

Next generation gate seating

What do people need at airports? That's the question we asked ourselves after receiving the assignment of developing a new add-on to Green Furniture Concept's bench series, Ascent.

Ascent is a new module-based bench series targeted towards airports. But it is not just any new bench. It is a bench with great focus on design. A bench that complements the architecture.

The brief of developing an add-on took a turn and evolved into developing a new module to the series. A module which accommodates business travellers by integrating a working station into the bench.

Why a working station?

Most of the daily passengers are work commuters. From interviews we understood that they often have an established routine to optimize their time and make things go smooth. This routine includes computer work and coffee. Yet, this combo is hard to pull off at the gates.

One man we saw at a visit to a Swedish airport sat with his computer on a very small table. It was a worrying sight. The

computer was twice the size of the table and it looked like every keystroke could potentially knock the computer off. There must be a better way.

Why at the gate area?

Usually the gate areas are calm and quiet, which make them a suitable place for work or to relax while waiting. In addition the gate area provides an overview of information about your flight.

Integrate with Ascent

To minimize space consumption the idea of replacing the backrest of Ascent with a table was born. It is a basic idea, very similar to picnic tables, but one that we have not seen before. With an idea and motives the most crucial part was to integrate the concept with Ascent. To do this, the module follows the same aesthetics as Ascent. Shapes, angles and dimensions have been reused. The design language of Ascent has carefully been assimilated to create a table that seamlessly blends into the continuous curves of Ascent. The module creates an oasis for travellers that are sick of the overwhelming monotony of traditional airports.

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