



SEATING CASE STUDY



CUSTOMER

University of Michigan A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning

SITUATION

The University of Michigan A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning needed to replace a number of chairs in its 450-seat architectural student design studio. Like seasoned professionals of the industry, architectural students spend extended periods of time sitting, so primary considerations in choosing the new seating included user comfort and ergonomic performance. Other criteria included durability to stand up to potential damage from sharp modeling knives and other tools as well as long-term reliability. Additionally, a chair with an aesthetically pleasing profile would be more appealing in the eyes of the designers using it.

SOLUTION

The University selected the rugged yet stylish ArmorSeat™ by BioFit to replace existing seating during the first phase of the project. Rolled out in 2008, ArmorSeat is the culmination of extensive engineering research and testing. It was developed to replace BioFit's classic DuraGrain line in the architectural market, offering greater style, ergonomic functionality and durability benefits than the original. Plus, the versatile ArmorSeat is designed to fit today's larger body types and meet ever-increasing demand for more attractive, multipurpose chairs. According to Sandra Patton, Business Manager of the University of Michigan A. Alfred Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning, "We narrowed our choices to urethane seating or the ArmorSeat, and our department chair joined with students to conduct an in-house trial run to help determine which product we would ultimately select. We ruled out the urethane seating as we found these chairs were easily punctured and sliced by the razor-sharp X-ACTO™ knives commonly used by our architectural design students. However, the ArmorSeat met the challenge, withstanding damage from the knives and proving to be comfortable over long periods as well."

PRODUCT PROFILE

Rugged ArmorSeat chairs feature fully contoured lines, a waterfall-front seat set at an incline of six degrees, and innovative design elements that are not only eye-pleasing but functional in terms of ventilation and movement. In addition, the chairs are made of a recyclable polypropylene substrate and contain antimicrobial properties in the seat and backrest to help maintain workplace cleanliness. ArmorSeat carries the ergonomic tradition for which BioFit is known and is backed by a 13-year warranty.

The ArmorSeat is another example of the BioFit strategy of manufacturing products that give architects alternatives to traditional seating when designing everything from their own workspaces to commercial and healthcare facilities, educational institutions, lounge and entertainment venues, food courts and beyond. To learn more about the ArmorSeat and how BioFit ergonomic seating, tables and specialty products are solving challenges worldwide, log on to www.biofit.com or call 1-800-597-0246.

DATE

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BIOFIT REPRESENTATIVE

John Stemmler

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