



interior dimension, inc.

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"Providing A Stress and Hassle Free
Step by Step Process To Your Furniture Needs"

Serving St. Louis to Springfield Missouri and All Points Between

!! It's Here !!
Your Jan-Feb
NEWSLETTER
Has Arrived

Interior Dimension, Inc.

Jan/Feb - 2020

January is:
Oatmeal Month
February is:
Youth Leadership Month

The Chronicle of The Cubicle

Happy New Year To You !!!

As we welcome 2020 and new decade ahead of us.

May your Vision for 2020 create worthwhile goals that drive you to a fantastic year.

Here at IDI or Furniture Central we are excited about what lays ahead. This year we are bringing back our newsletter, which we missed over the past several years. We will be putting out 6 issues this year and working hard on the information we publish on our website. If you didn't know we had a website or haven't been there in a while check it out, www.interiordimension.com.



Our newsletter format will be the same as we've done in the past, simple and quick. We are scouring the news for interesting subjects that we think you'll enjoy and looking at all of the new furniture introductions to give you an idea of what's available.

So sit back, grab a drink and spend a few minutes with it. We hope you'll find it worthwhile.

Inside this issue:

Smartmarker



Imagine if everything you wrote or drew on your whiteboard surface instantly showed up on your computer, phone or tablet.

What if everyone that was attending the meeting also had the board contents on their device?

Can you imagine the possibilities for production, information transmission, idea creation?

No more taking pictures of the board, no more scribbling of notes to get everything down. Editable files of the boards contents available to everyone (even those that might attend the meeting remotely.)

Smartmarker is the need to have tool for anyone that works with a dry erase marker. Use it on boards as small as 24" x 24" or as large as 16' wide x 5' high.

Smartmarker is available through our ecommerce site: www.ebeamrocks.com. You will find a wealth of information and video demonstrations.

Or give us a call at the number below for a personal demonstration of this productivity tool.

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January & February 2020

The Months For:

- ◆ Diet Resolution Week, Jan 1-7
- ◆ National Fresh Squeezed Juice Week, Jan 17-23
- ◆ No Name Calling Week, Jan 20-24
- ◆ Dump Your Significant Jerk Week, Feb 2-8
- ◆ Solo Diners Eat Out Weekend, Feb 7-12
- ◆ Valentines Day, Feb 14
- ◆ National Entrepreneurship Week, Feb 15-22
- ◆ Cordova Ice Worm Day, Feb 25

Finding The Dirt In Your Business

Or How Nasty Is Your Carpet

Ewww, this is the article you want to start out with?

Yep, and for good reasons.

Number 1 it's the middle of the flu season.

Number 2 the office tends to be a breeding ground for illnesses.

We want to do our part in helping you through this season and maybe get through next year's even better.

Starting from the ground or carpet up. As one of the largest surfaces that occupies the office it also seems to be one that is overlooked the most. The evidence that I'll lay out here will be primarily anecdotal with lots of pondering about it.

It appears that most cleaning companies are using backpack vacuum cleaners. You might have seen these, a round cylinder with straps that has a hose and long vacuum pipe attached to a very short (in height) vacuum head. The cleaning personnel run around the office while pushing this across the floor to grab whatever they see needs to be cleaned. This allows them to cover a large area very quickly.

Now I don't want you to think I am disparaging any of these people or companies. They perform a vital service to businesses. But let's also be realistic. The hourly rate being paid to the worker along with the speed that is required by the cleaning company management does not leave time for a thorough cleaning. Extra time means more costs against a fixed fee being charged for the cleaning.



The evidence to show that this is not real effective is right here.

"Duct tape is like the Force. It has a light side and a dark side and it holds the universe together."
- Author Unknown

"Anyone who believes the competitive spirit in America is dead has never been in a supermarket when the cashier opens another check-out line."
- Ann Landers

How Nasty is Your Carpet?

Continued from Page 1

This is a sample of dirt picked up from a vacuuming done after an installation. Now I know what you're thinking. Something like this "but there is always excess dirt after installing furniture" and you'd be right. However this area did not have any work performed in it so what was picked up was the general dirt left behind and built up over years.

The point here is that your carpet is probably not much better.

The vacuum used here was a simple Bissell upright with a 12 amp motor and a bagless dirt container. This is nothing special, except that it has a beater bar on it to agitate the carpet fibers and allow for more dirt to be released. The other thing is that it is regularly cleaned after projects so that there is virtually no loss of suction. I believe that many if not most of the general cleaning is done without the use of beater bar and not changing the cleaning bags often enough.

The broader point is that carpet not sufficiently cleaned can harbor stuff (germs, dirt, pathogen, etc.) that leads to an unhealthy office.

Moving up the ladder we get to the office equipment specifically keyboards, mouses and phones.

You might have seen a post on Facebook recently that showed a teacher's experiment growing mold on bread. She used the bread to wipe surfaces in the classroom. One of these was the keyboard trays on the Chromebooks. After the culture were allowed to grow the Chromebooks were by far the worst cultures of the surfaces. Now, these were units that were shared by all of the students.

I realize you are probably not sharing keyboards in your office, but, if they are not being cleaned with any regularity I would suggest that they are going to be covered with stuff (see above for the definition). With the materials that are coming off the users hands daily, germs that are floating around the office with coughs, sneezes and any other germ spreading activities the horizontal surface of the keyboard would be a ripe medium for all kinds of experiments.

The desk phone is probably not a lot better only it's a smaller surface.

Lastly with the move towards the open desk environment, you know the one where there are no walls or panels dividing everyone, this environment provides no barriers between humans to at least slow down the transmission of coughs and sneezes.

So this season our suggestion is to have several office cleaning days where the neglected items are cleaned, a more thorough vacuuming is done and maybe your office will be a little less prone to transmitting the current flu du jour.

Here's to a more healthy office.

Product Spotlight: Phone Booths

Since we deal a lot with furniture it seems fitting that we should keep you updated on some of the new and interesting things in the industry. You never know when needs will arise and maybe you will find these items useful, interesting.

As you are most likely aware there has been a major push towards a more "open" office concept. This is where the walls and/or panel that divide people are removed and you end up with a large unobstructed view of the office.

Yes, people facing each other, hearing what is going on in each other's lives. Phone conversations, coughing, sneezing (especially) this time of year, thoughts (for those that like to think out loud), just general bothersome noise and distractions.

According to industry magazines this is still an up and coming design concept. It seems that it takes roughly 10 years before the entire US is covered by the "new" concepts. They general start on the coasts and work their way towards the "conservative" Midwest. And even though there is a large amount of data that shows concepts to be good or bad in general the Midwest "must give it a try." This too is happening with the open concept.

The general consensus appears to be that management likes the idea because of:

1. Space requirement reduction
2. Ability to view the entire staff easily
3. Collaboration potential between staff

New Tech
Office



Product Spotlight cont'd

On the other hand staff personnel tend to not like the idea because of:

1. Space reduction
2. Ability to see everyone adjacent to you and the auditory and visual disruption that occurs

So, the idea of more collaboration between staff appears to be an illusion? Fantasy? Realizing that each company's culture is different it is likely that there are different experiences occurring but I'd venture a guess that they aren't really that different.

So with the push to move towards the more open space it becomes important to provide some areas that staff can go and make a private phone call or just get away from people.

Not to fear there is a whole new segment that has blossomed in the industry to solve this challenge.

Phone Booths

Yes, you read that correctly phone booths. But these are not the sort of thing that you'd expect Superman to go into. No, these are sound proof, ventilated, electrified and network connected boxes that can be built for a single person or for as many as 6-8 people to hold a meeting.

Freestanding with only a need to plug them in they can be ordered, received, assembled and plugged in. No construction or special needs.

Now I know what you're thinking, "just one more thing that we need to buy for our office," yes but it may improve the sanity of your staff, if you are one of those that have removed their other means of privacy. And, you'll probably not be surprised that these units don't necessarily come cheap.

You will find the starting prices of these units around \$3,500+ all the way up to \$10,000+. Most of these companies (more than 14 at last count) are working on a direct to market sales concept so going through a dealer may actually cost you more money.

So what do they look like? Here are some samples:



www.zenbooth.net



www.thinktank.io

www.spaceworx.us



www.cubicallbooth.com

Curious?

If you like to explore the options available drop us a line. We can point you towards ones that might be best for your situation and give you pricing on those that offer us a dealer discount.