

Press release
Cologne/Frankenberg, October 2018

Thonet's S 160 reinvents itself – as a barstool and a cosy version with a wooden frame

Design: Delphin Design

At Orgatec 2018, Thonet presents two new products – the barstool S 160 H and model 160 with a wooden frame – that both enrich the collection S 160 by Delphin Design (launched in 2010) with their individuality and develop new areas of application. The beautiful chair range S 160 with its attractive design for the contract segment is characterised by comfort and various versions.



Comfortable aloft sitting: the new, stackable barstool S 160 H

With the S 160 H, Thonet brings to market a filigree and, at the same time, especially comfortable barstool for the gastronomy sector and for working at high tables. Similar to the original chair S 160, the barstool has a tubular steel frame and is stackable. The new design by Thomas Wagner and Dirk Loff (Delphin Design) is characterised by a bracket made of flat steel which serves as a footrest and provides the barstool with a visual structure. The seat shell with its generous backrest is available in plastic or moulded plywood, equivalent to range S 160.

Model 160: the cosy chair for the contract segment

In its name, the new chair 160 lacks the "S" for tubular steel – for the first time, the popular auditorium chair is also available with wooden legs. Thanks to the solid beech frame and the seat shell, optionally available with upholstered seat, partial upholstery or full upholstery (also made of plastic or moulded plywood), this version is also suitable for additional areas of application, for example cosy cafés. Like the standard version S 160 with a chrome-plated frame, the 160 convinces with its unmistakable and simple formal language. The chair is defined by straight wooden legs with clearly defined edges, connected on both sides in a reversed U-shape forming an elegant curve beneath the seat shell.

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We would appreciate an author's copy in the case of publication.

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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. Since establishing 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, the so-called Vienna Coffee House Chair: the pioneering technique of bending solid beech wood for the first time enabled the mass production of chairs. 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. At the time, Thonet was the world's largest producer of these tubular steel furniture designs, which are considered timeless today.

For the company today, the continuous process of innovation stands in the foreground alongside a focus on tradition and fine craftsmanship. Thonet collaborates with renowned national and international designers – in addition, some of the furniture is designed by the in-house Thonet Design Team. All of the furniture is produced in the company-owned manufacturing facility, and, following the motto "Individuality is our standard", custom-tailored solutions are part of everyday life in Frankenberg. Chief Executive Officer Brian Boyd together with Chief Operating Officer Michael Erdelt and Creative Director Norbert Ruf manage the company at the corporate head offices and production site in Frankenberg/Eder (Germany). The descendants of Michael Thonet, the fifth and sixth generations, are actively involved with the company's business as partners and sales representatives.