



international plastics design competition



Generation Work Chair



Molder: Bemis Manufacturing Company

Moldmaker: CDM Tool

Material Supplier: DuPont Engineering Polymers

Designer: Formway Design for Knoll

OEM: Knoll



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Product Description

Generation by Knoll is a work chair that offers a new level of comfort and unrestrained movement, allowing people to sit the way they want to sit. Responsive and easy to use, Generation enables individual expression and supports diverse workstyles. Generation features patented material and design innovations based on the principles of elastic design and reflects the Knoll commitment to environmental responsibility.

Generation was designed by Formway Design for Knoll. The design concept originated with the idea of elastic design - where the product rearranges itself in response to its user. Formway design teams worked to give three-dimensional form to the abstract concept. The design went through several stages of development and manufacturing testing by Formway and the material and production experts at Knoll.

Why is the product innovative?

Generation uses a high performance material in a way never before seen in the furniture industry. The Flex Back and the Dynamic Suspension control use a thermoplastic copolyester elastomer to give the chair its durability and flexibility. It can twist and bend with use and yet retain the memory of its original position.

As a result of the overall design of Generation, you can simply sit back and the Flex Back forms to support many different postures and allow for a wide range of multidimensional movement - not just from front to back, but also from side to side, allowing you to fluidly reach across your right or left side while the chair moves with you. You can also push your elbow against the Flex Top of the backrest and it will bend over to support your arm as you turn and chat with a colleague.

The streamlined and innovative Dynamic Suspension control is a solid state, thermoplastic copolyester elastomer construction with four independent flexors. The tension of the synchronized recline is counterbalanced by your body weight, resulting in a smooth and effortless movement. The four independent flexors-on the left and right of the control, both with forward and backward flex-act as suspension devices that support and respond to your multidirectional movements. It consists of one-third the amount of parts in a typical ergonomic chair mechanism. With fewer parts (and no springs or links that might erode) there is less likelihood of breakage and the chair is lighter.