

Press release  
Frankenberg, October 2023

## **The S 220 Atelier: a light moulded plywood shell for flexible comfort** **Design: Sam Hecht and Kim Colin, Industrial Facility, 2022/2023**

Hybrid working, digitalisation and the need to constantly adapt – these phenomena are changing how we work and blurring the boundaries between work and home life. Now there's a further addition to Thonet's latest chair range, the S 220, with this need for flexibility in mind. The collection, which already features elegant moulded plywood chairs (with and without armrests) as well as a comfortable barstool, now also boasts a swivel chair. With the addition of the Atelier version to the range, the S 220 design by Sam Hecht and Kim Colin (Industrial Facility) has become mobile; it is a chair that can be taken anywhere, whether in working or in living spaces.



A contemporary take on moulded plywood, the S 220 collection invokes the familiar lines of the iconic 214 bentwood chair in a versatile moulded plywood design with an ergonomic seat shell. Using moulded plywood lends a certain softness to the resource-efficient piece. The seat shell has a slight give to it thanks to the chair's hourglass shape, while its smoothly rounded front edge avoids creating any pressure points.

This same shell graces the S 220 Atelier, providing welcoming support. An integrated rocking mechanism, which can be locked with a lever, allows the seat inclination to be individually adjusted for even greater comfort. The chair is fully height-adjustable and available with armrests (S 220 FDRW) or without (S 220 DRW). The version with bentwood armrests has a sculptural dimension that draws the eye. Soft castors, which are suitable for all types of flooring, glide under a swivel base made of either polished or deep black powder-coated aluminium. This latest addition to the family is a versatile piece that can be used in workspaces, home offices and hybrid working areas, as well as at kitchen and dining tables, or in children's rooms.

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### **Thonet – future-oriented furniture design with a long tradition**

*The unique success story of Thonet began with the work of master carpenter Michael Thonet. Ever since he established his first workshop in Boppard on the River Rhine in 1819, the name Thonet has stood for high-quality, innovative and elegant furniture. The breakthrough came with the iconic chair No. 14, today known the world over as the Vienna Coffee House Chair: the pioneering technique of bending solid beechwood enabled the mass production of chairs for the first time. The second milestone in design history was the tubular steel furniture by the famous Bauhaus architects Mart Stam, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Marcel Breuer in the 1930s. During those pioneering years, Thonet was the world's largest producer of these tubular steel furniture designs, which are today considered timeless.*

*For the company today, the continuous process of innovation is the top priority, together with a focus on tradition and fine craftsmanship. Thonet's furniture designs originate both from its collaborations with renowned national and international creatives and from the in-house Thonet Design Team. Chief Executive Officer Brian Boyd and Creative Director Norbert Ruf manage the company from the corporate head office and production site in Frankenberg/Eder (Germany). Michael Thonet's fifth- and sixth-generation descendants are actively involved with the company's business as partners and sales representatives.*