

# highlights from

# BS

by Lynne Brandon



Manufacturers, suppliers, designers and building professionals gathered in February at the annual Kitchen Bath International Show in Orlando, Florida. Excitement was in the air as new products, trends, technology and innovations were launched for 2022.



### 7.oeller

Zach Cooper of Zoeller is excited to present the "Quick John" premiere product, perfect for add-on bathrooms in basements, pool houses,  $\vartheta$  workshops. This grinder pump application is now offered in residential sizes and does not require breaking up concrete.



### Rheem

Jarrod Ison of Rheem introduces the Rheem Prestige Variable Speed Heat Pump, one of the most economical heating/cooling options for consumers. The system is quiet and meets home demand use depending on outdoor conditions.

# Stiebel Eltron

Hubert Nolte of Stiebel Eltron shows their new Direct Coil $^{\text{TM}}$  technology. The system provides endless water-on-demand and makes lime build-up a problem of yesterday.



## Navien

Dave Hoskyn of Navien introduces their new (and first) noncondensing tankless system with pump and buffer tank that are built in. This system works well in both indoor and outdoor applications.





# **Pfister Faucets**

Danyel Tiefenbacher of Pfister Faucets showcases their TopPfit product and installation features. With a power tool or twist of the hand, the installation is fast and easy, and minimizes time spent below the deck.



# Oatey Co.

Randy Peyton, of Oatey Co., showcases their newest products in linear and square drains. The linear drain features PTE panels, a major sustainability selling point. The company's "belle of the ball" is the QuickDrain WallDrain, which allows for a drain to be built into the wall.



Katie Stevens of Kohler showcases their Elevated Vanity Collection for the bathroom. Wall mount vanities are a big trend and shown in Matte Black. The Avoir toilet is a statement piece with slow-close lid.

# Lennox

Justin Huntington, presents their new EL 18XCV (air conditioning) and the EL 18XPV XPV (heat pump) systems. These products promise a smaller footprint, higher performance, and additional comfort for the homeowner.



# **Taco Comfort Solutions**

Darron Desroches of Taco presents their products, Hot-LinkPlus-e ECM® high-efficiency water system and LeakBreaker system (with leak detection). The 006e3 ECM high-efficiency hot water circulator has adjustable speeds with smart plug feature.



# Aquabella

Eric Phelps of Aquabella talks about two important trends in color and application. Aquabella freestanding bathtubs are now available in additional colors including Matte Black. Equally exciting is the trend of freestanding bathtubs for outdoor lifestyles



# 2022

# kitchen&bath trends

by Lynne Brandon

Designers, manufacturers, homebuilders, contractors, media and others gathered in February for the annual KBIS in Orlando, Florida. In 2022, new kitchen and bath products were introduced to enthusiastic attendees. Color, finishes, design and technology were front and center. Not only are the new trends modern and aesthetically pleasing, the designs showcase functionality for today's savvy consumers.

# Everyday Living

From kitchen sink workstations to innovative drain systems in your shower, manufacturers like L.R. Brands by Oatey, Delta and Ruvati make life functional and fashionable.

### **Workstation Sinks**

Delta is offering three, distinct workstation sink lines for the first time in the brand's history. Drawing on its rich history of design and innovation, Delta Faucet is expanding its kitchen product offering by launching three workstation sink collections: Lorelai, Rivet and Everest.

Then finally, the Rivati, epiCast Farm House Sink brings color, texture and design interest to the kitchen with its workstation concept. Aside from aesthetics and functionality, the epiCast sink has an anti-bacterial surface and can withstand high temperatures.

### **QuickDrain Shower System**

QuickDrain (part of Oatey's newly launched L.R. Brands) beautifully integrates water drainage into modern showers. The



L.R. Brands by Oatey's QuickDrain WallDrain in marble





Far left: **Delta Everest** Collection with pull-down faucet makes everyday life easy for every member of the family, even the family pet.

Left: The epiCast series from Ruvati showcases Italian design in the apronfront farmhouse style sink.





Left: The Monrovia Kitchen Faucet Collection with Delta® Touch2O® Technology is a touch-enabled faucet. Right: Delta's Trinsic Bath Collection with Lumicoat finish. Shown in Champagne Bronze.

line includes linear and square drains in a range of styles to complement bathroom design. And, believe it or not, Matte Black is a favorite finish trend for drains.

The QuickDrain WallDrain is perhaps a masterful shower drain innovation. The drain is concealed inside the base of the wall and is engineered to run the

full width of the shower. Covered in the same tile as the shower, WallDrain becomes essentially invisible, providing a beautifully clean aesthetic. Installation and maintenance is made easier as well. Because the drain runs the entire shower width, the drainage slope only needs to run in one direction, and larger floor tiles can be used.

The company's pre-sloped and tileready shower PET shower panels and waterproofing system can complete a shower modernization job in less than a day. The cover is held in place with a series of magnets, allowing for simple removal and reattachment, and it is made of marine grade stainless steel.



Delta Faucet is the only brand with Lumicoat™ Finishes on select bath and shower products. The ultra-sleek surface repels liquids, resisting water spots and staying cleaner longer, so your faucet and shower's most-touched areas stay beautiful.

# Black is Back

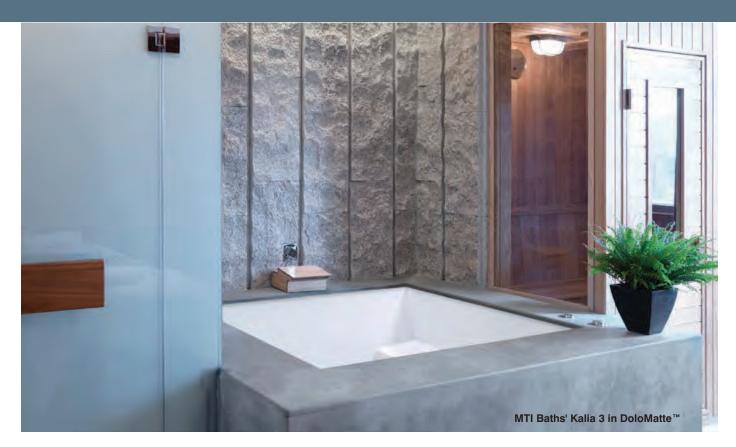
The color trend for 2022 in most product lines is black - Matte Black to be specific. Brands across the board debuted new and continuing lines that showcased the bold color that is bringing style and fashion to faucets in kitchen and baths, and shower trim.





Left, clockwise from top: Gessi Venti20 Collection bath faucet; **Delta Suredock Magnetic Shower head;** and Kohler faucet - Purist Series.

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# Smart Tech

# **Touch Faucets and Voice Technology**

The Monrovia Kitchen Collection with Delta® Technology is a touch-enabled faucet (see page 11) that lets users start and stop the flow of water with a simple touch anywhere on the spout or handle. Installation is easy and only takes a few steps. Additionally, Monrovia with Touch2O® Technology is compatible with Delta's VoiceIQ Technology, which pairs with a connected home device to give you exactly the amount of water you need, with features like metered dispensing and custom container commands. With a VoiceIQ Faucet, you can ask your faucet to fill a coffee pot, a baby bottle, or fill up Fido's dog bowl.

# MInimalism & Simplicity

Minimalism and simplicity are more than buzz words at KBIS. Both design elements signify a trend that is likely



here to stay with today's consumers who prefer these modern touches in the kitchen and bathroom. Case in point: Elegant but simple bathtubs like the MTI Baths® Kalia 3, shower systems such as the Peerless Sidekick Shower, and the Aquabella Totem Pedestal Sink.

The Peerless brand debuted its new Flute Kitchen and Bath Collections in 2022. The faucet and fixtures brand leans

**Top: Peerless Single Top Handle** Lavatory Faucet in Matte Black.

**Bottom: Peerless Sidekick** Shower System in Chrome.



into minimalism, simplicity and modern elegance with the Flute Collection. These faucets feature smooth curves and a look that's on trend—but one that will not break the bank.

"The Flute Collection is designed to appeal to consumers who want to create a contemporary space at an affordable price point," said Peerless senior product manager, Jamie Stuber.

Peerless Flute™ **Bathroom** Collection: In the bath, the collection provides a new, smooth curved spout and a sleek handle design. It is available in a Two-Handle Widespread Bath Faucet and a Single-Handle Bathroom Faucet, which offers two spout heights. The collection is available in Matte Black, Brushed Nickel, and Chrome.

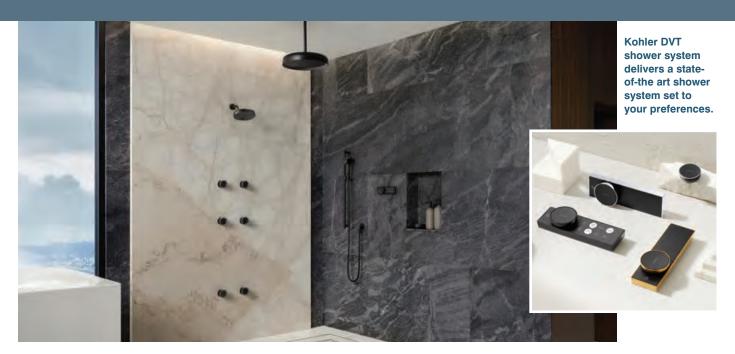
Peerless Sidekick Shower **System:** This shower system with attachment allows users to do more than have a nice shower experience. This versatile shower offers up to five different spray patterns that vary from relaxing, massage-like pulses to uplifting pressure. You can also gently wash a baby, bathe the family dog, and clean tiles afterward.

Left: Aquabella Totem Pedestal Sink showcases minimalism.

Below: Aquabella Serena Bathtub enhances your bath experience.



# 2022 kitchen&bath trends



# Retreat for the Home

# Freestanding Bathtub

Acquabella debuts its Serena freestanding bathtub. The contoured tub with graceful curves inspired by the sea brings style and comfort to your bath experience, and refreshes body, mind and spirit.

# **Voice Activated Showers and DTV Systems**

Technology in the shower? Now you can create the experience you want everyday, every time, with voice activation shower systems like Kohler's. With a touch of the hand you can start the day on a high note.

Anthem is Kohler's next level DVT product. The digital thermostatic valve (DVT) provides precise temperature control. The Anthem system completes the showering experience by integrating not just water, but also sound, steam and light. A favorite feature of Anthem is Bluetooth connectivity, which allows users to play music or sounds for whatever experience is desired. Voice activation is optional, and a touch screen allows the user to add music with MP3 player, add light and more. Kohler Konnect® allows connectivity with Siri or Alexa.



Aquabella brings serenity and simplicity to your bathroom with sinks and bathtubs that personify elegance and simplicity.

"We really take shower experiences to the next level," said Joe Scott, Kohler rep, noting that Kohler's Anthem allows for a more gracious shower experience. "The bathroom has become a retreat for the home. The Anthem system allows for up to six presets, so each user can have their own preferred experiences. Not only can each person select their own favorites,

but a user might create an upbeat shower setting and a different relaxation experience. With the touch of a button, user number 1 can experience body spray; user number 2 can have a spa experience, etc.," said Scott. "This system also allows the user to incorporate light therapy, water therapy, aromatherapy, and more - the options are endless."