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!! It's Here !!
Your March
NEWSLETTER
Has Arrived

Arriving SOON !!!

"I know that in life there will be sickness, devastation, disappointments, heartache -- it's a given. What's not a given is the way you choose to get through it all. If you look hard enough, you can always find the bright side."

- Rashida Jones

The tool that you have been looking for since you got your first whiteboard is almost here.

Equil Smartmarker is arriving in the next couple of weeks.

Smartmarker allows you to finally capture everything you put on your board.

From text to graphics to fancy dancy pictures. Smartmarker is the only tool you will need to save all of the details that you develop.

Attach it to you whiteboard surface (works on virtually any surface) turn it on and start writing. The receiver saves every stroke to memory or sends it to a connected device(s) where you can see your whiteboard magically appear just as you are writing it.

For a free demo give us a call. Or check out our website for more information.

"We are not in a position in which we have nothing to work with. We already have capacities, talents, direction, missions, callings."

- Abraham Maslow

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Interior Dimension, Inc.

March 2015

St. Patrick's Day 17th
And We're Already Decked Out In
Green!

The Chronicle of The Cubicle

SIGN UP FOR ERGO WEEKLY (it's FREE & FUN !!!)

We tend to talk heavily about the ergonomic aspects of your office. We spend a lot of time at the office and too many people spend too much time sitting.

Ergo Weekly is sent out every Wednesday as a reminder to get up and move or change your position or stretch or give yourself a massage.

We work to keep it short and light hearted but the underlying message is critical. . . get up regularly, move around, working at stand up tables, moving monitors around on attached arms . . . pretty much do something to keep you moving, keep the blood flowing, keeping the energy up so that you can be productive during the day and not worn out when you're finished.

Find out more about this FREE service and how to sign up here:

www.interiordimension.com/ergoweekly.

Sign up everyone in your office if you wish. Send the link to your family friends and acquaintances The more the merrier.

Inside this issue:

Sign Up For Ergo Weekly

Open Versus Closed Offices - The debate continues

This Year's Colors of the Year

Arriving Soon . . .

March 2015 —

The Month For:

- ◆ Dr. Seuss Day (2)
- ◆ Day of the Dude (6)
- ◆ Check your batteries Day (8)
- ◆ Donald Duck Day (13)
- ◆ Potato Chip Day (14)
- ◆ Lips Appreciation Day (16)
- ◆ Client's Day (19) - shouldn't this be every-day?
- ◆ Corn Dog Day (21)
- ◆ Spring Fairy Fun Day (21)
- ◆ Pencil Day (30)

Open versus Closed Offices

"One thing we have learned from researching and building open plans is that we can't say, 'That's wrong, and this is right. We live in a world where there are multiple solutions,'" Martinez says. "Find the one that's right for you." Or let employees figure out the one that works for them.

This quote from Carlos Martinez (Gensler Design Principal) may be the best instructions for anyone considering a design for their office(s). Around 2005 the open office craze really took off. At the NEOCON Expo (office furniture's big show in June) in 2010-2012 you would have sworn that cubicle walls were no longer being made. Virtually all of the manufacturers were promoting the open office or desking concepts.

You've seen this in almost every picture of a tech company, Facebook, Twitter, Pintrest. Open spaces as far as the eye can see with workers facing each other and more often than not wearing headphones while their working.

Studies have indicated that these spaces introduce new issues that may not have existed in earlier cubicle layouts where taller panels were used. Issues such as:

- ◆ Visual privacy and disruption
- ◆ Productivity challenges for introverts
- ◆ Auditory disruption

It was argued early on that opening the space up would immediately increase collaboration, interaction and productivity . . . the holy trinity of the well run office.

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Open vs Closed Offices

So many companies jumped on the band wagon and changed their office to meet this new concept and gain the benefits that it offered. What were the results?

One could argue that without a shift in company philosophy, management style or structure simply changing the layout for workers wasn't going to work. So, we end up with a mix of results from those that found it useful and productive to those that created a space that did not work.

So are closed offices better? Maybe, it depends. It all depends on the nature of the business, management philosophy, worker style, technology etc. As Carlos Martinez points out it can be good or not.



(Open Office Is Not a New Concept - 1930's Office)

This is a decision that should not be made lightly or quickly. Savings can be had in space allotment for each employee, more open communication is possible, but more disruptive sound is also a potential result. Lack of privacy has been a fallout of this design concept, no place to make or have personal conversations without coworkers over hearing them. The need to keep areas picked up can also be disruptive. When a worker is prone to spreading out and having lots of papers out the open office space can be very disruptive to the work flow of others in the space.

So there's no one answer to the question. It all depends on your needs. Our suggestion is to have open and frank dialogs with those stakeholders so that you can see and hear all sides before making a major change. People are inherently resistant to change so too much at one time is rarely a good thing. If you are making changes to your management structure at the same time let some dust settle first. Try a test group to get feedback on the results before making wholesale changes to your office.

Need help? Call on IDI for ideas and concepts to consider with your changes.



Announcing This Year's Color Choices

The drum role please . . . As we nervously reach for the sealed envelope and carefully rip it open we discover the 2015 color choices of the year are:

Marsala from Pantone (#18-1438) and Coral Reef from Sherwin-Williams (SW 6606). And the crowd erupts !!!

So first of all, why should you care? Well . . . besides wanting to be in the know on important things that will impact your life, you are most likely going to see plenty of these colors showing up everywhere you look.

These companies are all about color. Pantone products are used by designers, graphic artists, product designers and others world wide. Sherwin-Williams (4th largest painting products supplier in the world) is used by painters contractors, designers, architects and many others to color our world.

So every year they pull together their teams, look at all of the areas of life that they impact, pull out their Ouija boards and make a selection.

The impact is that you will see these colors begin to show up in the residential and retail market in the coming months. It will take another 4-8 years before you see them much in the commercial environment, but rest assured they are coming.

First up:
Pantone Marsala



Here is what Pantone says about Marsala:
"A naturally robust and earthy wine red, Marsala enriches our minds, bodies and souls."

"Marsala is a subtly seductive shade, one that draws us in to its embracing warmth."

Leatrice Eiseman
Executive Director, Pantone Color Institute

Next:
Sherwin-Williams
Coral Reef



Here's Sherwin-Williams take on Coral Reef:
"Its unexpected versatility brings life to a range of design aesthetics, whether traditional, vintage, cottage or contemporary."

Jackie Jordan
Director of Color Marketing, Sherwin-Williams

So there you have it. Do these colors inspire you? Can you see them in your environment, at home, in the office? Where do you see these colors ending up?

Drop a note and let us know what you think.