



infinium interiors
DEFINING YOUR WORKPLACE



By Chris Dittmar, Vice President, Infinium Interiors

Reinvigorate Your Workplace to Engage Your Employees

Business is Business

The post-war generation elevated the U.S. into the premiere workforce for manufacturing and services. Businesses viewed productivity as the end-all goal, and the means by which this production came from were demonized.

After 65 years or so – the physical office become a homogenized standard, and is now re-entering into an age of re-imagination and enlightenment. Collaboration, positive impact, employee empowerment – these concepts are what the Millennial workforce wants – and

organizations need to face the reality that this workforce will be majority as we fast approach the next decade. Here are suggestions to stimulate workers with their physical workspace.



Design Your Office to Your Workforce



Office space is [transforming](#). Indoor swing sets, bean bags for reception seating, glass markerboards doubling as ping-pong tables in the employee breakroom, a salaried on-site masseuse. . . features as these were inconceivable in the past, but are the standard for today.

As Millennials are displaying consumer changes from the information economy, companies are acting to capitalize on engaging this rising labor force. Hawaii companies

are facilitating this shift, ranging from [private](#) and [non-profits](#) and are pushing their office design in ways only thought of in cities like San Francisco or New York.

Understand Your Office Furniture Options

Companies having difficulty on where to start their own physical environment change need not fear. Depending on their resources and budget, they may contact an Interior Design firm or seek out furniture dealers for [education](#) on services available. An extensive build-out or renovation may not be necessary, but make sure you understand your current surroundings. Is there natural light to [utilize](#)? Is space available to create some breakaway areas for downtime? Taking stock of your physical site will uncover new ideas.



Ask Your Employees for Input

Being open in communication with your employees demonstrates care by upper management and will shift your organization's perception of your leadership. Employees will feel valued and know they are an integral part. How may you filter all their suggestions, how may you keep track of their feedback?

Simple [employee surveys](#) can facilitate this. The advantage for management is they can guide what the survey is about. Perhaps it workers feel the location is too far from their residence. Your frontline workers could view related departments as too far away from each other. Maybe their individual workstations are too traditional or too modern. Remember the goal is to collect information, but also assure those in your organization they are valuable and matter.

Implement the Change

Taking action on all or any of these changes displays commitment to the organization's well-being. Collecting information, discussing new floorplan layouts, these are all noble causes. The key to all of these strategies is making sure change happens. Once employees see progression take place their viewpoint will shift and an increase in energy in the organizational culture will follow.

Author Bio

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Chris was raised in Honolulu, Hawaii and he holds a deep respect for Hawaiian culture and its business history. He has held various sales and management positions throughout the western region of the continental U.S. Chris is responsible for growing Infinium Interiors' B2B sales channel and implementation of the company's diversification strategy.