

READY, *GET SET*, GO!
ALLSTEEL'S MULTI-FUNCTIONAL LEARNING PRODUCTS
ARE IDEAL FOR A VARIETY OF WORK AND TRAINING SETTINGS

Muscatine, IA – *April 2005* – Increasingly, today's workers find themselves in meetings or educational settings instead of at their desks. In fact, over the past five years, businesses have significantly increased their budgets for training employees. According to one survey, conducted by *Training Magazine* among companies with 100 or more employees, budget spending for employee training had increased 37.4 percent between 1990 and 1999.¹

The result is a need for flexible and comfortable learning products that can easily transform a room into an interactive educational environment in minutes. Get Set to the rescue! This attractive line of tables, chairs and accessories from contract furnishings manufacturer Allsteel Inc. quickly can be reconfigured in a variety of ways and is compactly stored away when it is time for a set up change.

Get Set is an efficient, go-anywhere learning system that solves the problem of piecemeal training equipment and pushes practicality to a whole new level. It works in dynamic spaces such as conference rooms, multi-purpose meeting rooms, as well as dedicated training environments, and accommodates nearly all needs – including those of large corporations, IT professionals and academic institutions.

¹ *Employment Policy Foundation, April 10, 2000*

ALLSTEEL'S MULTI-FUNCTIONAL LEARNING PRODUCTS ADD ONE

“Allsteel recognizes that today’s learning environments require the utmost versatility,” said Julie Zielinski, vice president marketing. “Get Set fulfills the need for flexible table, wall and seating products that can be easily reconfigured before, during and after an educational session.”

The idea for Get Set was sparked after market research indicated customer dissatisfaction with the training products on the market. Existing products were inflexible, heavy and cumbersome with little aesthetic consideration. The company also discovered that furniture designed for learning sessions must satisfy the needs of *three* groups of people: the facility manager, the speaker or trainer/facilitator, and the audience.

“The feedback from our customer research revealed valuable information about what qualities the key user groups felt were important in training and conferencing furniture,” said Mark Kottman, Get Set product manager. “The facility managers told us products were often too heavy for one person to move and set up, trainers found their audiences were often bored from sitting in the same setting for hours with no movement, and the trainees felt the chairs were often too uncomfortable. The Get Set products address all of these issues. Learning, whether in training or meetings, is a dynamic process. Furniture should support that, not stifle it.”

Tables

Get Set tables are available in four different functions to support various levels of reconfiguring. They range from standard tables for single function rooms, to dual-motion tables with both a one step, flip-up tabletop for compact storage within the room, and folding legs for carting in and out of the room.

-More-

ALLSTEEL'S MULTI-FUNCTIONAL LEARNING PRODUCTS ADD TWO

A unique solution for companies and institutions unable to dedicate a permanent space to computer training is the technology table. This moveable, recessed table accommodates most computer monitors while CPUs attach to hooks under the table. It docks up to any Get Set table for flexible computer training. When not being used, it unlocks and moves out of the way quickly.

“With the design of these Get Set training tables, we have strived to answer the specific needs of the users including listening to the lecture, teaming, and computer training,” explained Kottman. “With our tech tables able to move so easily into place, and then out of the way as needed, they can accommodate each of these needs offering the valuable advantages of saving time and using space efficiently.”

All tables can be easily moved and reconfigured. The intuitive controls include a simple squeeze handle for the flip top mechanism and sliding latch and release for the table legs. Both are easy to locate and operate. Therefore, anyone responsible for setting up the meeting is capable of handling the job alone and with great ease. A meeting facilitator also is empowered to reconfigure the space during the session, creating different environments to help keep the audience engaged.

All tables feature a T-base design to maximize legroom. They are built with Allsteel quality construction incorporating mechanisms made from durable materials to withstand years of use. The tables are detailed with ergonomic wave-shaped edges and are equipped with bumpers to protect them from damage when being stored.

-More-

ALLSTEEL'S MULTI-FUNCTIONAL LEARNING PRODUCTS ADD THREE

Chairs

The Get Set chair responds to meeting place needs so well, it could possibly be one of the most indispensable seating designs of its kind. It was developed in collaboration with award-winning Cesaroni Design, the Chicago-based firm.

According to Kottman, "Providing superior and unparalleled comfort while improving flexibility was a top priority for the Get Set chair."

While it was developed especially for multi-purpose meeting rooms, it works equally well in conference rooms or pulled up to worksurfaces, offering hours of extended seating comfort for tasks, training or teamwork. The Get Set chair seats individuals of many shapes and sizes. There is a generous, well-padded seat area and back support that facilitates heat-reducing airflow. The unique "flex back" moves with the user, flexing naturally to counter-balance body weight and support regular shifts in sitting for less body fatigue. The design allows the user to comfortably recline, and the arms move in unison with the back, providing maximum user support. Perforations in the chair back allow air circulation, an important consideration, as well.

As comfortable as the Get Set Chair is, it is equally flexible and space efficient.

When not in use, the seat folds up so multiple chairs can nest compactly together in horizontal position, or be stacked vertically (up to four high) and stored efficiently.

Riding on casters that are mobile on both hard and soft surfaces, a stack is easily rolled back into active duty when needed; an individual chair also moves smoothly on any surface. Get Set is available with arms or armless, and in finishes and fabrics that coordinate with the full suite of Get Set furnishings.

-More-

ALLSTEEL'S MULTI-FUNCTIONAL LEARNING PRODUCTS ADD FOUR

Wall Communication Tools & Accessories

Additional Get Set offerings include wall products and accessories that have been developed to solve many of the problems and inadequacies expressed in the Allsteel market research. For instance, there often is not enough writing space on a board; and, it is never in an appropriate place, nor can it be hidden away when it's not in use. The design of the Get Set products, therefore, addresses all of these issues. Boards are attached to the wall via a mounted wall rail. A unique swivel hook allows side to side movement, and boards can be reversed without removing them from the rail. Also, the board can be mounted on two perpendicular rails to span a corner for more versatile viewing. For writing and presenting, a flip chart holder and markerboard in either a porcelain or laminate finish are available. Wall boards come with a tackable surface option, as well.

Functional accessories include a universal hook that easily attaches to tables, providing convenient storage beneath for book bags, purses, or other personal items; a modesty panel that can double as a power source with hidden cable management; and, a pop-up power/data port that supports plug-and-play activity.

With Get Set, Allsteel incorporates its signature of modern, purposeful design. The products have simple, clean, universal styling that allows the tables, chairs and accessories to complement existing meeting and conference rooms. The finish palette includes several exciting additions to Allsteel's already appealing selection, such as pearl laminates in bisque, mist and silver; mica edge trims in platinum, gunmetal and tungsten; and Xorel XP tackable wallboard material in luminous neutral. All are available at no up-charge. Get Set can be coordinated with existing furnishings or create a whole new look.

-More-

**ALLSTEEL'S MULTI-FUNCTIONAL LEARNING PRODUCTS
ADD FIVE**

Allsteel Inc. designs, builds and delivers workplace furniture solutions with advanced functionality and lifetime durability. The company has Resource Centers in Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco and Washington, D.C. For more information on Allsteel and Terrace, visit www.allsteeloffice.com.

###

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

CONTACT:

Mary Palmer
Allsteel
(563) 288-3876