

Herman Miller, Inc. Receives Ongoing Industry Recognition for its Compass™ System

Company's Revolutionary Healthcare Furnishing Solution Named Recipient of 2011 Medical Design Excellence Award

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[Herman Miller Healthcare](#) – a division of Herman Miller, Inc., and the leader in providing innovative evidence-based healthcare solutions – was recently awarded a 2011 [Medical Design Excellence Award \(MDEA\)](#) for its [Compass™ system](#). A modular system of interchangeable components that can be used to create patient rooms, caregiver work spaces and other clinical areas, the Compass system is designed to respond to the changing nature of healthcare delivery.



The premier awards program for the medical technology community, MDEA recognizes both the design achievements and healthcare contributions of medical product manufacturers. Herman Miller Healthcare's Compass system was honored with the program's 2011 award for its research-based design and ability to be used in a variety of healing spaces while simultaneously improving the overall delivery of healthcare. MDEA is one of several industry recognitions, including *Interior Design's* Best of Year Award, Best of NeoCon® Gold and a Spark Award, the Company has received for the Compass system.

"We were confident when we first unveiled Compass that it would have a positive impact on both patient care and the way space is utilized within healing environments," said Herman Miller Healthcare President Beth Nickels. "The industry response to this solution has exceeded expectations, and receipt of this impressive honor within the medical technology community further reaffirms our ability to provide solutions that meet the unique needs of this ever-changing environment."

The Compass system, a result of an ongoing collaboration between Herman Miller and [Continuum](#), a global innovation and design consultancy headquartered in Boston, is the culmination of more than two years of gathering observations from more than 550 individuals – from nurse managers to hospital administrators – to identify the four primary needs of the dynamic healthcare environment. Offering a new approach to furnishing for healthcare interiors, Compass includes structural, surface and storage components to provide



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unexpected levels of flexibility while also reducing costs. As a valuable and needed solution for a variety of healthcare spaces, especially acute care and outpatient facilities, it is an essential component to creating a welcoming aesthetic within a patient room.

The 2011 MDEA winners, including Herman Miller Healthcare, will be honored at a presentation ceremony on Wednesday, June 8, 2011 in New York City's Jacob K. Javits Convention Center, in conjunction with the Medical Design & Manufacturing (MD&M) East Conference and Exposition (www.MDMEast.com), June 7–9, 2011. Gold and silver award recipients will be announced at this time.

About MDEA

The Medical Design Excellence Awards competition is organized and presented by UBM Canon (Los Angeles) and is the only awards program that exclusively recognizes contributions and advances in the design of medical products. Entries are evaluated on the basis of their design and engineering features, including innovative use of materials, user-related functions that improve healthcare delivery and change traditional medical attitudes or practices, features that provide enhanced benefits to the patient, and the ability of the product development team to overcome design and engineering challenges so that the product meets its clinical objectives. A comprehensive review of the entries was performed by an impartial, multidisciplinary panel of third-party jurors with expertise in biomedical engineering, human factors, industrial design, medicine and diagnostics.

About Herman Miller's Healthcare Businesses

Herman Miller Healthcare and Nemschoff deliver thoughtful applications in support of healthcare environments for the well-being and comfort of staff, patients and their families. Through a network of clinical strategists, clinical designers and sales professionals, the companies provide research-based, problem-solving solutions to improve working and healing environments. Herman Miller is a charter member of the Health Facility Institute; a Research Partner with the Center for Health Design; and an Industry Partner of the American Academy of Healthcare Interior Design.