

Campus Services

Space to Think



Spaceoasis specialise in creating eye-catching, practical work spaces

→ Spaceoasis has rapidly become established as the preferred furniture system in shared and public areas in all types of educational establishments. In flexible learning areas, receptions, cafes and atriums, Spaceoasis' stunning furniture layouts provide real impact. They add the 'wow' factor that helps educational institutions to face the pressures of delivering higher standards of education, to greater numbers of students, with tight financial restrictions but still needing to provide facilities that will attract students in a competitive market.

Designed by MBA, creators of the London Eye, and awarded FIRA's Innovation Award, Spaceoasis is in use by many of the UK's leading organisations. It meets all the requirements of contemporary educational building design by combining the economy and reassurance of a modular system with the robustness, customisation, configurability and choice of colours and finishes of a bespoke system. It is flexible to accommodate current and evolving pedagogies; futureproofed to enable space to be reallocated and reconfigured; creative to energise and inspire learners and tutors; and enterprising to make each space capable of supporting different purposes.

An important recently-completed project is the Learning Exchange at Liverpool Community College. The Learning Exchange is set to become the

hub of college life combining state-of-the-art learning environments with a range of well-being and recreational facilities. It will also provide essential learning and support services for students located in the four main city centre campuses and cater for all their extra curricular needs. The Learning Exchange is part of the College's vision to embrace new technology that will harness the power of new innovative approaches to teaching and learning in the classroom. The Learning Exchange will be a stimulating place in which to learn and a technologically sophisticated environment that complements quality teaching. This innovative approach to personalised and flexible access to learning will ensure that Liverpool Community College remains one of the leading colleges in the sector, and the first choice





for learning in the city.

The choice of furniture to deliver this vision was key to the project. Spaceoasis' designers worked with architects Ellis Williams and main contractors BAM Construction to create a series of truly stunning and memorable furniture pieces that are innovative, sophisticated and inspirational.

Spaceoasis curved team desking was used throughout the Learning Exchange. It is built with minimal support understructure due to the excellent structural properties of the work surface and consequently it is infinitely scalable with each desk in the main study area accommodating 18 people and a specially-designed 30-person arrangement in the flagship Maczone.

A variety of other desking products were incor-

porated into the scheme including screened desking carrels in the examination suites and curved mobile individual study booths which afford total privacy to learners.

“ **Designers created mobile versions of established designs that were visually pleasing and completely versatile**

ported into the scheme including screened desking carrels in the examination suites and curved mobile individual study booths which afford total privacy to learners. Group study and brainstorming sessions were catered for by Spaceoasis' iconic pods. The units have integral seating and learning aids such as interactive whiteboards. Significant amounts of bookshelving were supplied with journal display and storage drawers. Bookcase ends had graphic panels applied to add additional impact to the space.

One particular feature of the scheme was the requirement in the atrium to completely clear the area quickly for major functions and events. Spaceoasis' designers created mobile versions of established designs that were both visually pleasing and completely versatile. These new designs meet a real need in the education market to provide instantly reconfigurable space, for example switching between group and individual study and also to clear areas quickly for functions or examinations. This new range is being introduced to the market as Spaceoasis Agile and is enjoying considerable early success.

To assist in the smooth running of a large and very demanding contract, Spaceoasis supplied much of the ancillary and non-specialist furniture such as chairs and tables. ●

