

October 2016

Kitchen & Bath Business



KBB's 2016 Product Innovator Award Winners
Trends in K&B Countertop Choices
Natural Materials Abound in Riverside Home

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What's Cool

What's Cool... Everywhere Else



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1. The Motus project by **Scavolini** and designed by Vitto Niolu boasts an asymmetric, handle-less door opening; a unique interpretation of the glass door and geometry in the shaped drawer; and new island and peninsula units. The materials (gloss and matte lacquer or melamine with matching finishes) emulate today's most popular colors. **2. Exquisite Surfaces'** Zuni Zebra flooring with Malmo wall tiles from the Native Tile Collection is a collaboration between Exquisite Surfaces and Commune Design. The collection is inspired by Scandinavian and Native American textile patterns.

3. The **American Standard** ActiClean toilet cleans itself using VorMax flushing technology and a fully integrated self-cleaning system. A flip-up door on the tank top houses the control panel, which is activated by the user. For homes with small children, the cleaning function can be locked, and the cleaning cycle can even be canceled mid-cycle. **4. The Bosch** 800 Series Compact Washer's 24-in. size is a stackable model that boasts a quick 15-minute wash cycle for lighter loads. The washer is also Energy Star rated for efficiency.

5. The new Align Pre-Rinse Spring Kitchen Faucet from **Moen** was manufactured exclusively for the residential market and features a pull-down fixture with a look fit for an industrial kitchen. Its pull-down hose provides extended reach, as well as a multi-functional spray wand that's easy to maneuver.

6. The most versatile piece of the Carlyle Collection, the Carlyle Secretary from **Ave Home**, can be used as a desk, a bar or a storage piece. With an ebony finish and polished brass hardware, it can be paired with any piece of the collection. **7. Pfister** announces the launch of the Venturi pull-down kitchen faucet, which features a two-function spray head with a rectangular aerator for a unique delivery of water.

Additionally, the faucet boasts a spot- and fingerprint-resistant coating. **8. The new Argento vanity from Topex Designs** brings a sense of glamour and luxury to the bathroom. The face of the vanity is comprised of eight elegant drawer fronts with scroll-inspired hardware, and matching scrollwork embellishes the front legs of the unit.



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9. Amazon Alexa and **GE Appliances** have collaborated to enable hands-free voice control for a variety of kitchen appliances through an Alexa skill called Geneva. Users can do such things as preheat an oven or find out the status of a laundry or dishwashing cycle just by using their voice. The Alexa Skills Kit and Voice Service allow developers to build Alexa skills or integrate Alexa into their hardware, product or service. **10. Barclay's** Fango above-counter ceramic basins are available in three shapes – round, conical and cylindrical. The lead-free units are available in solid colors or a design and are hand molded on an electric potter's wheel. Each piece is then hand painted individually, and specialized pigments give the exterior a stone-like appearance. Shown is the Fango Galon round basin. **11.** The Kulm Artisan Fire Bowls from **Eldorado Stone** were designed to enrich outdoor living areas. They are available in four colors – black sand, oak barrel, aged teak and oyster shell – and in 40- and 60-in. sizes. They feature high-performance brass burners for an elevated appearance and extended burning time and are hand packed into molds and hand sanded to give each piece a unique look and feel. **12. MCN European Enterprises** introduces Extend, a minimalist and geometric plumbing collection that features a widespread faucet with flat edges and curves (shown). The collection is also comprised of a Roman tub set with a hand-held shower, a tub spout and a variety of hardware for pressure-balanced and thermostatic showers. It is available in polished chrome, brushed nickel and polished nickel finishes and ranges in price from \$650 to \$890. **13.** The expanded Mingle collection from **Progress Lighting** provides numerous LED options, including new patterns and sizes for ceiling lighting applications. Organic circular patterns are paired with glass shades, or designers can choose a more modern pattern encircling a classic linen shade.



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Corbels & Brackets



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HONORABLE MENTIONS - BATH

Square Plate Coat Hook

by Doug Mockett & Co.



VERSATILITY IS THE BEAUTY OF THIS PRODUCT. The multi-level coat hook design has a bold, gently curved face for heavier items and an additional hook below for smaller pieces. With the two hooks, the product can be used for anything from robes to towels to keys.

The judges found this design unique because of the merge of contemporary abstract design and traditional styling. The hook is intended to be as much of a piece of art as it is a practical item, and it appeals most to the design-conscious user or any client with the need for multi-purpose accessories.

The Square Plate Coat Hook ranges in price from \$15.60 to \$18.36, depending on finish, and those options include satin nickel, metallic silver and polished chrome.

Silvia Tub

by Marmite S.A.

THE SILVIA BATHTUB WAS INSPIRED by the first terracotta model from 1700 B.C. discovered in the palace of Knossos in Crete. Its much newer, ergonomic design corresponds to the human shape and helps reduce water consumption – a feature that greatly impressed the judges.

The overflow is integrated into a thin wall and prevents water spillage, which helped it achieve the EN 14688:2006 standard. The tub's integrated overflow and soft lines make it safe to use, and its cast marble material is renewable, offers high impact resistance and absorbs warmth.

The tub is offered at \$2,000 and was designed and constructed by the in-house team of Marta Gebaska and Zbigniew Piasecki.



Stream Bath

by MTI Baths

WHILE SOAKING BATHS AND JET BATHS ARE COMMON, our judges found the technology in this Stream Bath truly unique. This new form of hydrotherapy uses vents instead of jets to replicate the feeling, sensation and sound of sitting in a forest stream. The rotating vents can be rotated so that bathers can control the streams of water and create unique flow patterns.

Unlike air baths or whirlpools, the bather does not feel direct output from vents but instead gentle streams of water. In addition, the vents blend inconspicuously with the inside walls of the tub for a clean look, and an optional inline heater maintains the water temperature at 104 degrees. The \$1,695 tub's gentle current is ideal for all ages, including the very young and seniors.

