http://www.hfes.org/web/HFESMeetings/meetings.html)

October 1-7, 2007 - Fall International Home Furnishings Market - High Point, NC; <http://www.ihfc.com>; 336-888-3700

October 17-18, 2007 - NeoCon East - Baltimore, MD; Contact: Merchandise Mart Properties, Inc.; Telephone: 800-677-6278; <http://www.merchandisemart.com/neoconeast/overview.html>

October 17-20, 2007 – ZOW 2007 - Milano – Italy  
39 02 8699 5712 Fax: 39 02 8699 5112, <http://www.zow.it>, [info@zow.it](mailto:info@zow.it)

October 24-26, 2007 - World Workplace – 2006 Conference & Expo, New Orleans, LA USA; Contact: IFMA.org; [www.worldworkplace.org](http://www.worldworkplace.org)

November 5-6, 2007 - OFDA Dealer Strategies Conference & Expo – Dallas, TX; <http://www.ofdanet.org>; [mmyers@ofdanet.org](mailto:mmyers@ofdanet.org)

November 7-9, 2007 - Greenbuild International Conference and Expo in Chicago, Illinois at the new McCormick Place West Building; <http://www.greenbuildexpo.org>

November 27-30, 2007 - The Eastern Ergonomics Conference and Exposition Caesars Palace, Las Vegas, NV; <http://www.ergoexpo.com/NECE/index.asp>

December 6-7, 2007 - Florida Industrial Woodworking Expo; Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, FL; <http://www.tsixpos.com/fl/index.cfm>; 828-459-9894

January 31-February 1, 2008 - The BIFMA Conference, Florida (site to be determined); Internet: <http://bifma.org/events/index.html>