

Press release
Cologne/Frankenberg, November 2020

An uplifting addition to a classic range: Thonet introduces two new barstool versions for its S 32 chair collection

The S 32 VH barstool and S 32 VHT low barstool represent a typically thoughtful response from furniture pioneer Thonet to the growing trend for standing tables and counters, whether in restaurants, in agile, forward-looking work spaces or in the home. The seat heights of 65 cm (S 32 VHT) and 75 cm (S 32 VH) encourage productive and enjoyable exchange in all types of communication spaces – whether at a public bar, a kitchen breakfast bar or a standing meeting table.



The new stools are drawn from the famous S 32 tubular-steel cantilever chair from the Bauhaus era, designed by Marcel Breuer in the 1920s and well-loved over the decades for its elegant lines, comfortable form and exciting combination of materials. The iconic Thonet bentwood elements combined with the characteristic Viennese canework contrast perfectly with the minimal use of cantilevered tubular steel. The clear, reduced design and airy wicker seat and backrest make the S 32 VH and the S 32 VHT the perfect bar stool for a variety of interiors, from public lounges to residential living spaces and from the workplace, to reception areas, restaurants and bars. Thanks to its lightweight design (8.5 kg) this stylish and comfortable seating option is easy to carry and reposition.

This is not the first time Thonet has rethought and enhanced the range for today's needs from this timeless product family. Last year, the company launched its new take on Marcel Breuer's S 64 tubular-steel cantilever chair in the form of the height-adjustable S 64 VDR swivel chair, set on a pedestal base and castors for greater mobility.

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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.