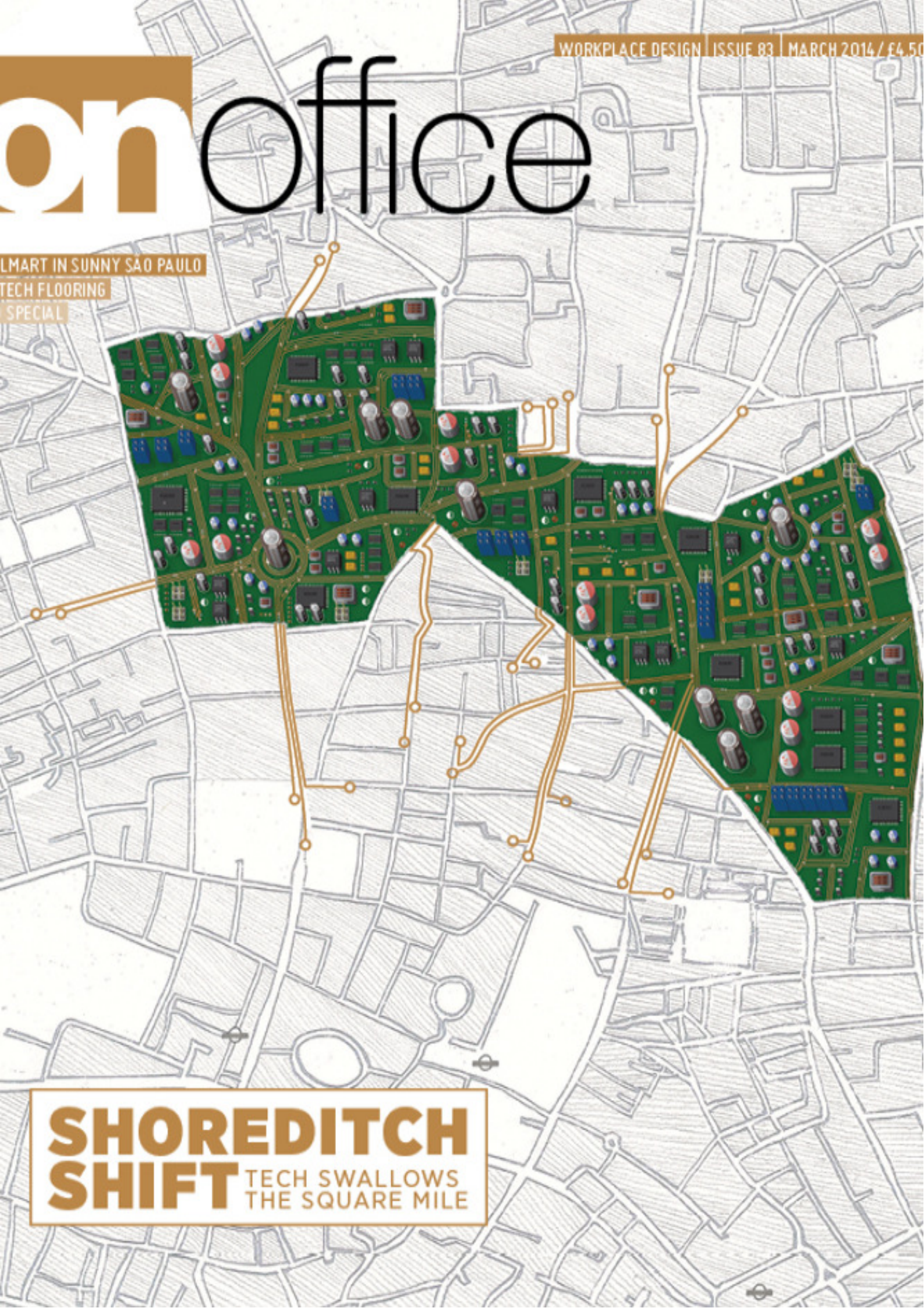


on office

SMART IN SUNNY SAO PAULO
TECH FLOORING
SPECIAL



**SHOREDITCH
SHIFT** TECH SWALLOWS
THE SQUARE MILE

1 BOURGIE REIMAGINED

Kartell has invited Patricia Urquiola, Piero Lissoni, Front, Alberto Meda and ten other well-known designers to reinterpret the Bourgie lamp for the product's 10th anniversary. The original design by Ferruccio Laviani has been adapted in very different ways: Nendo inverted its familiar profile to create a form based on its negative space (pictured); Christophe Pillet covered it in black felt; Urquiola reappropriated the decorative base as the arms of a chandelier; and Philippe Starck wrapped it in costume jewellery.

2 COMMUNITIES OFFICE REVAMP

Aukett Swanke has submitted a planning application for the £300m refurbishment of Eland House, close to London's Victoria Station. The building, which currently houses the Department for Communities and Local Government, would become ten storeys of offices, with ground-level retail space. Aukett Swanke plans to improve energy efficiency by recladding the outer facade with new glazing built onto the structural frame, and replace the existing roof with a series of landscaped terraces.

3 B&B FOUNDER BUSNELLI DIES

Piero Ambrogio Busnelli, founder of B&B Italia, has died aged 87. Busnelli grew up in Meda, a city in northern Italy known for its furniture production, founding B&B Italia in 1973. The firm introduced new technology for the production of padded furnishings (polyurethane foam moulding) and has been awarded four Compasso d'Oro awards, one for the company itself – the first to be given to a single brand. The company is now run by Busnelli's sons, Giorgio and Emanuele.

4 WORKPLACE WONDERLAND

Peldon Rose has designed a Lewis Carroll-inspired interior for the Office Space in Town's Waterloo site. The serviced office features an Alice in Wonderland theme, with a lounge zoned by faux-rose-dotted hedges, topped by a chequerboard ceiling, and a glossy corridor lit by with intermittent strip lights along the walls, simulating the journey through the rabbit hole. A large statue in reception depicts Alice climbing through the rabbit hole, overlooking teacup seats and a reception desk that resembles a stack of books.

5 IN COMMON

A new international measurement standard for office buildings will be launched this year. Its originator, the International Property Measurement Standards Coalition (IPMSC), says that it will provide the first common language for measuring offices across international markets. It will ensure property is measured in a consistent way and create a more transparent market for accurate comparison, which can currently deviate by up to 24% depending on method. The IPMS will be adopted by 28 coalition organisations from June 2014.

6 RELAX ON A WATERFALL

Icelandic designer Erla Sólveig Oskarsdóttir based her new seating design for German brand Ames on a waterfall, hence its name, Foss ('waterfall' in Icelandic). The armchair and sofa both feature a vertical section that wraps around the centre of the backrest and blends into the raised seat cushion. It is available in a muted range of upholstery colours, with the base in ash, American walnut, oak or chrome (polished or matt).

7 PERCH'S COMEBACK

Vitra has relaunched the Nelson Perch, first designed by George Nelson in 1964 as part of Herman Miller's Action Office 1, the world's first open-plan office system, which went against the rigid structures of traditional offices. The Nelson Perch intended to encourage workers to alternate between sitting, standing and, of course, perching, to promote concentration and creativity. The seat and arm support are upholstered in leather; the base is made from aluminium and tubular steel, with a foot ring for height adjustment.

8 BIID EVENT

Charles Jencks and Lee Penson are the first confirmed speakers for the BIID Annual Conference 2014, titled Life-Changing Design: Transforming the Human Experience. Jencks is set to talk about the design of the Maggie's Cancer Caring Centres (pictured), the organisation he co-founded with his late wife Maggie Keswick Jencks; Penson will be discussing his practice's involvement in the new Google HQ. Bookings are now open for the conference (worth eight CPD points), taking place at RIBA in London on 19 June.

9 TECH TOWER

Foster + Partners has unveiled designs for a US\$1.2bn, 59-storey tower to be added to the Comcast Corporation headquarters in Center City, Philadelphia. The glass-and-stainless-steel tower will include offices for the company's technology, engineering and software design departments, a media centre for local television stations, workspace for tech start-ups, a hotel and restaurant. The 342m-tall tower is expected to be the tallest building in the US outside of New York and Chicago, and the largest private development in the state's history.

10 SOFT CIEL

Noé Duchaufour Lawrance's Ciel! chair has been put into production by French brand Tabisso. The designer originally created the piece as part of a scheme for Ciel de Paris, a restaurant on the top floor of the French capital's Tour Montparnasse. The outer shell of the chair is a moulded form, available in 3D-veneer walnut or oak, gloss white or black ABS plastic, or upholstered in Kvadrat or Gabriel fabrics. There are also five base types to choose from including tulip-shaped, castors, and timber or metal legs on a pivot.

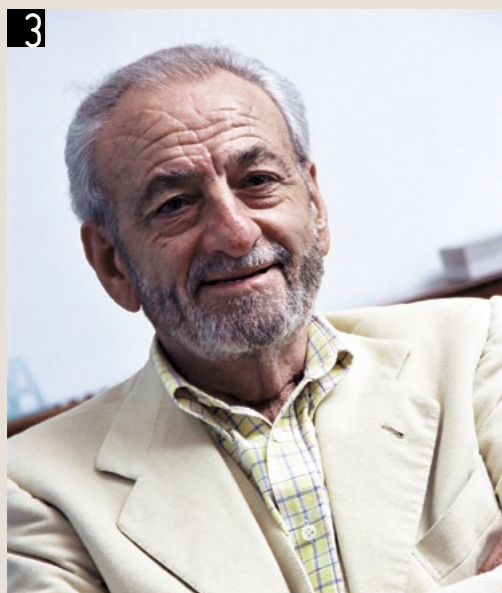
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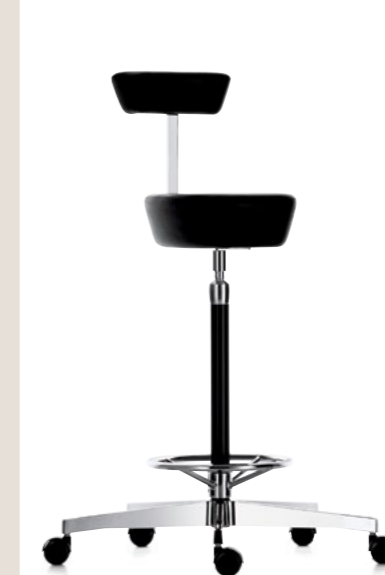
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11 NETWORKED TOWER IN CHINA

NBBJ has revealed designs for the Shenzhen HQ of Tencent, the world's third-largest internet company. It features two towers linked by three bridges, an overall concept intended to reflect Tencent's networked culture, and encourage movement and exchange within the workplace. The difference in height (192m and 250m) and angle between the towers is designed to capture the site's prevailing winds for ventilation, and minimise exposure to direct sun. At 270,000sqm, the building is quadruple the size of Tencent's current workplace.

12 US TALENT OVER HERE

Perkins+Will has relocated two principals from the US to its London office (Pringle Brandon Perkins+Will) as part of its European expansion. The architecture and design firm has transferred David Green (pictured) to lead European, Middle Eastern and African urban design and masterplanning, and Bill Nation to grow the office's healthcare, science and technology, and higher education work. Both will relocate from Perkins+Will's Atlanta office.

13 MOULDED CHAIR FOR CASE

Shin Azumi has designed the Loku chair for Case, made using 3D plywood technology. This allows the seat to be moulded into a curved shape that supports the body, while still using slim and lightweight material. Loku is available with a wood and metal or steel tube base, in oak or walnut plywood, with optional leather seat pad. The chair was launched at Maison & Objet in January.

14 MOSCOW SHOW MOVES

This year's Office Next Moscow show will move to Gostiny Dvor, a refurbished 14th-century building close to the Kremlin with high ceilings and a glass roof. The new bigger location also allows the show to expand, hosting international exhibitors from the lighting, furniture, acoustics, flooring, IT and media sectors of office design. A programme of talks and an office design awards will also be held during the show, which takes place from 27-29 May.

15 JOY OF JOYS

This year's imm Cologne fair saw the launch of Dutch brand Arco's new Joy table series, a simple, clean-lined design made from solid wood. The desk, Joy Zeta (pictured) and conference and dining tables, Joy Gamma and Joy Delta, all have a subtle feature at the join between the legs and top. Available in oak, ash or American walnut, the top can also be specified in a plant-oil-based biopolymer called Natural Solid Surface, which Arco developed with resin flooring company Senso.



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