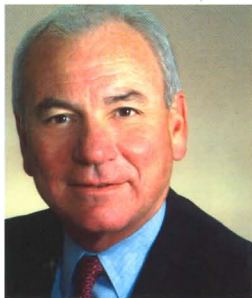
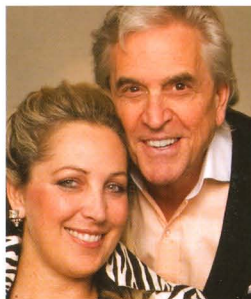
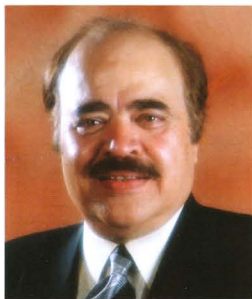


Thursday, May 15

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The 2008 Platinum Circle

This evening, *Hospitality Design (HD)* magazine will honor four of the industry's best for their career achievements and one for his dedication to charitable causes at the 21st annual Platinum Circle Awards Gala, to be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Venetian Ballroom. This year's honorees are: **top row, left to right:** Chandu Chhada, Chhada, Siembieda & Associates.; Turner Duncan and Kimberley Miller, Duncan & Miller Design. **Bottom row, left to right:** Tom LaTour, LaTour Signature Group; and Manfred Steinfeld Humanitarian Award honoree Mark Norcross, president and founder of Mark David. To purchase tickets, stop by the registration counters in the exhibition hall.

The IIDA/HD Best Product Awards

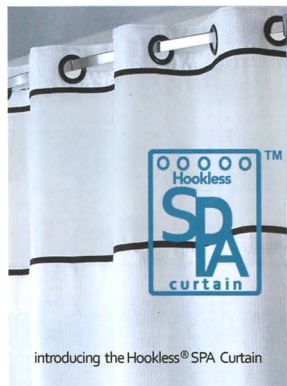
Many products on display at Hospitality Design Expo (HD Expo) are vying to win one of the eight categories of the 12th annual IIDA/HD Product Design Competition.

This year's judges are Brian G. Thornton, IIDA, AIA, Brian G Thornton Design; Cheryl Durst, Hon. IIDA, LEED AP, Executive Vice President and CEO IIDA; Belinda Bennett, IIDA, the Bennett Design Group; Viveca Bissonnette, IIDA, CarrierJohnson; and Conrad Bonet, IIDA, Bonet & Associates International LLC.

Categories include: applied finishes and materials (wallcoverings and paints); textiles (upholstery and bedspread/drapery/casement fabrics); flooring (carpet, hard surface, and resilient flooring); lighting (individual and group); accessories or specialties (artwork, hardware, storage systems, and miscellaneous); individual seating (dining, lounge, and outdoor); casegoods and freestanding furniture (individual furnishings and groups/collections); and group seating (dining, lounge, and outdoor).

Last year the coveted "best of competition" went to the Shaw Hospitality Group for After Images. Other winners included Oracle by Weitzner; Cabana Club Collection by Tropitone; Elite Backlit Mirror by Electric Mirror; the Evo System by Vantage Point; Bridge Single Hold Lavatory Faucet with Radius Technology by Waterdecor; Convergence by Milliken Hospitality; Vibe Collection by Carnegie; and the Kimono Collection by Designx.

The judges arrive early on Wednesday morning to whittle down the large selection to between five and 20 products. They make their final decisions today through in-person visits to the manufacturers on the show floor. The competition ends this afternoon when the awards are given out on the show floor. Winners of each sub-category and "best of competition" will be announced (along with the judges' comments) at the Platinum Circle Gala this evening; winners will also be showcased in tomorrow's Show Daily.



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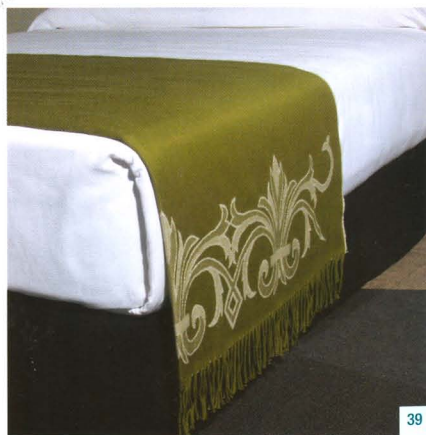
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34. The Kettal Venezia Collection from **Kettal** is the company's first series of furniture in synthetic fiber. Thirty-one textile options are available for these outdoor pieces. Visit booth #4631.

35. **MTI Whirlpools'** Elise and Elise 2 freestanding tubs. Designed by Russell Adams, Elise 2, shown here, is made using the company's ESS composite material to form the curvy body. Visit booth #1218.

36. **MTS Seating's** Sigma stacking chairs can be created with the MTS COMFORTflex back of a stationary back. The series comes with a 12-year structural frame warranty and reinforcement bar. Visit booth #3605.

37. Wolf-Gordon Organics from **Wolf-Gordon** is a 100 percent organic wallcovering collection featuring eight designs inspired by the Indian countryside. Three layers make up the biodegradable wallcovering—polyactic acid, the top layer, comes from items such as potatoes and corn; the middle layer is Kenaf, a type of grass; and the backing is made of recycled newspapers and magazines that have been stripped of formaldehyde and print inks. Visit booth #4059.

38. The new e4 Glass Series Smart Digital Thermostat Model E528GS from **INNCOM International** comes with a standard design (shown here) or designers can create their own custom artwork for the controls. The thermostat is also available with ecoMODE, which can be connected with a hotel's sustainability program with the touch of a Green Button. Visit booth #3666.

39. **Maxwell Rodgers** offers various bedthrow collections. Including plains, stripes, plaids, and custom patterns (shown here). Products are woven with mohair and pure wool and other nature fibers. Visit booth #2966.

40. **Symons Industries** presents Oxford, faucetry inspired by Old English heritage. The traditional bathroom design has clean lines. Visit booth #1623.