

BENCHMARK

18 July 2011

BENCHMARK MOVES INTO STREET FURNITURE



English furniture maker [Benchmark](#) has forged a link with Wales and Wales, leading designers of street and park furniture.

Benchmark are now making and distributing the [Wales & Wales collection](#) of seating which is designed for landscape, corporate and leisure clients. Contemporary designs in FSC wood and metal include full benches, backless benches and chairs in various sizes and configurations that enhance urban or provincial schemes as well as the most sensitive architectural settings.

Established by Terence Conran and Sean Sutcliffe in 1984, Benchmark is a design led manufacturer of furniture, specialist woodworking and metalwork that has built its reputation on a relentless attention to detail and finish. Combining traditional quality with modern technology, it has a proven track record in the design, manufacture and installation of furniture for offices, public institutions, hotels, bars, restaurants and private homes as well as complex architectural joinery. Over the years it has worked on a number of bespoke outdoor projects including the Eden Project, Alnwick Pavilion, Boundary Hotel Roof Garden and most recently the Woodland Trust Headquarters.

Benchmark's Managing Director Sean Sutcliffe commented "Wales & Wales have brought the ideals of their interior furniture to the world of public space furniture and have designed some of the most beautiful public seating on the market. We share core values of inspiration in design, precision in manufacture and dedication to service so it's a natural expansion for us. We're very excited about this new venture and are looking forward to expanding the collection in the near future."

Benchmark is a fully FSC accredited business wholly committed to sustainable manufacture. It is the first furniture company to hold a Queen's Award for Enterprise in sustainable development.

Ends

Notes to Editors

For images or further information, please contact Fiona Coyne: fionac@benchmarkfurniture.com 01488 608020

Wales and Wales

Wales & Wales are furniture designers with over 30 years experience whose work has been acquired by national collections including the Victoria and Albert Museum, the Fitzwilliam Museum and the Crafts Council among others. They work with manufacturers, retailers, architects and individual private clients internationally and aspire to produce timeless, intelligent design, principally, though far from exclusively in wood.

Wales & Wales Street Furniture has been commissioned for locations as diverse as St Paul's Cathedral, Bluewater, Canary Wharf and most recently Bexhill Seafront. The range is made from FSC European Oak and FSC Iroko. A bespoke design service is provided for large projects.

Benchmark

Benchmark is based in Kintbury, West Berkshire, employs 45 designers and craftsmen and has an award winning apprentice training programme. On site is a full service design studio and 35,000 square feet of workshops with woodworking, metalworking and upholstery capabilities.