

**SHRINKING AND SHARED OFFICE WOES MANAGED
BY ALLSTEEL'S REACH™**

Reach for the Savings Thanks to Better Office Storage and Space Planning

Muscatine, IA — *February, 2007* — Real estate is expensive, and there are cost savings to consider from reducing square footage. Subsequently, there is a continued shift from private offices to open floor plans and, aside from incorporating new technologies, it is the most common occurrence in facilities over the past two years.

The fact is the individual office is shrinking. Among corporations changing the footprint size of executive and administrative workstations, Allsteel research revealed they could reduce space per employee by 21 percent and still maintain worker productivity.

Storage struggles and worksurface use have long been two key issues faced in the workplace. Workers lack adequate physical storage in new open environments. Often there is limited personal storage, and what little exists is difficult to access and often lacks security. The same can be said for worksurfaces. The new Allsteel research points out that up to 75 percent of the typical worksurface is used for files, piles, technology and personal items. This leaves only one-quarter of the space available to spread out work relevant to the current task at hand.

Reach to the Rescue

With versatile storage built *directly into the walls*, Allsteel's Reach integrated storage is more efficient than traditional storage: it increases storage capacity with planning freedom; provides more storage options; includes closeable and lockable

–More–

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storage for active files and piles; and provides power within a concealed storage area for improved security of electronic equipment and peripherals.

It also provides improved workstation ergonomics. The Reach main storage unit and accessories are located at torso height to allow improved accessibility, by reducing the need to bend down or reach up. It puts most items within arms length, putting less strain on users' muscles and joints. Its worksurfaces can be set at optimal end user height, and finally, with no overheads present, there are fewer shadows and more direct and natural light available.

Allsteel's continuing research into improving workstation efficiency coincided with ideas being developed by Cortet Studio. Working together, Cortet and the Allsteel design, development, and manufacturing teams created this innovative solution of versatile office furniture that facilitates organization and maximizes space-planning opportunities. And they made sure it looks great, too.

Reaching greater environmental responsibility

Reach efficiencies have a positive influence on the environment far beyond the individual office. Reach's material intensity rate is 14% less than the typical workstation. This means there's significantly less embodied energy in each workstation, and it reduces the environmental impact of manufacturing. The environmental equation can be further improved by choosing 6' x 8' workstations

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over 8' x 8' and reduce building energy costs by 25% per office. This translates to saving 2203-kilowatt hours* and eliminating 2.4 tons of greenhouse gases from power generation per year. And since Reach allows for lower panel walls, more daylight can be relied upon for illumination, reducing electric bills while improving the environment inside and outside the office.

For more information about the Reach integrated storage or other contract office furnishings, contact Allsteel at (563) 262-4800 or visit its website at www.allsteeloffice.com.

About Allsteel

Allsteel Inc. designs, builds and delivers relevant and innovative workplace furniture solutions with advanced functionality and lifetime durability. The company has Resource Centers in Atlanta, Boston, Chicago, Dallas, Los Angeles, New York, San Francisco and Washington, D.C.

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